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## **INAUGURAL POLYNESIAN BOWL TO BE STREAMED LIVE ON ESPN3**

*Telecast team to be led by **Kanoa Leahey** and **Vai Sikahema***

**Honolulu, HI** (November 2, 2016) – The Polynesian Football Hall of Fame and ESPN announced today that the inaugural Polynesian Bowl will be streamed exclusively on ESPN3. Hawaii News Now (Raycom Media), who owns two television stations KGMB-CBS, KHNL-NBC and operates KFVE in Honolulu, will be providing the local production.

The Polynesian Bowl is a premier high school all-star game that will feature the world's elite senior football players of Polynesian heritage and other ancestries. The game will be Saturday, January 21, 2017, 8:00 pm PST at Aloha Stadium in O'ahu, Hawai'i as part of the Polynesian Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Weekend. It will be locally blacked-out. Tickets are on sale now via Ticketmaster.

"The Polynesian Football Hall of Fame is proud to collaborate with ESPN on the inaugural Polynesian Bowl," said Chairman and Co-Founder **Jesse Sapolu**. "The live ESPN3 telecast will allow us to showcase the world's elite high school football players of Polynesian heritage and other ancestries."

The telecast team will include Polynesians, veteran Hawai'i sports personality Kanoa Leahey and Polynesian Football Hall of Fame Inductee Vai Sikahema. Leahey, who will do play-by-play, is an announcer for high school sports on Oceanic Cable, college basketball on the ESPN networks and co-host of Leahey & Leahey. Sikahema, who will serve as color analyst, is a Polynesian Football Hall of Fame Inductee and award winning Sports Director and News Anchor for NBC 10 in Philadelphia.

The Polynesian Bowl will feature 84 of the world's elite high school football players including University of Michigan Commit QB **Dylan McCaffrey** and University of Alabama commit QB **Tua Tagovailoa**.

Special thanks to **Friends of Hawai'i Charities, Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel, Kyoya Company, Coca-Cola Bottling of Hawai'i, Hawaiian Airlines, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, Hawaii News Now, Honolulu Star-Advertiser, Marcus Mariota's Motiv8 Foundation, Nike, PowerPlus Mouthguard, Riddell** and **Roberts Hawaii** for their generous support.

### **ABOUT THE POLYNESIAN BOWL**

Organized by the Polynesian Football Hall of Fame, the Polynesian Bowl will feature the world's elite high school players of Polynesian heritage and other ancestries. Tennessee Titans QB **Marcus Mariota** (TEAM MARIOTA) and Baltimore Ravens OT **Ronnie Stanley** (TEAM STANLEY) will serve as team captains. Polynesian Football Hall of Fame Inductees **Jack "The Throwin' Samoan" Thompson** and **Olin Kreutz** will serve as honorary head coaches. For more information, visit [www.PolynesianBowl.com](http://www.PolynesianBowl.com).

### **ABOUT ESPN3**

ESPN3 is ESPN's live multi-screen sports network, a destination that delivers thousands of exclusive sports events annually. It is accessible on computers, smartphones, tablets and streaming devices through WatchESPN to fans who receive their video or internet subscription from an affiliated provider.