

# The Maui News

## Boy Scouts build steps at arboretum

[Community News](#)

Apr 23, 2017



Aolama Chow (left) teaches his crew of 35 volunteers, Scouts of Troop 100, to build steps with proper rise, depth and width.

Aolama Chow of Boy Scout Troop 100 of Kula completed his Eagle Project at the D.T. Fleming Arboretum at Puu Mahoe to earn the Boy Scouts of America's highest honor — the Eagle Scout Award.

An Eagle Scout Award requires Scouts to organize, coordinate and direct a community service project, demonstrating commitment, skill and leadership. Chow coordinated a three-day campout in the Puu Mahoe cinder cone April 7-9 with Scouts from Troop 100 to accomplish his Eagle project.

Chow, son of Clifford and Nora Chow of Kula, planned, organized and directed the construction of 20 steps ascending 10 feet in the Fleming Arboretum connecting two trails. With extra volunteers, 30 feet of Polynesian ti leaf along the trail and grass seed were planted to control erosion.

The D.T. Fleming Arboretum is Hawaii's oldest and largest native plant arboretum — a seed resource for native forest restoration.

The arboretum is an education and conservation resource promoting youth and community group involvement in preservation of native plants and wildlife.

“I chose to do my Eagle project at the arboretum because I can think of no cause more worthy than to support the preservation and restoration of Hawaii's forests, and I can think of no place that aids that effort more than the D.T Fleming Arboretum,” said Chow. “The arboretum is truly one of the most beautiful places I've ever had the pleasure of visiting and both the arboretum's mission and those who work there embody the true spirit of aloha.”