....from Pennsylvania.
What is KHM?

Ka Honua Momona is a nonprofit which fosters the perpetuation of traditional indigenous knowledge through the conservation of two ancient Hawaiian fishponds (or loko i’a) on the island of Moloka‘i.

- Headed by Executive Director Noelani Lee and a council of kupuna (community elders), KHM hosts educational workshops and monthly opportunities for volunteers to clean up the Ali‘i and Kaloko ‘eli fishponds.

“A model of sustainability: Mauka a Makai”
Context or ... Why Fishponds?

- Ancient tradition of sustainable aquaculture in archipelago
- Following Western colonization, many of these systems were abandoned despite their efficacy

→ New renaissance of traditional epistemologies in response to climate change, bolstered by Hawaii’s Aloha+ Challenge and the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals

Part of a vast network of locationally specific eco-efforts to sustain native pedagogies
My Work
Originally hired to work in the ponds and help out in the office → PIVOT!

PROJECT #1
Revamp KHM’s online presence - “evolve” pre-existing website to better communicate the organization’s narrative + add more visuals!

PROJECT #2
Increase KHM’s Facebook presence and positive engagement.

PROJECT #3
Compile an annotated bibliography of anywhere Ka Honua Momona is mentioned or referenced online or in a published work.

+ any other miscellaneous tasks
Challenges

PROJECT #1
1. I have absolutely no experience coding or developing websites!
2. Hard to develop an understanding of the feel/narrative of an organization from afar.
3. Must be free - no budget to pay for a platform.
4. Couldn’t access the code to the original site.

PROJECT #2
Current progress in the ponds is halted (Covid-19) and also - I was not on site to take pictures.

PROJECT #3
A vast ocean to sift through!
Nonetheless...Results!

PROJECT #1
After a long process, involving taking a series of coding classes(!) → **created a revamped site in the form of a blog**, with all new visuals, narrative arch, and various portals to connect with KHM kahonuamomona.blogspot.com

PROJECT #2
Daily posts + drafts for 20 more posts, along with campaign ideas and integration plans.

PROJECT #3
A complete bibliography – featured on the new In the News page of the blog.
My Outside Growth

- Connection with the KHM ‘ohana, where I plan to spend several months volunteering in the next year
- Learned about Native Hawaiian history and culture (and aquaculture), as well as gained deeper understanding of the role which indigenous epistemologies can play in sustainability in a local and global sense
  - Exposure to the concepts of kuleana, malama, aloha, and pono
- Refocused my independent research on biomimicry and its indigenous roots!
Mahalo Nui Loa!

Noelani Lee, my supervisor and all around guide

Marion Ano, my teacher

Kahikulani Pupuhi, my friend and co-intern

Rebecca Choi, my mentor

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