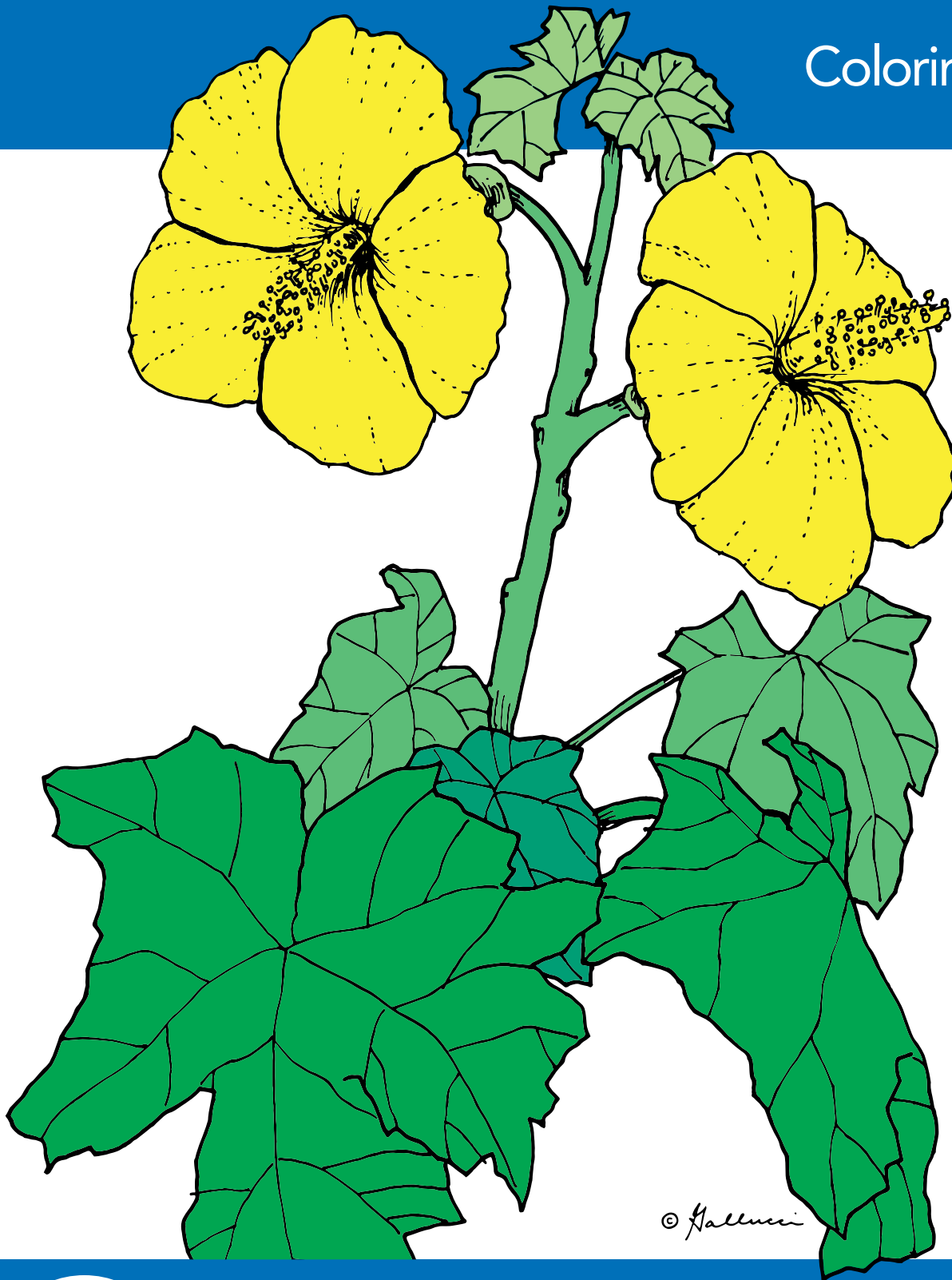


Hawaiian Native Plants

Coloring Book



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Hawaiian Native Plants

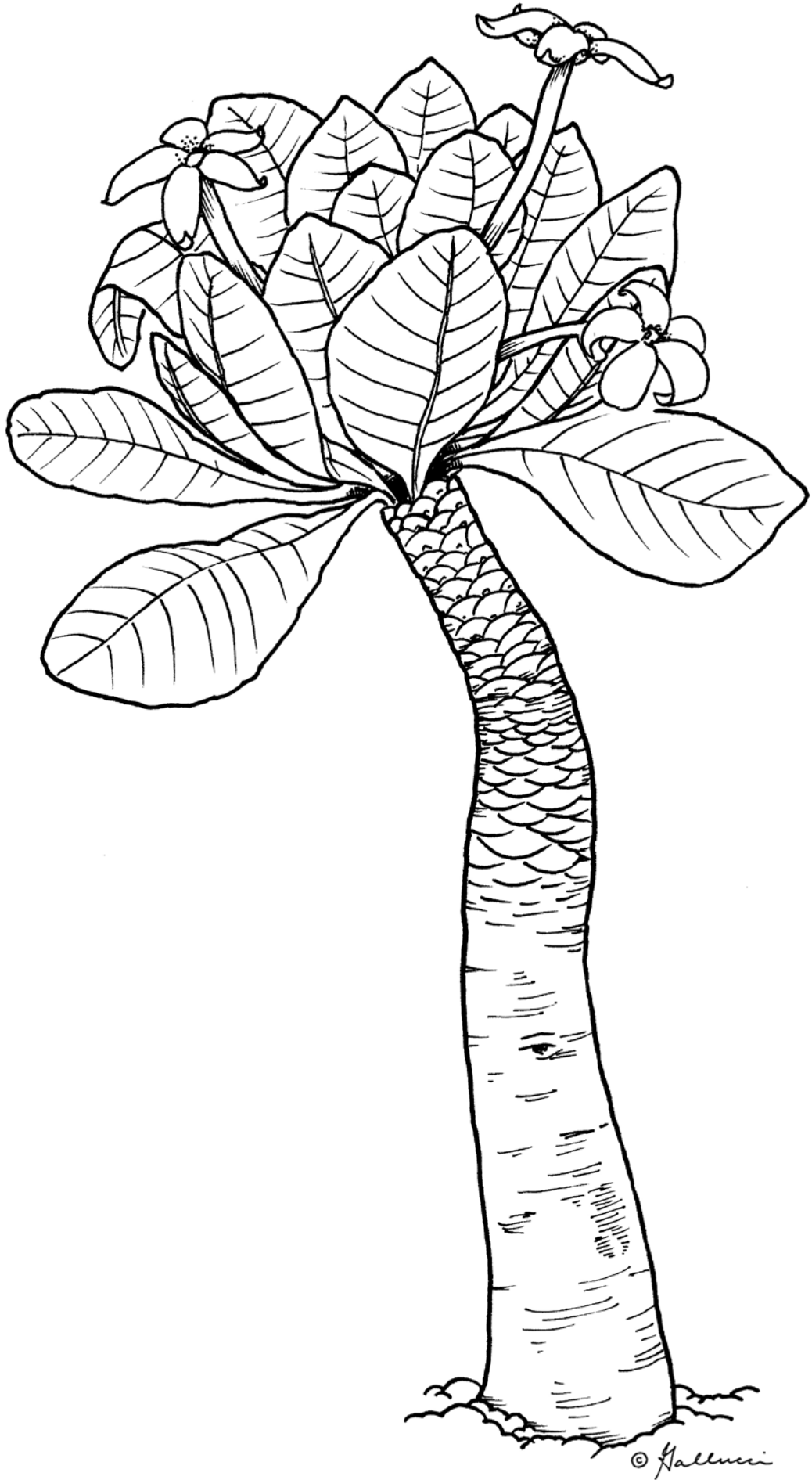
Coloring Book

Native Hawaiian plants are at home in Hawai'i. They have grown and evolved here for many thousands of years. Hawai'i is one of the most remote pae 'āina (group of islands) in the world. To get here, plants had to arrive on one of the three W's: wings, water, or wind. Some seeds hitched a ride on the feathers of birds. Others floated across the vast ocean. Some tiny seeds blew to the islands in the upper levels of the atmosphere, high in the sky. However they first arrived, native plants are very special. In fact, about 90% of the plants in Hawai'i are found nowhere else on Earth. Native plants sustain Hawai'i's habitats and culture. They are also increasingly endangered. We can all do our part to protect native plants. A great place to start is by learning about them through the art of coloring!

