

C. M. Kaliko Baker, PhD, has been a Kumu 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language instructor) in Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa since 1996 and currently holds an Assistant Professor Position. His research and scholarly efforts primarily focuses on Hawaiian, particularly discourse grammar, traditional Hawaiian narratives, and the revitalization of Hawaiian. He co-authors Hawaiian-medium plays with Tammy Haili'opua Baker and also serves as dramaturge. They have enjoyed much local and international success promoting Hawaiian as a language of entertainment for modern Kanaka Maoli, inspiring not only Hawaiians, but also other indigenous peoples throughout the Pacific. Currently, he is the president of a non-profit organization, Halele'a Arts Foundation, which strives to promote Hawaiian-medium theatrical and other media projects. Kaliko is a long time Protect Kahoʻolawe 'Ohana member, the grassroots organization that stopped the U.S. Navy's bombing and desecration of Kaho'olawe. Since 2011, he has served on the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission overseeing projects specifically dealing with Kanaka Maoli cultural and religious practice in connection to Kaho'olawe. He completed his PhD in Linguistics in 2012 entitled A-class Genitive Subject Effect: A pragmatic and discourse grammar approach to a- and o-class genitive subject selection in Hawaiian, in which he explored genitive class selection in Hawaiian. Since his obtaining his PhD, Kaliko has been writing and researching primarily in the space of Kanaka Maoli identity, particularly how 'Ōlelo Hawai'i is central to indexicalizing and presenting who we are as Kānaka Maoli.