



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Statehood Commission  
Tuesday, May 20, 2008  
Hawai'i State Capitol

Today, 'Iolani Palace is a place where we, as Hawai'i's citizens, honor Hawaiian culture as portrayed through Hawai'i's monarchy era. We also honor and observe all Ali'i who reigned at 'Iolani Place during Hawai'i's turbulent monarch period. During Hawai'i's sovereign period, the reigning Ali'i hosted all state activities at 'Iolani Palace. It was a place where world leaders gathered with Hawaiian monarch leaders for state business and celebrations.

'Iolani Palace now stands as a memorial to Hawai'i's beloved Ali'i and their historical significance. On the grounds of 'Iolani Palace, we continue to honor, celebrate, and observe Hawai'i's Ali'i monarch and their history. It is a cultural resource that memorializes a very significant piece of history that forever impacted a sovereign nation once recognized by world leaders, including the United States of America.

To host the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hawai'i's Statehood at 'Iolani Palace, given the overthrow and imprisonment of our beloved Queen Lili'uokalani, would dishonor 'Iolani Palace, its significance, and the history of Hawai'i's monarchs.

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