Ālula

Brighamia insignis

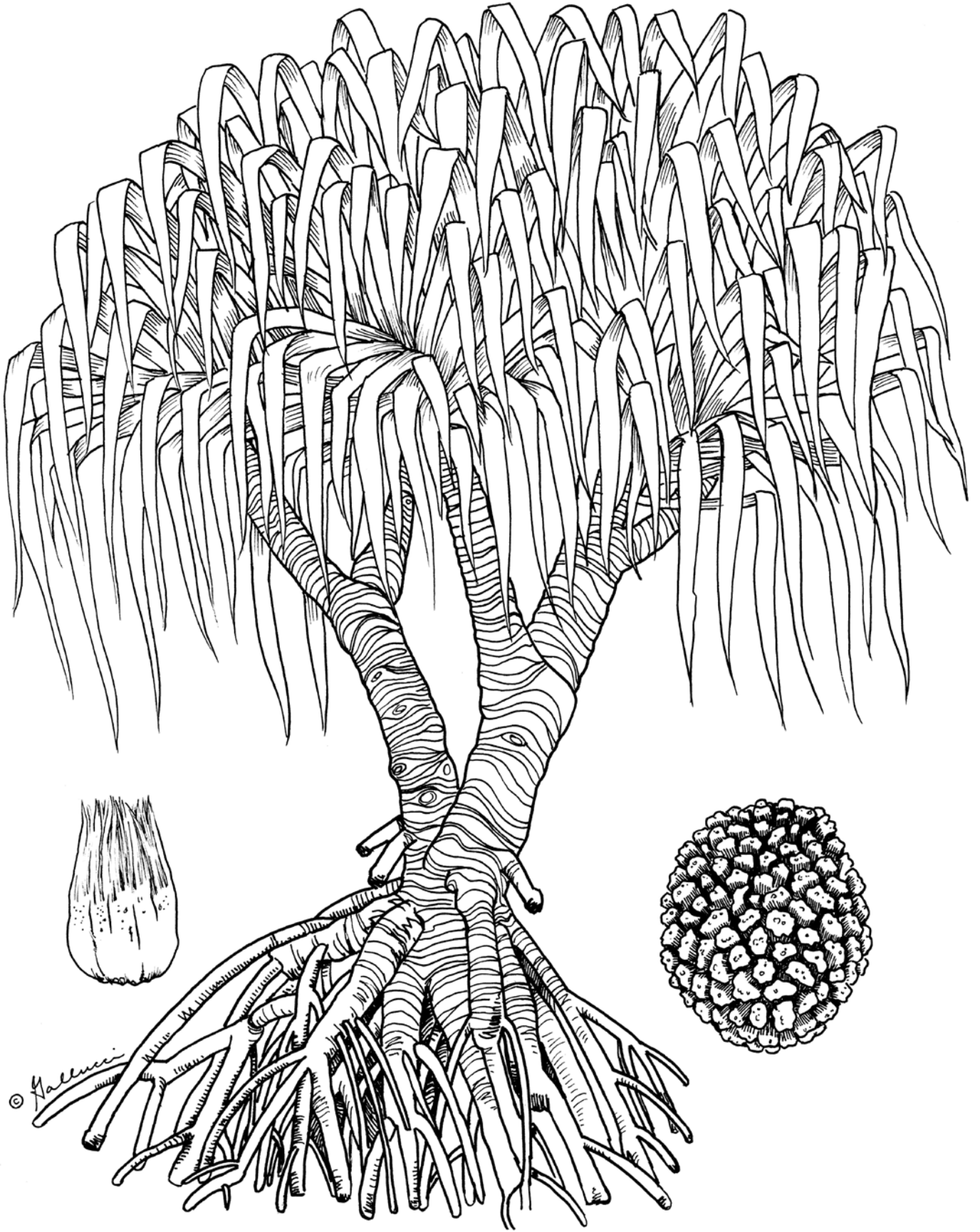
Nicknamed "Briggy", our NTBG mascot lived only on the islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. Introduced animals and other plants were destroying Briggy's home. NTBG rescued them by gathering seeds. The seeds were taken back to our nursery to grow more ālula. Today they now have many more "brothers and sisters." They can be found in homes and gardens throughout the world.



