



# Harris Center

*Three Stages at Folsom Lake College*

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(This link has been updated)

## **KAHULANUI, HAWAII'S KINGS OF SWING**

*Grammy winning nine-piece ensemble blends traditional Hawaiian music with "a ferocious blast of swinging jazz."*

(July 17, 2018; Folsom, CA) Hawaiian music is undoubtedly one of the Islands' great exports, but what about the music that was imported *onto* the islands? Meet Kahulanui, a leading exponent of traditional Hawaiian music as blended with the Big Band Swing that was brought to the Aloha State by U.S. servicemen during World War II. The nine-piece band — four horns, plus guitar, bass, ukulele, drums and steel guitar — was nominated for a Grammy for their debut CD, *Hula Ku'i*; the ensemble won the 2018 Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award for Jazz Album of the Year for *Mele Ho'ollina*, their second recording. Their energy and dynamic arrangements have caused a true sensation throughout the state of Hawaii.

"You've never heard a beat quite like this, either in Hawaii or in Harlem. Kahulanui is a ferocious blast of swinging jazz. The sun may be hot, but the music is hotter" (*Wall Street Journal*).

**KAHULANUI** will perform on Friday, August 24, 2018, 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$18-\$43, Premium \$48. Tickets are available online at [www.harriscenter.net](http://www.harriscenter.net) or from Harris Center Ticket Office at 916-608-6888 from 10 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, and two hours before show time. Parking is included in the price of the ticket. Harris Center is located on the west side of Folsom Lake College campus in Folsom, CA, facing East Bidwell Street.

Kahulanui's band leader, Lolena Naipo, Jr. found inspiration from his grandfather, Robert Kahulanui, who was a member of the Royal Hawaiian Band during an era when horns and drums were a part of Hawaiian music.

Their innovative and creative arrangements will take you on a trip back into time when Hawaiian music blended with American Jazz creating a genre known as

Hawaiian Swing. "Kahulanui will make you want to dance a hula and do the jitterbug at the same time" (*Wall Street Journal*).

"Throughout Hawaii in the 20's and 30's, one could find orchestras playing Hawaiian Swing and the house would be jumping. Lolena and Kahulanui borrow from these influences and perform classic Hawaiian songs in a syncopated style making Hawaiian Swing vibrant and alive in Hawaii today... *Hula Ku'i* is Hawaiian Swing at its finest; one of the most innovative releases to come out of the islands." (Hawaii radio icon Sylark Rossetti, from the liner notes).

The "core four" of the band are Patrick Eskildsen on electric bass, Lead Guitar and background vocals; Duke Tatom on 'Ukulele and background vocals; Tim Taylor on drums/percussion and, of course, Lolena Naipo on lead vocals and guitar. Their exciting horn section is comprised of Jesse Snyder on tenor sax, clarinet and flute, Bill Noble on alto saxophone and flute, Vincenzo D'Angelo on trombone, Joshua Timmons, Eldred Ahlo and Mike Lewis on trumpet in the Hawaiian islands and Dave Clausnitzer on trumpet. Dwight Tokumoto rounds out the ensemble on Hawaiian steel guitar. There is an impressive display of talent from each member during performances, both as individuals and as part of an ensemble.

"Kahulanui's execution of big-band stylings evokes an era of smoke-filled bars alive with lindyhopping dancers. Underlying this contemporary take on vintage music, moreover, is a cultural cohesiveness of enacting ku'i—of joining old and new. Like, awesome!" Amy Stillman

Enjoy! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EW892ie9hRM>

### **This Year Marks Eight Seasons of Great Shows. Up Close. In Folsom!**

The Harris Center for the Arts at Folsom Lake College brings the community together to share in cultural experiences featuring the work of artists from throughout the region and around the world. Built and operated by the Los Rios Community College District, the \$50 million, state-of-the-art regional performing arts center boasts three intimate venues with outstanding acoustics, an art gallery, a recording studio, elegant teaching spaces, plenty of safe parking and all the other amenities of a world-class performing arts venue. Each year the Center hosts over 400 events attracting more than 150,000 annually.

#### **Event Summary**

What: **KAHULANUI**  
When: Friday, August 24, 2018, 7:30 pm.  
Where: Harris Center for the Arts at Folsom Lake College  
10 College Parkway  
Folsom, CA 95630

Ticket Price: \$18- \$43, Premium \$48.  
Tickets: [www.HarrisCenter.net](http://www.HarrisCenter.net)