

MOANI FARIAS

EHCC ALAKA`I

ABOUT

Helena Moanikealaoka'awapuhi Farias, also known as Moani, is deeply committed to living by Hawaiian values and serving her community. As a leader at E Ala E Hawaiian Cultural Center (EHCC), she is devoted to sharing and preserving the Hawaiian culture.

Moani's cultural journey began at the age of 4 with Hālau O 'Aulani's Kumu Hula Keith Kalanikau Awai and Kumu Hula James "Kimo" Luluiwalani Awai III. She continues to deepen her knowledge of the Hawaiian culture under the guidance of Kumu Hula Kaleo Trinidad, along with attending various cultural workshops and seminars. This lifelong journey has nurtured her passion for Native Hawaiian education and community service, motivating her to honor her ancestors and embrace her kuleana (responsibility) as a kanaka maoli.

Currently studying Management at the United States Coast Guard Academy, Moani is an active member of APAC (Asian Pacific American Council), where she leads hula and lei-making workshops and organizes cultural events, including Makahiki, for her fellow cadets. Her commitment to service has been recognized with the President's Volunteer Service Award in both 2019 and 2020. In her free time, Moani enjoys painting, drawing, baking, and traveling.