Hala

Screw Pine | *Pandanus tectorius*

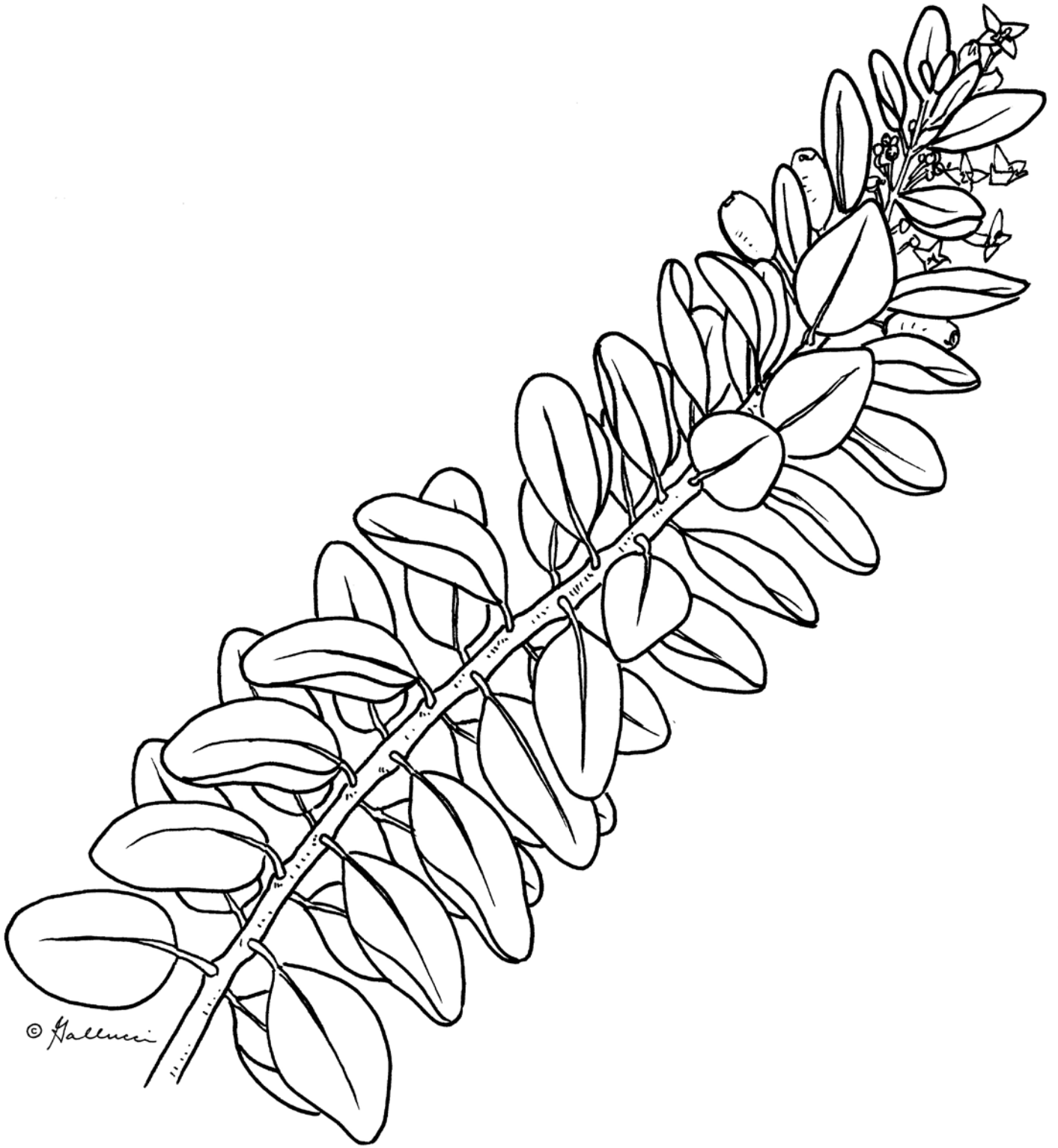
Things you need every day like baskets, fans, and floor mats can all be made from hala leaves. Preparing the leaves correctly is complicated. First harvest the leaves. Then strip, dry, and beat. Finally, weave the leaves tightly. It takes practice to create a tight and square weave. It is a rare skill today.



'Iliahi

Sandalwood | *Santalum pyrularium*

Sandalwood has a pleasing fragrance. The fragrance is found in the oil of the heartwood. It protects the tree from insects. This marvelous, cedar-like scent lasts for up to 60 years after the wood is cut. Sandalwood is carved into fine household items. The fragrant oil is used in perfumes and massage oils.

