## Short Biography: George Kahumoku Jr

There's a reason he's 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. Beginning in 2003, he has been the musical host to his weekly show, the only long-running concert series featuring the great slack key and Hawaiian musicians of today. He hosts a different Hawaiian music artist each week: **George Kahumoku Jr's Slack Key Show: Masters of Hawaiian Music**. He tours the mainland every year with two of his guest artists. Every June he leads a week-long immersion into Hawaiian music and culture: **George Kahumoku Jr's Annual Slack Key Guitar & Ukulele Workshop** on Maui. Around all of this he cultivates taro and raises sheep on his upland Maui farm.

## Full Biography: George Kahumoku Jr

There's a reason he's 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 honored 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.* Three subsequent albums won the coveted prize, all recordings from George's weekly *Slack Key Show: Masters of Hawaiian Music* located at the beautiful Napili Kai Beach Resort on Maui, (SlackKeyShow.com) where George is the musical host to a different Hawaiian music artist each week. Started in 2003, his show is the first and only 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 is retired from 40 years of teaching atrisk kids, art & ceramics, guitar & ukulele at private and public schools over the years including the historic Lahainaluna High School. He also spearheaded the inception of the Institute of Hawaiian Music at UH Maui College.

Farming being his passion, George spends much of his time maintaining his 3-acre farm growing fruit and vegetables, dry-land taro (for his famous homemade poi) and tending his sheep, chickens, ducks, and miniature horses. He shares his knowledge of the land with local schools and families who come to his Kahumoku Family Farm (farm tour website) to learn traditional Hawaiian growing techniques including the Hawaiian Moon Calendar. True to his Hawaiian heritage, wherever he goes, George brings bundles of fresh produce to share with friends and students.

For the last 24 years, 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 cultural 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. (Kahumoku.com/workshop)