



**Satellite City Hall Has Saturday Hours**  
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• CENTRAL O'AHU •

# VOICE

COMMUNITY NEWS

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 30, 2018



Kumu hula Chinky Mahoe, Mayor Kirk Caldwell, artist Kim Duffett, captain Bruce Blankenfeld of Polynesian Voyaging Society, kahu Kaimiloo Dahang and Leolani Kini of Town Center of Mililani smile for a photo in front of *Starstruck* at Town Center of Mililani. **ANTHONY CONSILIO PHOTO**

## Artist Unveils Sculpture At Town Center Of Mililani

BY JAIMIE KIM FARINAS

If the name Kim Duffett doesn't ring a bell, surely his work will. The local artist is the talent behind the sculpture of three bronze hula dancers that give life to the Hilton Hawaiian Village sign. There's also the large granite ring poi pounder in front of the Grand Waikikian, as well as sculptures of entertainers Don Ho and Gabby Pahinui at International Marketplace and Waikiki Beach Walk, respectively — and all of that merely scratches the surface of an impressive repertoire.

Now, Duffett can add to that list a sculpture at Town Center of Mililani that was unveiled May 15 in the courtyard near Consolidated Theatres.

It was a little more than a year ago when Duffett first sketched his idea for the piece. Taking stars into consideration — as Duffett points out, the area was known in ancient times as a spot for stargazing, and many of the streets in Mililani are named after stars — and a desire to make it interactive, *Starstruck* was born.

It's a piece that took Duffett to China and back (he worked on a couple of elements at a foundry there), and to see it all come together, in his words, is "wonderful."

"I think it'll be a gathering place for not only people in Mililani but for visitors," says Duffett. "I like to put a lot of meaning and story in

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## Duffett Hopes Mililani Sculpture Engages, Enthralls Community

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my sculptures. I don't like it to be too obvious. I like people to discover things for themselves in the piece.

"That idea of being 'starstruck,' that sense of wonder, that sense of being enthralled by the beauty of the universe or an inspiration to imagine a little beyond yourself — that piece is meant to be kind of a vehicle, kind of a boat for people to imagine ... they're out in the stars," adds Duffett, who currently is working on a piece at Daniel K. Inouye Elementary School in Wahiawa.

Of course, it wasn't without its difficulties, but Duffett is no newcomer to navigating those.

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***Doing a commission for a place is a challenge, and part of that process is connecting with the people and finding out as much as I can about them and understanding who they are.***

and part of that process is connecting with the people and finding out as much as I can about them and understanding who they are," says Duffett. "Even a company has a persona, a zeitgeist, and trying to get a feeling for that and also, very impor-

tantly, getting a feeling for the history of the land, and kind of making a fusion of that."

For more information on Duffett, visit [kimduffett.com](http://kimduffett.com) and find his work in Cedar Street Gallery and Galleria Provenza.

### LETTERS NOTE ...

Have any thoughts about what's happening in Central O'ahu? We certainly are interested in your opinions (in 350 words or fewer, please). Email letters to [jkim@midweek.com](mailto:jkim@midweek.com) or send a fax to 585-6324. Remember to include your name and phone number.



Artist Kim Duffett's sculpture, *Starstruck*, is now on full display at Town Center of Mililani in the courtyard near Consolidated Theatres. **ANTHONY CONSILIO PHOTO**