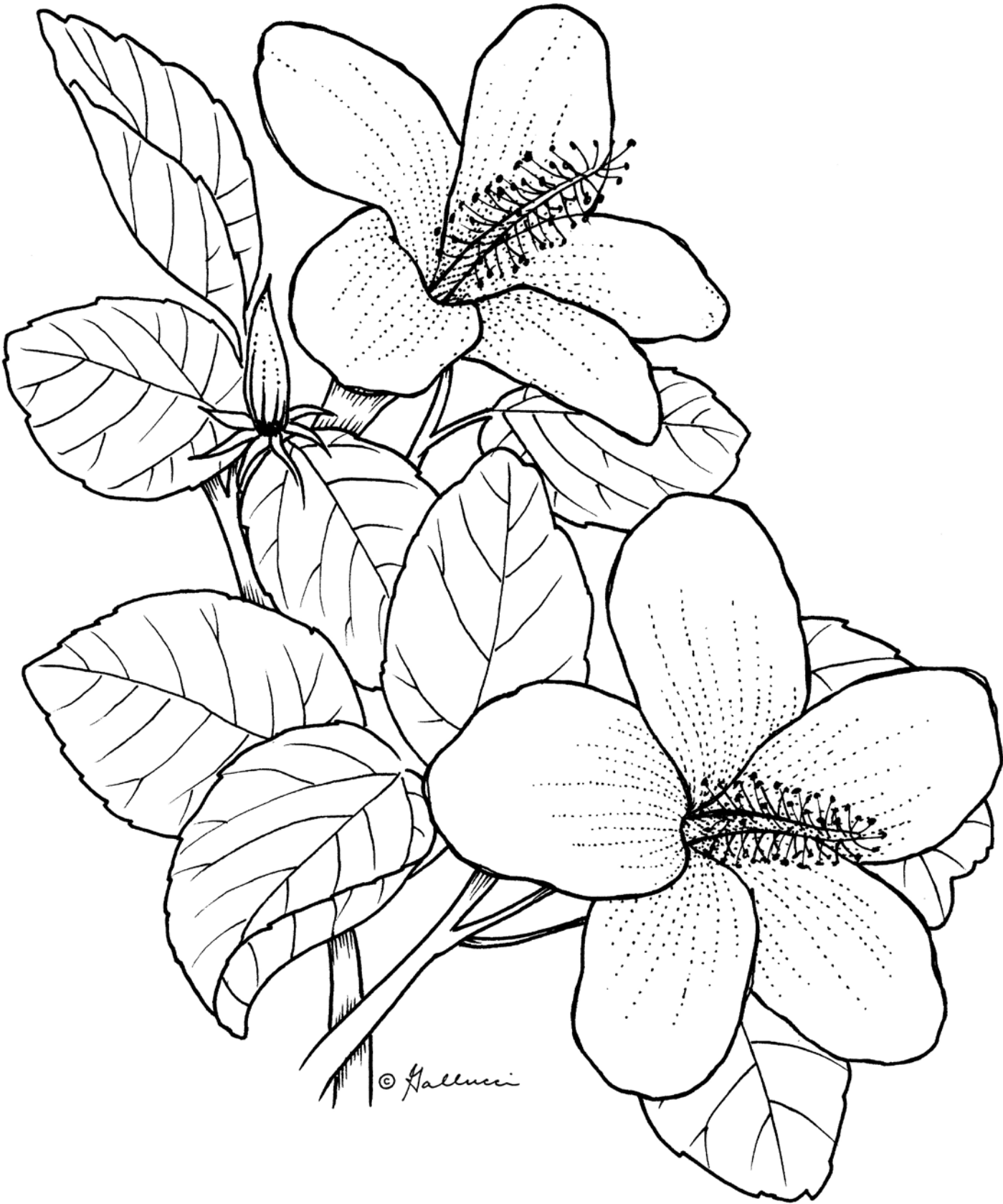


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Koki'o
ke'o ke'o

White Hibiscus | *Hibiscus waimeae* subsp. *waimeae*

This native white hibiscus fills the air with a sweet fragrance. This is so rare among the hibiscus. But the flowers only last for a day. The Koki'o ke'o ke'o is native to Kaua'i. It was thought to only live in the valleys of Waimea Canyon, but another subspecies was discovered in Limahuli Valley on the North Shore of Kaua'i.



Ko'oloa'ula

Abutilon menziesii

This native relative of the hibiscus is very rare in Hawai'i. It is listed as an endangered plant. It is a beautiful shrub with velvety, heart shaped leaves. The maroon-to-pink flowers have a yellow center. They hang down like bells. Hawaiians use the flowers to make beautiful lei. The double-flowered form is called lantern 'ilima or royal 'ilima.



