

Bio. Noreen Ohai-Daniels:

Noreen Ohai-Daniels was born on Kauai and raised between Kauai, Oahu and California. Noreen's experiences and background are solidly grounded in the island lifestyle and the ethnic background of her roots. Her Hawaiian grandparents instilled in all of their grandchildren a love of the land. As stewards of the aina, it was expected that all of the family would have a reverence and respect for what gave them life.

Noreen has additional strong feelings regarding the government's use of words such as "progress" and "rehabilitation" through her mother's side of the family as members of the Southeastern Cherokee Nation.

A farmer and rancher for the past 40 years, conservation and sustainability have played an integral part in the family life of the Ohai-Daniels Ohana.

Trained as a private secretary, office manager and bookkeeper, Noreen left that work to care for a growing family, and farming fit into her family life. She has also studied photography, floral design, hula, Hawaiian Language, computer science, medical transcription, real estate law, and Hawaiian history.

There have been intervals when she has been a condominium resident manager and managed individual rental properties. She has worked for a non-profit agency as a farm manager and instructor. She has taught farming and gardening for export and local markets as well as subsistence and sustainability. She has taught tropical landscaping and design and irrigation for the landscape industry.

Her farming experience has been in raising cattle, hogs, sheep and grain crops. In recent years the farming has been focused in tropical flowers and foliage. She has done tropical floral design work for hotels, restaurants, weddings and private homes on Kauai.

Noreen has worked in the Hawaii legislature as a Kauai liaison for a Kauai state senator, has been a long-time member of the Hawaii Farm Bureau and the Hawaii Tropical Flower and Foliage Association. She is a member of Save Koke'e.

Her newest interest has been her weekly volunteer work at the National Tropical Botanical Garden in the Breadfruit Research Institute.

At the present time, Noreen continues to farm and serves as a trustee for Namolokama Family Trust. The one thing that defines her life, however, is her 43 year marriage and her three beautiful children and 6 grandchildren (and counting).