

## Short Biography: George Kahumoku, Jr.

There's a reason he's been called Hawaii's Renaissance man: George Kahumoku Jr. is a multiple Grammy Award winning master slack key guitarist, songwriter, world-traveling performer, teacher, artist, story-teller and writer, farmer and entrepreneur. He hosts a weekly show on Maui called **George Kahumoku Jr's Slack Key Show: Masters of Hawaiian Music** which just celebrated it's 12th Anniversary. He has recently recorded a new CD, **Paniolo Slack Key – Songs of the Hawaiian Cowboy**. He will be touring in February-March 2016 and will hold his week-long **Annual Slack Key Guitar & Ukulele Workshop** on Maui in June. Around all of this he cultivates taro and raises goats on his upland Maui farm.

## Full Biography: George Kahumoku, Jr.

There's a reason he's been called Hawaii's Renaissance man: George Kahumoku Jr. is a multiple Grammy Award & Na Hoku Hanohano Award winning master slack key guitarist, songwriter, world-traveling performer, high school teacher, artist and sculptor, story-teller and writer, farmer and entrepreneur.

In February of 2006, George, fellow artist and producer, Daniel Ho and others were thrilled to receive the 48<sup>th</sup> Grammy Award for Best Hawaiian Album for their compilation recording, **Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar, Vol. 1: Live in Concert from Maui**. But George's Grammy fame doesn't stop there: The sequels to this recording, **Legends of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar: Live from Maui** won the 49<sup>th</sup> Grammy and then in 2008, **Treasures of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar** won the 50<sup>th</sup> Grammy Award. All three recordings are compilations from George's weekly **Slack Key Show: Masters of Hawaiian Music** located at the beautiful Napili Kai Beach Resort on Maui, ([www.slackkey.com](http://www.slackkey.com)). George is the musical host to a different Hawaiian music artist each week. Started in 2003, his show is the first long-running concert series featuring the great slack key and Hawaiian musicians of today.

George is currently living on Maui with his wife, Nancy, at a beautiful upland farm on the pristine north side of the West Maui Mountains. He recently retired from 40 years of teaching at risk kids, art, ceramics, guitar & ukulele at private and public schools over the years including the historic Lahainaluna High School and directing the inception of the Institute of Hawaiian Music at UH Maui College.

Farming being in his blood, George now spends much of his time maintaining his 3-acre farm growing fruit and vegetables, dry-land taro (for his famous home-made poi) and tending his goats, chickens, ducks, and miniature horses. True to his Hawaiian heritage, wherever he goes George always brings bundles of fresh produce to share with friends and students.

George has been teaming with Makai Studios and director, Dave Barry, resulting in the release of a DVD film series, which George and the Slack Key Show co-produce.

- **George Kahumoku, Jr. - Seeds of Aloha** - 75 minute DVD film documentary of George's life plus a CD of original and traditional songs spanning his music career.
- **Dennis Kamakahi-The Legend of Grey Wolf** – The life story and music of the late composer and slack key master. CD of his most famous songs included in this combo release.
- **Richard Ho'opi'i- The Timeless Voice** - the story of this legendary Maui falsetto singer. DVD with a CD of Richard's most renowned works.
- **Brother Noland- 'Auana** - Brother Noland tells his own story.
- **Martin Pahinui- The Golden Voice** – The story of Martin's musical career.

Other new project includes singing and acting at a new Live Show on Maui: Na Lio, The story of how the horse came to Hawaii. He recently performed ukulele songs with Tia Carrere in the May 2015 season finale of Hawaii Five-O.

Every summer in June, **George Kahumoku Jr.'s Annual Maui Slack Key Guitar and Ukulele Workshop** takes place featuring George and other stellar musicians and instructors such as Led Kaapana, Jeff Peterson, and Herb Ohta Jr. This workshop is one of the great musical experiences in the Islands today, and the result of George's belief in sharing, celebrating and perpetuating the unique musical genre of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar. ([www.kahumoku.com/workshops.htm](http://www.kahumoku.com/workshops.htm) )