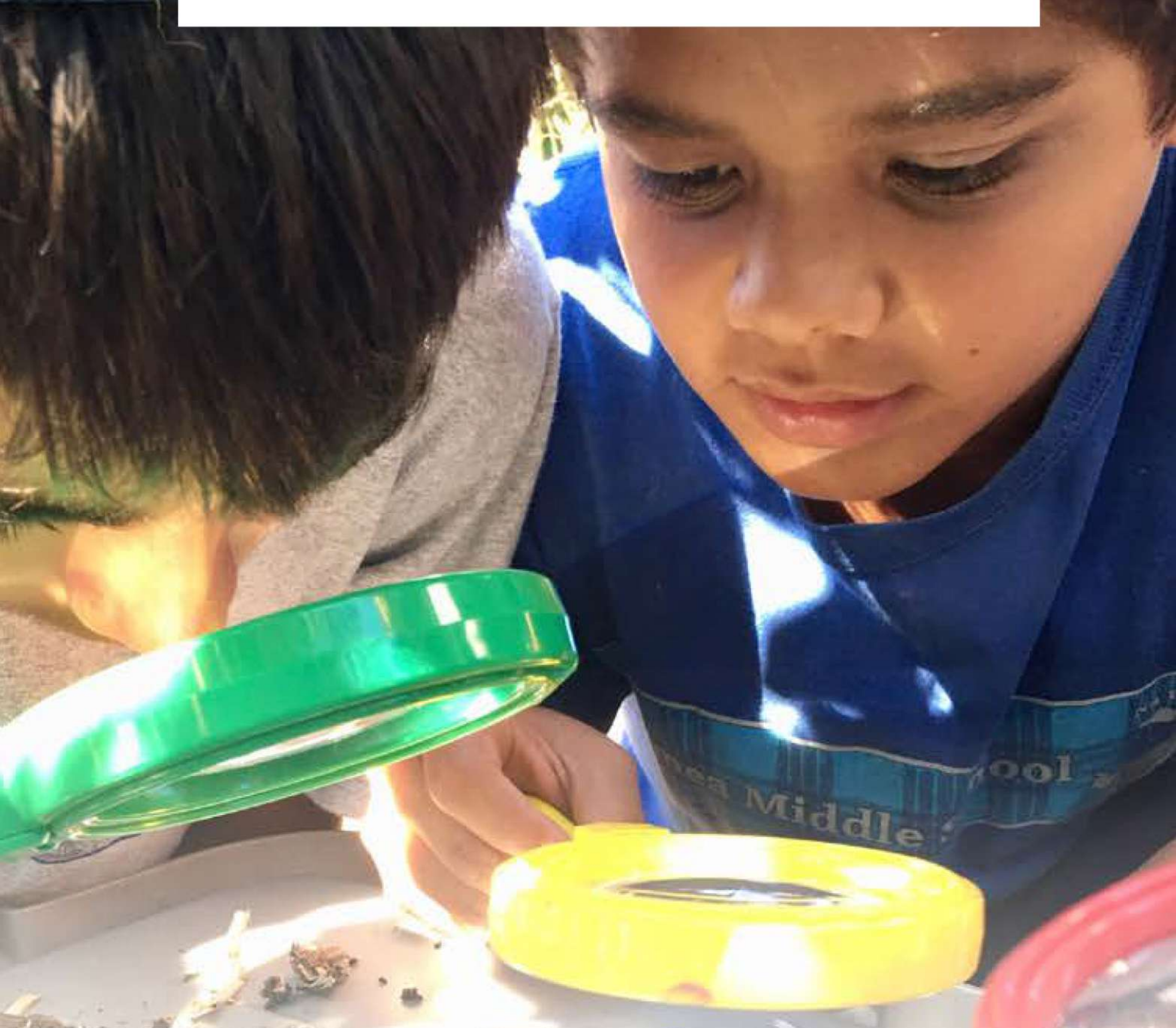




MĀLA`AI
ANNUAL REPORT
SCHOOL YEAR
2019 - 2020



Ike, Keiki, ʻĀina

Cultivating connections between people, land, culture and food in school gardens.



Hulian A time of change

In February, Māla'ai celebrated 15 years on the land with Waimea Middle School students, teachers, and community volunteers.

