

2026 Waikīkī Steel Guitar Week
Event Schedule

SUNDAY, July 5, 2026	
10:00am - noon	Steel Guitar Sundays – Hula Grill Waikiki 10:00 - noon – Alan Akaka & the Islanders
Waikīkī Steel Guitar Week Daily Events	
MONDAY, July 6, 2026	
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Concert – Royal Grove Stage: "Opening Nite" NextGEN Steel Guitarists Kyle, Kui, Hi'ipoi, Ever, and Isaac
TUESDAY, July 7, 2026	
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Concert – Royal Grove Stage: "The Golden Years of Hawaiian Music" Kiyoshi "Lion" Kobayashi 93 rd Birthday Celebration
WEDNESDAY, July 8, 2026	
4:30pm - 7:30pm	Ho'okūkū Kīkā Kila - 1st Annual Amateur Hawaiian Steel Guitar Contest - Royal Grove Stage
THURSDAY, July 9, 2026	
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Concert – Royal Grove Stage: "Timeless Melodies" Makana (Masami Sato, Kazuko Tanaka, Kazuko Ishii, Ayumi Kato, Yoshiko Konno, and Michiko Makiuchi)
J-FESTA - Japan-Hawaiian Steel Guitar Festival	
FRIDAY, July 10, 2026	
3:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Ho'olaule'a – Royal Grove Stage (Livestreamed) 3:00 - 3:10 – Co-emcees Masami Sato and Alan Akaka Opening Remarks 3:10 - 3:35 – Masami "MATT" Kobayashi and Friends (Leonard Jenkins, Hovey Lambert, Nathan Nahinu, Ernie Morikubo, and Caroline Affonso) 3:40 - 4:05 – Paul Okubo 4:10 - 4:35 – Kiyoshi "Lion" Kobayashi and Steel Guitar Ensemble 4:40 - 4:55 – Luana (Michiyo Fujita & Yoshiko Yokoyama) 5:00 - 5:15 – moani ito 5:20 - 5:45 – YUKIO KATAGIRI 5:50 - 6:15 – Masami Sato & Makana (Kazuko Tanaka, Kazuko Ishii, Ayumi Kato, Yoshiko Konno, and Michiko Makiuchi) 6:20 - 6:30 – Closing Remarks
Waikīkī Steel Guitar Festival	
SATURDAY, July 11, 2026	
10:50am -1:50pm	Ho'olaule'a Part 1 – Royal Grove Stage 10:50 - 11:00 – Emcee Opening Remarks 11:00 - 11:30 – Steve Cheney 11:35 - 12:05 – Geronimo "Geri" Valdriz 12:10 - 12:40 – Greg Sardinha & Po'okela (Darrell Aquino and Zachary Castro) 12:45 - 1:15 – Mālie Lyman 1:20 - 1:50 – Kiyoshi "Lion" Kobayashi
1:50pm - 4:00pm	Intermission
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ho'olaule'a Part 2 – Royal Grove Stage 4:00 - 4:30 – Masami Sato & Makana (Kazuko Tanaka, Kazuko Ishii, Ayumi Kato, Yoshiko Konno, and Michiko Makiuchi) 4:35 - 5:10 – Christo Ruppenthal 5:15 - 5:50 – 1 st Place Winners from Ho'okūkū Kīkā Kila 5:55 - 6:30 – Alan Akaka & the Islanders
SUNDAY, July 12, 2026	
10:00am - noon	Steel Guitar Sundays Special – Hula Grill Waikiki 10:00 - noon – Alan Akaka & the Islanders
6:00pm - 7:00pm	Concert - Waikīkī Beach Walk Plaza Stage: Grand Finale with NextGEN and Emerging Stars NextGEN Steel Guitarists Kyle, Kui, Hi'ipoi, Ever, Isaac, and NextGEN Schuyler