Kulu'i

Nototrichium sandwicense

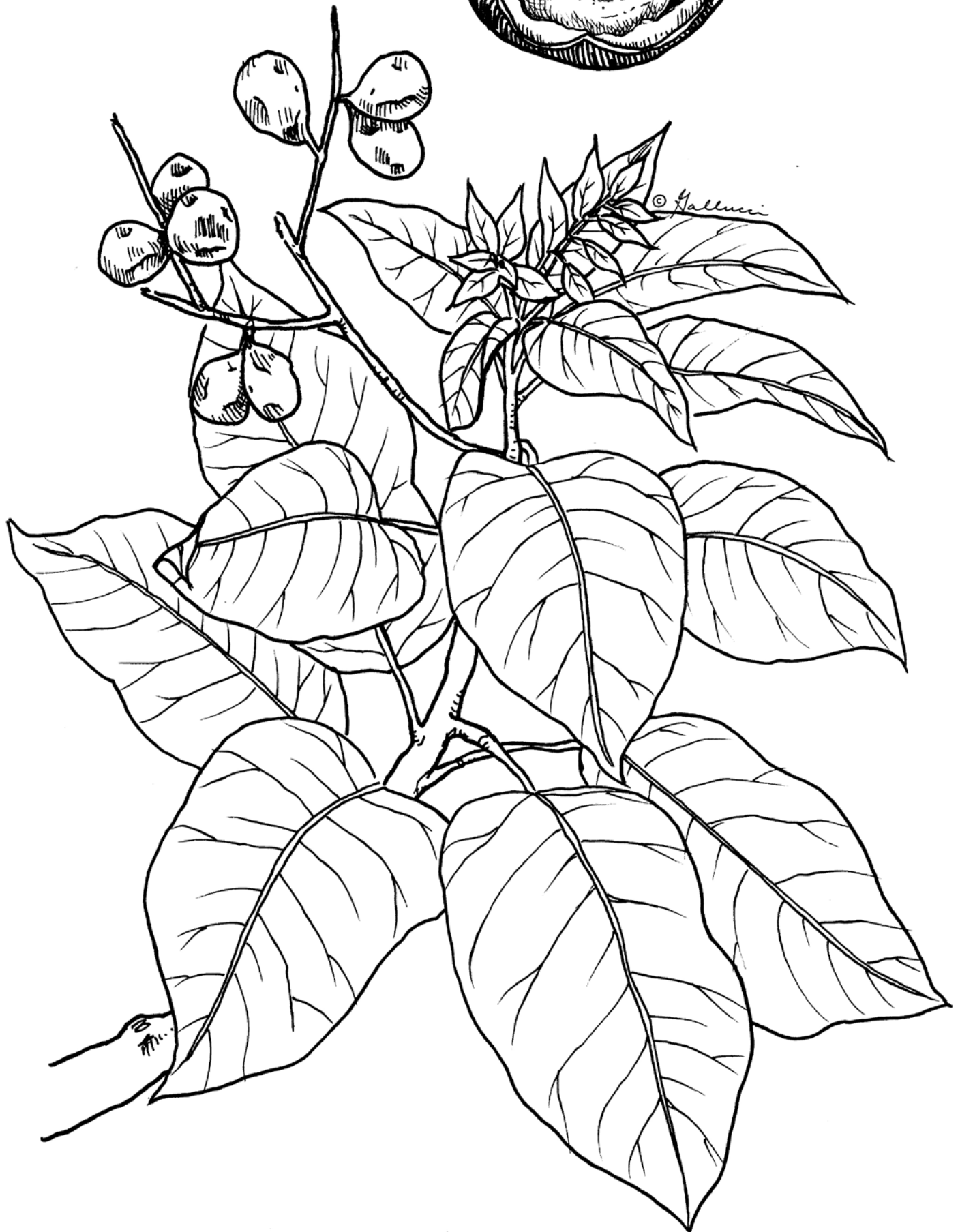
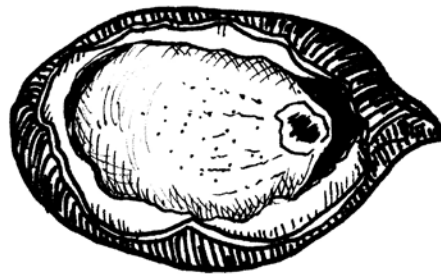
This native shrub has a silvery color. The color comes from thousands of tiny hairs that cover the plant. When it gets a lot of sun, the plants become shinier. Even the flowers have long spreading hairs. They dangle in clusters that resemble teardrops. Kulu'i leaves and flowers can be made into a beautiful silvery lei. The flowers and wood were also used as a form of ancient fireworks!



Lonomea

Sapindus oahuensis

Lonomea are native to the islands of Kaua'i and O'ahu. They are known on Kaua'i as Lonomea. On O'ahu they are known as Āulu. Adult trees can reach 50 feet tall. They have large, deep-green leaves and silky brown flowers. The fruits smell like figs or raisins, but don't eat them. They are not edible! The seeds were used for medicine. Seeds can also be strung into a lei.