On that day, 130 people gathered to celebrate the work of more than 2000 students. This hard work transformed a pasture into a beautiful, productive, joyful place of peace, wonder, and resilience - a learning garden. Today, because of COVID, a gathering like that seems unimaginable.

In March, students went home for break and did not come back to school. During spring quarter we took action, staying connected to students through social media and garden contributions to weekly care packages, Kōkua Kits.

As we strive to adapt to change during a worldwide pandemic and a reckoning of social injustices we intend to remain present for all our students and teachers.

Gardens provide an antidote to the sense of loss and chaos that we are experiencing as a society and individually. They are examples of thriving life which brings health, joy and solace. We are more committed than ever to advocate for children in learning gardens across Hawai'i Island.

In Gratitude, *Amanda, Holly, & Zoe*



Over **4,000** STUDENT CONTACT HOURS IN THE GARDEN

Board

Kanoa Withington
President

Sophia Bowart
Treasurer

Directors

Marilyn Fitzgerald

Melanie Holt

Madeline Sofranac

Noah Hester

Staff

Amanda Rieux
Executive Director

Holly Sargeant-Green
Lead Garden Educator

Zoe Kosmas
Development Director

Donna Mitts
HISGN Communications Coordinator & Educator

Wendy Baker
HISGN Educator/Consultant

Koh Ming Wei
HISGN Educator/Consultant

Jessica Soboscinsk
HISGN Educator/Consultant

GARDEN CLASSROOM RESULTS 2019 - 2020 SCHOOL YEAR



193

GARDEN CLASSES (INCLUDING AFTER SCHOOL)



CROSS-CURRICULUM LEARNING

Māla'ai collaborated with all Science teachers, Ike Hawai'i, 7th grade Social Studies, PE/Health and Business/Practical Arts hosting weekly classes in the garden.

3,909

HEALTHY GARDEN SNACKS SERVED TO STUDENTS



1,478 lbs.

OF PRODUCE HARVESTED FOR STUDENTS & COMMUNITY (+ 1,210 EGGS COLLECTED)



8 LOCAL PROFESSIONALS & CULTURAL PRACTITIONERS SHARED THEIR MANA'O (WISDOM) WITH STUDENTS



402

VOLUNTEER HOURS

"The garden should make all the food in the cafeteria!!"

"I love coming to the garden, I wish I could stay here all day!"

- Students

OUR STUDENTS

GRADES

255 } 6th 7th 8th STUDENTS

76% ON FREE/REDUCED LUNCH

27% MIGRANT EDUCATION STUDENTS

13% SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

In the garden, evaluations show:

84% FEEL CALM

82% FEEL PEACEFUL

81% FEEL HAPPY

72% ARE EXCITED

72% FEEL SAFE

63% FEEL MOTIVATED

COVID-19 RESPONSE



1,680 KŌKUA KITS DELIVERED TO STUDENTS (INCLUDED SEEDS & PLANTING MATERIALS)

600 lbs. OF FRUITS, VEGETABLES, RECIPES, & HERBAL TEAS

8 videos ON PLANTING SEEDS, GARDEN ACTIVITIES, GARDEN TOURS & RECIPES (ON INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE)

6 weeks OF LIVE PIKO BROADCAST



"I'd rather be outside getting dirty than in the classroom"

"Today I learned to be more polite, especially to the chickens"

