

**Hawaii Association of the Blind
Parents and Youth - STEAM Event
Manoa Heritage Center**



Where: Manoa Heritage Center
2856 Oahu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96822

When: May 24, 2025 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Image Description: Picture of heiau and Manoa mountains and green landscape.

In this exploration, we will delve into the diverse array of Hawaiian and Polynesian plants that thrive in the lush environment of Manoa Valley. This valley is not only a botanical treasure trove but also a cultural emblem steeped in rich storytelling, or “Mo’olelo,” that intertwines ancient legends with more contemporary narratives. We will uncover the historical significance of Manoa Valley, highlighting its role in the lives of the Hawaiian people through the ages.

Additionally, our journey will take us to Kūka’ō’ō Heiau, an important sacred site located behind the historic Cooke home. This Heiau, like many others across the islands, served as a focal point for ancient Hawaiian religious practices. Here, a Kahuna (priests) would conduct ceremonies and rituals aimed at communicating with the gods, seeking guidance, prosperity, and healing for the community. The spiritual significance of Kūka’ō’ō adds another layer to our understanding of the cultural heritage of this remarkable region, demonstrating the deep connection between the land, its plants, and the beliefs of its people.

To RSVP, please get in touch with Anthony Akamine (808) 372-2225, or Email habpay808@gmail.com

Liability Disclaimer: All participants are responsible for their own safety throughout the event. Hawaii Association of the Blind shall not assume any liability resulting in injury or death.