

**Mission Statement:** The Exploration Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote educational innovation through outreach, technical assistance and advocacy.

### **A Capital Campaign for West Hawaii Explorations Academy**

West Hawaii Explorations Academy (WHEA) is a small charter school with big ideas and a bold vision. Known for its nontraditional, hands-on approach to learning, WHEA, a school without walls, brings a new level of innovation and engagement to its students, their families and the Kailua-Kona community.

The school's unique learning environment and emphasis on sustainability produces students who are critical thinkers and responsible citizens who value stewardship and collaboration. Not only are WHEA graduates equipped with the right knowledge and skills to live and work in today's challenging, globally connected world-they thrive in it.

Plans to build a model environmental education center will help the school respond to the changing needs of its students in the 21st Century. A new, flexible campus featuring a combination of indoor and outdoor spaces will serve to enhance and perpetuate WHEA's student-driven programs and eco-conscious focus for many years to come.

### **WHEA's vision:**

"To cultivate critical thinkers who are able to solve real world, complex problems. Students will participate as productive, responsible citizens who value stewardship and collaboration within the community".

*"If students leave school feeling like they're engaged and an active part of the community, they have a much higher probability of getting interested in other things later on."*

-Bill Woerner, West Hawaii Explorations Academy