- Students

Hawai'i Island School Garden Network



279 TEACHERS, EDUCATORS & ADMINISTRATORS INVOLVED

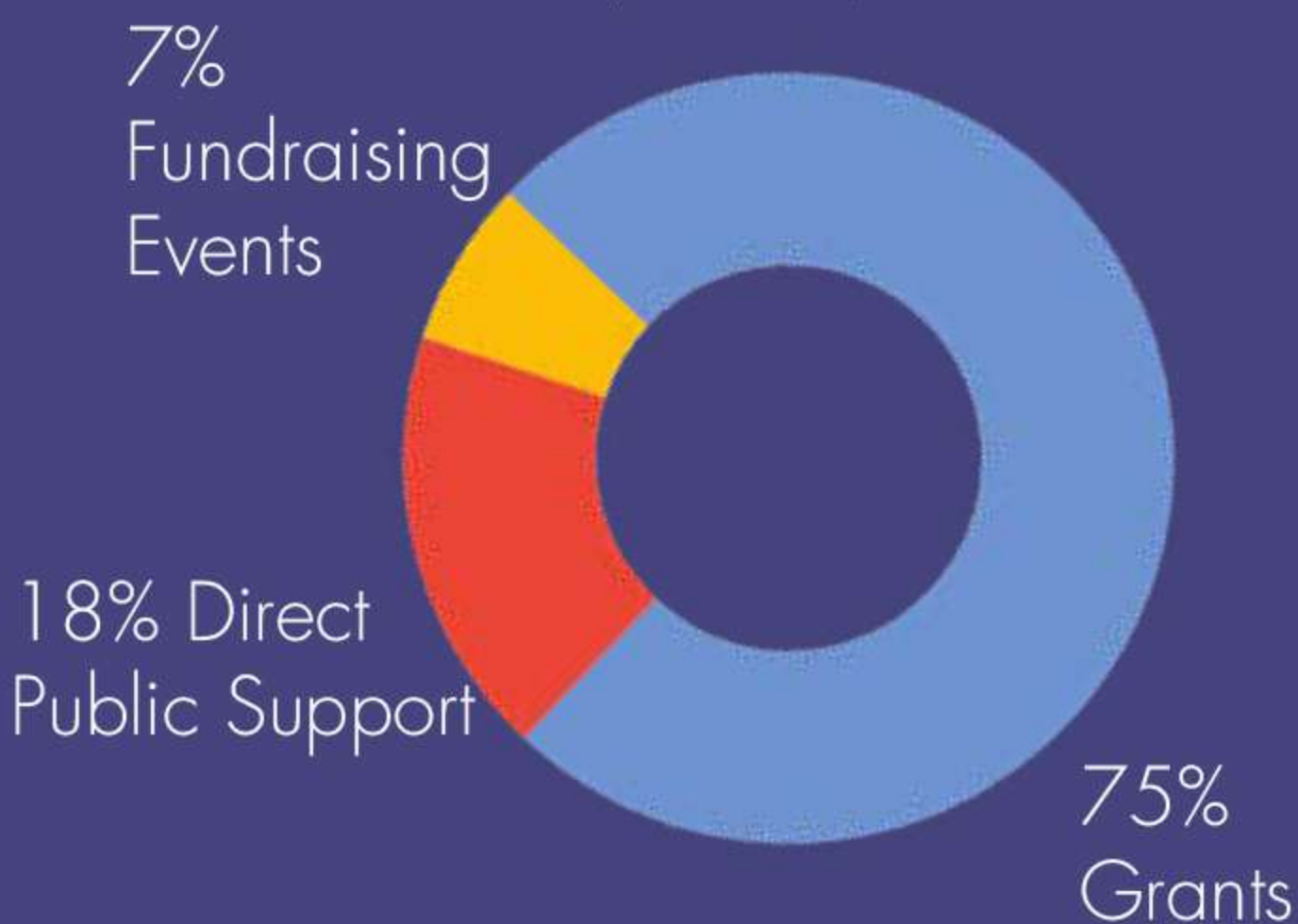
54 EDUCATORS PARTICIPATING IN CERTIFIED TEACHER TRAININGS