Loulu

Pritchardia Palm | *Pritchardia sp.*

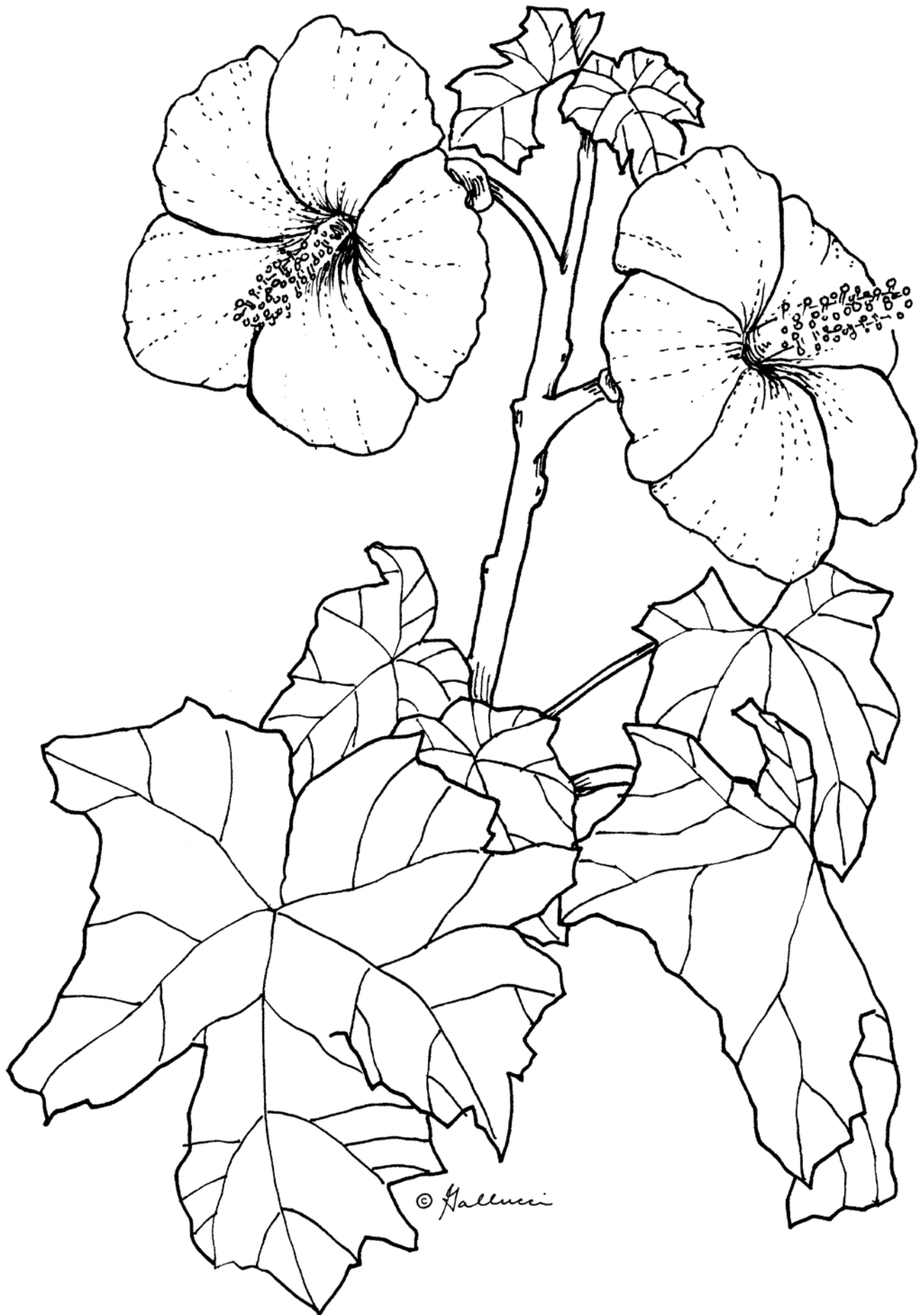
This is the only palm tree native to Hawai'i. Each island has its very own type of loulu. These beautiful palms are found nowhere else in the world. Many loulu are close to becoming extinct. Growing loulu will help them to survive. Unripe loulu seeds are called hāwane. Hāwane taste a little like coconut gummy bears. Loulu means "umbrella." The leaves can be used to protect you from the rain or sun.



Ma'o hau hele

Yellow Hibiscus | *Hibiscus brackenridgei*

Ma'o hau hele was named the state flower of Hawai'i in 1988. The bright yellow flowers open between noon and late afternoon. The leaves and flowers can be used to make a beautiful yellow-green dye. This native Hawaiian hibiscus is endangered. It can sometimes become a small tree. It can grow up to 33 feet tall!



