

On the Turtle Trail 6/08



Lae Kupuna by Aulii Kirsch and Kamehameha Schools of Hawaii students

It's a Honu Island
Turtle sculptures decorated by local artists

All summer
Around the island (where you least expect 'em)

The "It's a Honu World" project is bearing fruit — actually, it's hatching turtles. Sort of. The big sea turtle sculptures decorated by local artists are now all over the island. They'll be on display all summer before most of them are auctioned off to benefit various charities in September.

The artists all started with identical fibreglass turtle forms, but the end results reflect wildly varied visions. Vicki Vierra's *Kapakahi Honu*, displayed at Koehnen's Interiors in Hilo, wears more gaudy abstract designs than a tattooed circus lady. Michael Davis's *Na Honu O Kalapana*, at Volcano Art Center's Niaulani Campus, looks like it hatched from glowing lava. Kerri Ligatich's *Healing Stone Honu* at the Hilo Medical Center's gift shop is painted realistically with pigments made from naturally occurring minerals and gemstones.

Many of these honu carry burdens on their backs. FW Hendrik's *Aloha Aina*, at the Parker Ranch Center, carries a herd of cattle plus several cowboys and horses on its shell.

• need list of all locations
see website