3 WORKSHOPS WITH **68** TEACHERS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS

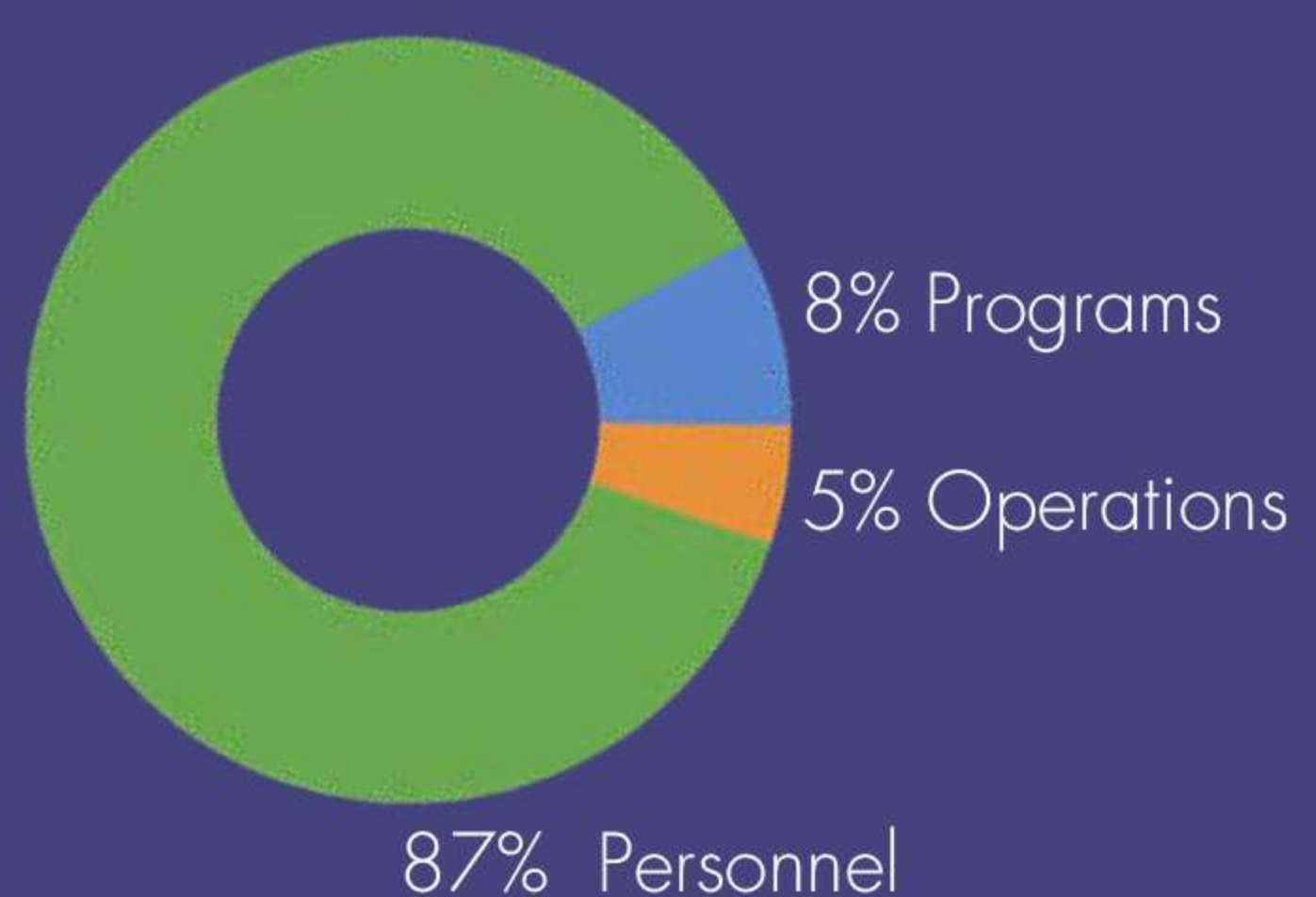
The Hawai'i Island School Garden Network (HISGN) is a project of Māla'ai supporting over 40 school gardens. HISGN cultivates the relationship among our children, our teachers and our 'āina, by nourishing a vibrant network that supports the growth and integration of school learning gardens. HISGN provides professional development, advocacy, mentorship, and technical assistance for teachers around the island and state. Despite COVID cancellations, this past year we offered workshops on seeds, The Hawaiian Moon Calendar, making food for the Hanauna Ola voyage as well as two Kū 'Āina Pā (KAP) intensive teacher trainings, completing our 12th cohort of trained garden teachers. This summer was the first KAP offered online and our teaching team adapted beautifully. This work continues to be supported by and in collaboration with the Hawai'i Farm to School Hui, a statewide organization run by the Hawaii Institute of Public Health.

Financials

INCOME



EXPENSES



Mahalo Nui

Thank you so much to our volunteers who help maintain the garden, support our students, and take care of our chickens! We also want to thank all of the generous donors and foundations that have supported our work for many years, and the garden which provides wisdom and a vibrant learning environment.

Support our Students & Teachers

DONATE

P.O. Box 543
Kamuela, HI
96743
malaai.org

LEARN

 @malaaigarden
  Mala'ai: The Culinary
Garden of Waimea Middle School
Hawaii Island School Garden
Network

CONNECT

(808) 640-3637
amanda@malaai.org
hisgn.org