

HAWAII

MAY 28 ZERO WASTE 2021

SUMMIT



Kim Nichols

HOST/MC

Kim Nichols grew up in Kealahou on Hawai'i Island, and is passionate about protecting and nourishing our island home. She is working to make our largest industry more sustainable through her work as Program Manager for the nonprofit **Sustainable Tourism Association of Hawai'i**, and also manages a small healthcare facility helping to care for our island's residents. Kim implements sustainable practices wherever she can in her life; she sewed her own wedding dress in 2019 and continues to upcycle items into new forms today.

Dr. Kamanamaikalani Beamer

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Kamanamaikalani Beamer is professor at the Center for Hawaiian Studies in the Hui 'Āina Momona Program at the **University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**, with a joint appointment in the Richardson School of Law and the Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, Dr. Kamanamaikalani Beamer's research interests and publications focus on indigenous agency, governance, Native Hawaiian land tenure, Hawaiian resource management, and land and resource law of the Hawaiian Kingdom. For the past five years, Dr. Beamer has been researching the

Circular Economy (CE) in partnership with colleagues from the Dr. Kamanamaikalani Beamer is professor at the Center for Hawaiian University of Augsburg. This international knowledge exchange has guided recent work exploring how aloha 'āina as an indigenous philosophy, and the CE as a modern economic approach, can inform each other in transitioning to sustainable societies. He is the newly appointed inaugural Dane Naone Hall Endowed Chair in Hawaiian Studies, Literature and the Environment and is also currently serving a second term on the Hawai'i State Commission on Water Resource Management. He has previously served as president and chief executive officer of The Kohala Center, director of 'Āina-Based Education at Kamehameha Schools, and director of Stanford University's First Nations Futures Institute. In addition to numerous academic publications, in 2014 Beamer published *No Mākou ka Mana: Liberating the Nation*, which received multiple awards including the Samuel M. Kamakau Book of the Year Award from the Hawai'i Book Publishing Association.



REUSE SESSION

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

What Does Reuse Look Like in Hawai'i?



Neil Seldman

REUSE MODERATOR

Neil Seldman, PhD is co-founder of the **Institute for Local Self-Reliance** and Director of its Waste to Wealth Initiative. He is responsible for assisting cities, businesses and communities increase recycling and adding value to materials to create jobs, reduce costs and reduce pollution. He is a leading anti garbage incineration activist. Prior to working with ILSR, Seldman was a manufacturer of consumer products in NYC and a professor of political science at The George Washington University.

Nicole Chatterson

REUSE PANELIST

After a research expedition to the North Pacific Gyre (aka the Garbage Patch), Nicole dedicated her career to plastic pollution reduction and community-based solutions to mitigate the impacts of convenience culture. She is passionate about collaboratively rebuilding a waste-free Hawai'i and currently serves as the Executive Director of **Zero Waste O'ahu**.





Louisa Freeman

REUSE PANELIST

As Head of Business Development at **Returnity**, I leverage my subject matter expertise to enable companies to make the switch to reusables in a way that works best for them. My German-American upbringing and travels have raised awareness of environmental issues and sparked my interest in the environmental sector. My specialties lie in sustainable packaging, waste reduction, marketing and communication, and corporate sustainability.

Shannon Yarber

REUSE PANELIST

The Co-Owner of **SKY Kombucha**, Shannon Yarber is passionate about running a values-driven small business that focuses on local production and distribution. For the last seven years, SKY Kombucha has been serving the Island of Oahu with reusable kegs and a bottle return-and-reuse program. Shannon holds a degree in government from Georgetown University and a law degree from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.



Keiko Niccolini

REUSE PANELIST

Keiko Niccolini, CMO and General Manager at **r.Cup**, is a marketing guru and reuse leader fighting plastic pollution through strategic partnerships, systems solutions and industry-changing product innovations. Her experience with entrepreneurial and more established brands including govino, Rishi Tea, ILLY CAFFE and Flowers Vineyards makes her a key driver of r.Cup's continued growth plans, recently spearheading the brand's extension with r.Ware reusable foodware for the hospitality industry.

REUSE & EPR POLICY

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

A Review of Policies Enacted and Introduced



Heather Kimball

REUSE & EPR POLICY MODERATOR

Heather Kimball serves as the **Hawaii County Council Member for District 1** (Hamakua). She chairs the Government Operations, Relations and Economic Development Committee, and serves as chair of the Climate Change and Resilience and Finance Committees. She is Hawaii County's representative on the Hawaii State Association of Counties and serves on the National Association of Counties Resilient Counties advisory board. Prior to being elected to council, Heather ran a consulting company advising on science based policy and

communication with an emphasis on climate change and lectured in geography at UH Hilo.

Nicole Lowen

REUSE & EPR POLICY PANELIST

Nicole Lowen is a **State Representative for House District 6** (Kailua-Kona, Holualoa, Kalaoa) on Hawaii Island. She is the Chair of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, and a member of the Judiciary Committee and the Agriculture Committee. She is the founder of Hawaii's Environmental Legislative Caucus and serves on the Hawaii Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Commission, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council, and is appointed to the Electricity Advisory Committee of the U.S. Department of Energy. Throughout her 9

years in office, Representative Lowen has worked on legislation to further Hawaii's renewable energy goals, to address climate change, to protect natural resources, and to improve waste management systems. During the 2021 session, Rep. Lowen partnered with legislators from nine other states and the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators in a coordinated effort to introduce extended producer responsibility (EPR) legislation that would hold producers responsible for the end-of-life management of packaging materials. She also prioritized work on clean transportation and energy efficiency, and passed bills to transition state fleets to zero-emissions vehicles, to incentivize the build-out of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, to study the best practices for the disposal, recycling, or secondary use of clean energy products, and to prohibit the release of balloons that end up in the ocean.





