

NEWS RELEASE



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**PBS HAWAII PRESENTS PAPA MAU: THE WAYFINDER
BROADCAST PREMIERE THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 29 8:30 PM**

A Micronesian master navigator who inspired Hawaiian voyagers to preserve the ancient practice of non-instrument navigation is the subject of a PBS Hawaii Presents documentary that premieres Thursday, September 29 at 8:30 p.m.

Shot and produced by filmmaker and Hokule'a crewman Nā`ālehu Anthony, *Papa Mau: The Wayfinder* tells the story of the late Mau Pialug, chosen at birth to become a navigator in the tiny atoll of Satawal, Micronesia. By the age of 18, Pailug was recognized as a Pwo - a master navigator.

Pialug's knowledge of non-instrument navigation would prove critical to the Polynesian Voyaging Society. In 1976, Pailug agreed to navigate the Hokule'a on her maiden voyage to Tahiti, using only his knowledge of the heavens and the ocean. That voyage would spark a reawakening pride throughout Polynesia. Many years later in 2007, Mau's students presented him with the Alingano Maisu, a 56-foot double-hulled voyaging canoe that they designed, constructed, and sailed to Satawal. Mau, aging and in frail health received and honored his students by performing the ancient Micronesian Pwo ceremony to recognize them as the next generation of master navigators.

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