

Short Biography (2025)

George Kahumoku Jr. is often called *Hawai‘i’s Renaissance Man*—and for good reason. A multiple Grammy and Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award-winning slack key guitar master, George is also a prolific songwriter, performer, teacher, visual artist, storyteller, author, farmer, and entrepreneur.

In 2003, he launched *The Slack Key Show: Masters of Hawaiian Music*, the only long-running concert series dedicated to showcasing the great slack key artists of today.

Now based in Santa Cruz County, California, George continues to tour the mainland twice a year alongside fellow Hawaiian music legends.

Each June on Maui, he leads *George Kahumoku Jr.’s Annual Slack Key Guitar & ‘Ukulele Workshop*—a week-long immersion in Hawaiian music and culture.

Full Biography (2025)

George Kahumoku Jr. is a multiple Grammy and Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award-winning slack key guitarist, singer-songwriter, author, visual artist, storyteller, farmer, and educator. Widely known as *Hawai‘i’s Renaissance Man*, his life and work span music, education, cultural preservation, and sustainable living.

In 2006, George, alongside producer Daniel Ho and other collaborators, received the 48th Grammy Award for Best Hawaiian Album for *Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar, Vol. 1: Live in Concert from Maui*. The next three volumes—also recorded live—went on to win additional Grammys, each captured from his acclaimed concert series, *The Slack Key Show: Masters of Hawaiian Music*, which he founded in 2003 at the Napili Kai Beach Resort on Maui.

The show, still running today, is the longest-running concert series dedicated to Hawaiian slack key guitar and traditional music. In its 22nd year, George passed the torch to his protégé, Shem Kahawaii, to host the show so he could relocate to Santa Cruz County, California, to be closer to his grandchildren.

A lifelong educator, George taught for over 40 years, working with at-risk youth in both public and private schools, including the historic Lahainaluna High School. He taught guitar, ‘ukulele, and visual arts, and played a key role in establishing the Institute of Hawaiian Music at the University of Hawai‘i Maui College.

Though retired from taro and livestock farming, George continues to garden and support local farmers markets. His passion for living close to the land remains central to his life and values.

Since 1997, he has hosted *George Kahumoku Jr.’s Annual Maui Slack Key Guitar and ‘Ukulele Workshop*—a beloved week-long cultural immersion featuring master musicians such as Led

Kaapana, Jeff Peterson, and Herb Ohta Jr. The workshop reflects George's deep commitment to sharing, preserving, and perpetuating the spirit and sound of Hawaiian slack key guitar.

Learn more at [Kahumoku.com/workshop](https://kahumoku.com/workshop) and SlackKeyShow.com.