Miriam Gordon

REUSE & EPR POLICY PANELIST

Miriam Gordon is the Policy Director for **UPSTREAM**. She is an architect of and advocate for policies that reduce single-use products and packaging. With over 30 years of experience working for NGOs and local, state, and federal government, Miriam is an expert on waste, water quality, and toxic chemicals policy. She has led campaigns to protect communities whose health is threatened by waste incineration, fracking, and hazardous chemicals and created award-winning pollution prevention programs for a variety of business

sectors. Miriam holds a JD Degree from Vermont Law School and was an undergraduate at Vassar College.

Megan Lamson

REUSE & EPR POLICY PANELIST

Megan Lamson is a marine biologist specializing in coral reef fish ecology, coastal restoration, anchialine pools and community-based management. She has an undergraduate degree in Marine Biology from UC Santa Cruz and a Master's degree in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science from UH Hilo. She splits her time working for **Hawai'i Wildlife Fund "HWF"** in Ka'ū and **Hawai'i Coral Reef Initiative** (on contract to DLNR Division of Aquatic Resources) in Kona. Since 2008, she has helped to coordinate over 395 coastal cleanup events for HWF resulting in nearly 200,000 pounds of marine debris (aka "plastic pollution") being recovered from our shorelines, and has continued to advocate for prevention policy for Hawai'i County and statewide since 2012.



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COMPOSTING PANEL

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

Removing Barriers to Community Composting



Monica Rott Stone

COMPOSTING MODERATOR

Monica Rott Stone has been serving as the West Hawai'i Coordinator of **Zero Waste Hawai'i Island** since 2019. She is also the founder of **In Harmony Hawai'i LLC**, a waste reduction and zero waste event consulting business in Kona, HI . As a surfer and mom, Monica is highly motivated to implement source reduction strategies to address our pollution and waste issues, and to protect our lands and waters for future generations.

CHANTAL CHUNG

COMPOSTING PANELIST

Chantal Chung is part of the **University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program's Hawai'i Island Extension** staff and has been providing administrative and program support for education and outreach activities on Hawai'i Island since January 2010. She works with extension faculty, community partners, and stakeholders in the development, implementation and evaluation of community-based outreach and educational programs and projects. Ms. Chung is also the project manager and President of the Board of Directors of **Ma'ona Community Garden**, working on projects that support sustainable community food systems which integrate food production, processing, distribution, and consumption to improve the environmental, economic, and social health of South Kona.



Hawai'i Zero Waste Summit



Gretchen Losano

COMPOSTING PANELIST

Gretchen is a founding member of **Zero Waste Maui Coalition**. In 2016 she co-founded **West Maui Green Cycle LLC**, with the commitment to found a commercial co-composting operation in west Maui. In 2019 she worked with Grow Some Good to pilot a school food waste collection and composting program at Lahaina Intermediate. She has also served on many county and statewide task forces on plastic pollution, composting and agriculture.

Marvin Min

COMPOSTING PANELIST

Marvin has been with **Hawaiian Earth Recycling** (HER) since 2016 and oversees the companies six (6) locations on Oahu and the Big Island, which comprises of up to 60 employees. As the largest approved facilities for green and wood waste (and soon to include food waste and compostable products) recycler in the State of Hawaii since 1993, HER distributes and supplies local communities and farms with over 150,000 yards of Menehune Magic compost, blends, wood chips and mulch annually- while diverting more than 140,000 tons of green and wood waste from being disposed of in the landfills or being burned. Marvin is a Certified Compost Facility Operator by Washington Organic Recycling Council in association with Washington State University.





Bob Shaffer

COMPOSTING PANELIST

Bob Shaffer is the agronomist for **Soil Culture Consulting** which exists to serve farmers in Hawaii with information, service and applied science to elevate food and feed crop quality. Bob assists farms to develop and implement organic system plans with the capacity to increase the agroecosystem diversity, elevate soil health in support of the health of local ecosystems and the quality of food. Soil Culture Consulting provides in depth, experienced organic materials recycling, compost operations development, application assistance, consulting and agronomic research...for farmers by a farmer with 40 year experience. In recent years Bob has provided long term compost and organic matter management consulting for Recology of San Francisco, Jepson Prairie Organics, General Mills, Soil Care Australia, Bayer Biologicals of Australia and farmers of millions of avocado trees, coffee trees, grape vines, macadamia trees and vegetables to develop on farm compost operations from recycling on farm feedstocks to produce the essential and functional base of good farm soil health management systems which is mature, well cured composts and vermiposts

Jennifer Milholen

COMPOSTING PANELIST

“You don’t filter smokestacks or water, you put the filter in your head and design the problem out of existence.” This quote from William McDonough elegantly reminds us that waste is a failure of design and imagination, but also a satisfying opportunity to design better systems from the start. Jennifer Milholen lets this perspective guide her in her work and advocacy, particularly through zero waste initiatives. Jennifer has worked in various fields dedicated to conservation and regeneration for the last decade, including energy and water efficiency, policy drafting, organics diversion, waste audits, plastics reduction, and composting regulation reform. Jennifer works as a compost operation and permitting consultant in Hawai‘i and is the Waste Reduction Coordinator and 3Rs program manager at the **Kōkua Hawai‘i Foundation**.

