



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (December 31, 2008)

New year begins with beauty queens and dancing lions at Lahaina Cannery Mall
Firecrackers, martial arts masters and more kick off "The Year of the Ox"

Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii – Lahaina Cannery Mall kicks off Chinese New Year with martial arts, firecrackers and the traditional "feeding of the lions" on Saturday, January 31 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. This cultural experience, led by the enigmatic Au's Shaolin Arts Society, will usher in "The Year of the Ox" for westside residents.

"The most exciting part of Chinese Lion Dancing is the enthusiasm that the audience shows while participating in what is called 'feeding the lions'," said Ben Seng Au, director and chief instructor of the Oahu-based group. "People young and old enjoy getting 'bit' for their own personal good fortune."

This family-friendly event, which follows Saturday's regular 1 p.m. keiki hula performance, is free.

Also at Lahaina Cannery Mall this month:

Saturday, January 17

Miss Maui Scholarship Pageant Preview

Young women vying for the title of Miss Maui will take the stage at 12 p.m. to introduce themselves and their cause to the people of Maui County. The event, featuring contestants ages 17 to 24 from across the Valley Isle, is a primer for the 2008 pageant at the Ulalena Theater on Sunday, January 25. The winner of the Miss Maui Scholarship Pageant receives scholarship funding and the chance to represent the county at the 2009 Miss Hawaii Scholarship Pageant on Oahu.

Every Tuesday

- Free 'ukulele lessons at 5:45 p.m.

Every Tuesday and Thursday

- Polynesian Performances Hula Show at 7 p.m.

Every Saturday

- Keiki Hula Show at 1 p.m.
- Maui Toy Works - Yu-Gi-Oh Card Session from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Every Sunday

- Keiki Hula Show at 1 p.m.
- Maui Toy Works: Yo-Yo/skill toys workshop and demonstration 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Lahaina Cannery Mall is Maui's only fully enclosed, air-conditioned shopping complex. Open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Lahaina Cannery Mall has more than 50 shops and restaurants and is located on the north end of Lahaina Town fronting Honoapiilani Highway and Front Street. Management and leasing handled by CB Richard Ellis. For more information, call (808) 661-5304, or visit www.lahainacannery.com.

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