

# ALOHA KE AKUA

“GOD IS LOVE” – #uhMAZEd

February 2014

March 6, 2014. We were literally amazed. Here is the story of how this has all come to be and what God has been doing in this whole thing! ***It's long but so WORTH it!!*** It's pretty amazing and each and everyday, I am amazed at who He is, His provisions, and how He does all things to bring people back to Himself

It all started in January of this year at Summer Projects Director's Training, well at least that's what I thought anyway. I had seen the Maze before at a Winter Conference a few years back and at training, there was a flyer promoting it for our campuses. What is the maze? Well, it's a "well renowned production that has performed on college campuses around the U.S. Their show affects tens of thousands of college students each year. It's a mystery performance that has traveled the world; the Maze has bewildered audiences for the past decade with its unique and innovative approach to entertainment. Magician Jim Munroe founded the Maze at the turn of the century." Jim essentially brings people into the gospel through his gifting and abilities of illusion and then shares the gospel through his story of finding Jesus!

We had our annual Spring Outreach coming up in March and we had no ideas yet, so I thought it would be worth at least checking out. Knowing that Jim does 70+ shows a year, trying to book him two months out seemed nearly impossible. I emailed anyway and found out that the week we had set for our outreach was the exact week he had available. Awesome, right? Now to logistics... how much was an event like this going to cost?

His manager emailed me back and said the event itself was going to cost \$6250, not including hotel, meals, transportation, campus needs, etc... We were easily looking at about \$9000, and we had \$300 in our budget for this category! I wasn't sure what to do and sought counsel from my discipler and she said if you feel like this is what your campus, movement, and ministry need, then go for it! Take a step out of the boat and walk in faith! And so I did. I sent our staff team videos and asked them what they thought and no one highly objected and so I said sweet, let's try it! In that moment, I knew we had to raise money... this is almost 1/2 of what we raise at our annual Vision Dinner... BUT, here we go.

I made a ton of calls and basically in a matter of a week, Cru approved our \$2000 matching fund, my friend is a youth pastor and after sharing with him the vision and heart for this night, he said they were in for \$1000, talking with another good pastor friend of mine, they were in for another \$1000! Coming back, one of my staff guys talked to another church partnership and they were in for \$1000!! Most of the other ministries are tapped out, as we are, but BCM said they were in for \$500. So in a week the Lord provided \$4000 and in that month, it grew to \$5500.

We were still \$3500ish short and I had called Be the Match and they said they raise their own funds so it wasn't likely and so that was a wash. I was a little bummed about that, but on Saturday night around 11pm when our leadership team was over for a game night, I got an email from Be the Match saying they were in for \$3000!! Craaaazy!

If you'd like to help support  
what God is doing here in  
Hawai'i please go to:

<https://give.cru.org/give/View/0551103>

Staff Acct #0551103

*Bringing God's heart of 'ohana to the Campus, the Islands, and the Nations by building spiritual movements everywhere so that everyone knows someone who truly follows Jesus*

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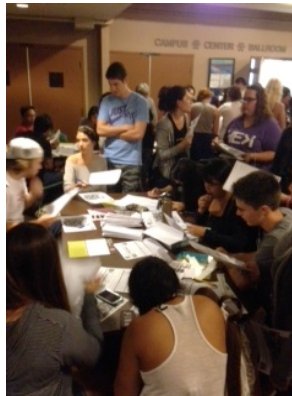
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Then a couple weeks ago, I was at our MTL retreat and I got to share about ministry and what God's been doing and it was really good and through our regional staff and campuses, they gave another \$650 to help us finish out! Then that night, another one of my staff guys texted his church and me back home wanted to give another \$1000!! And so all together, we've seen \$10,050 come in for this thing in two months!!

It's crazy this all came together and it reminds me of what God is wanting to do this week through the Maze and His provisions! The best part is that I've been learning that God doesn't NEED me to do any of this! He doesn't need me to put this event on, He doesn't need me to lead this team, He doesn't need me in ministry, He doesn't need me in anything! He is the one that provides, gives, and takes away and He CHOOSES to use me in ALL of this because He wants me to see His character and His goodness! He wants to bless us as we bring others into His Kingdom!!

But, It doesn't end there! When I picked up Jim at the airport, he told me that in January while he was in Hawaii celebrating his anniversary, one morning on his run, he felt the Lord asking him to pray for these islands. Within 4 hours, he received the email from his booking manager that I had emailed and Hawaii wanted to book an event with him! I was blown away and moved to tears how God's plan is so good and He has been designing this since before I even knew!

The night of the event, another ministry wanted to give \$300 and we saw 650+ students attend, 26 indicated decisions to follow Jesus, in an hour 179 students signed up with Be the Match to be bone marrow donors, and I can honestly say that this is just the beginning! God is so good and this is and has and always will be about His Kingdom!



↑ niyahh ↑ @niyahhlahv · 10h

Giving my life to God was the best decision I have ever made in college

#grateful

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Alessia @alohalessia · 12h

MIND BLOWN. I've got Jesus, my guide through this maze called life.

#themaze #themazeHI #mazeHI #cruHI

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