Naio

False Sandalwood | *Naio*

Naio is known as false sandalwood. The fragrance of the yellow-green wood is like that of true sandalwood ('iliahi). But the fragrance doesn't last as long as true sandalwood. The palila is an endangered native Hawaiian bird. It can be found in the forests of Mauna Kea on the Big Island of Hawai'i. This bird feeds on the naio flowers and berries. Naio wood can be used to make torches for night fishing. It can burn for a long time.



Nānū

Gardenia | *Gardenia brighamii*

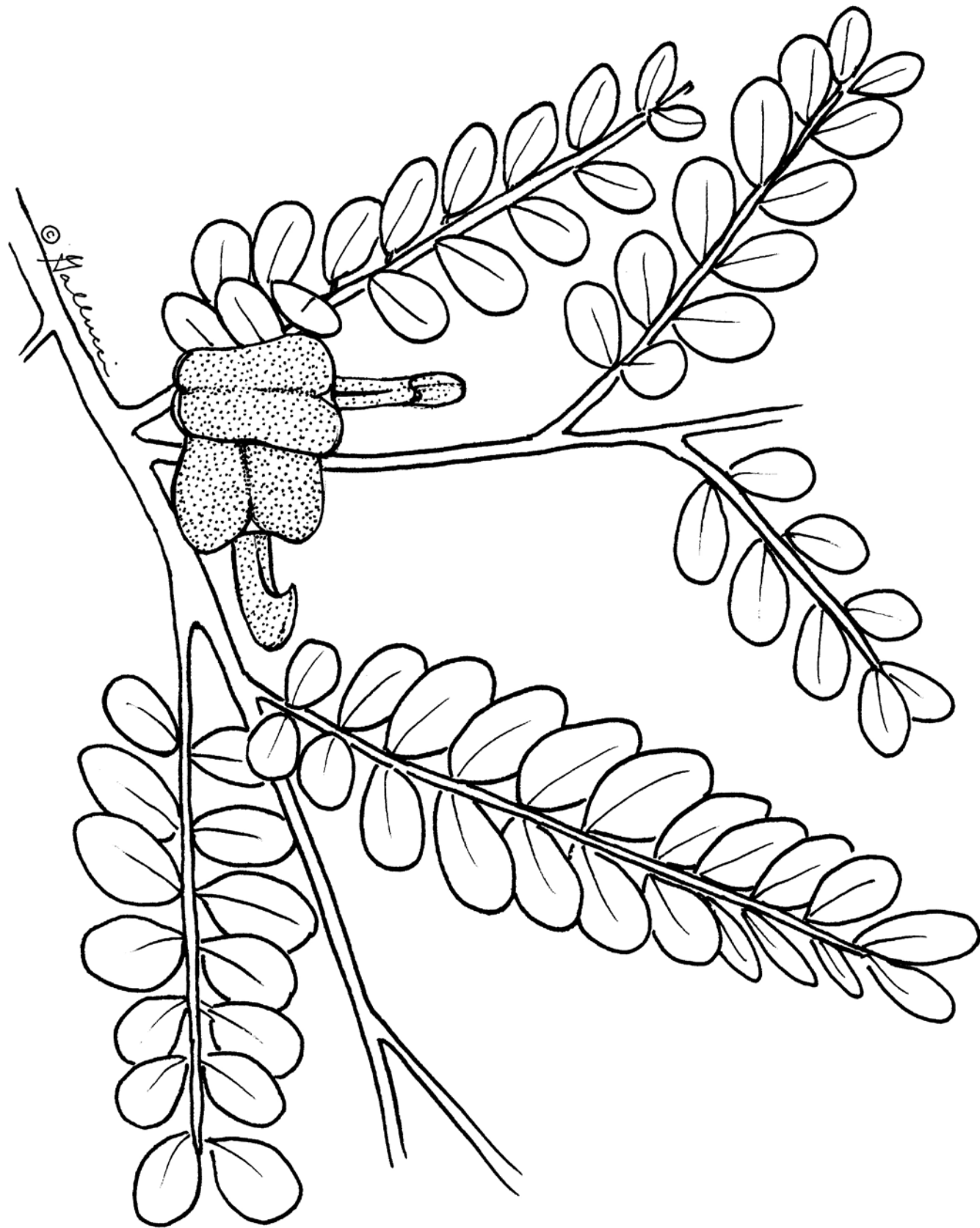
Nānū is an endangered gardenia tree. It is native to Hawai'i. It was found on most of the Hawaiian islands. But it is now very rare. Less than 50 of these plants can still be found in the wild. It has a small white flower. The flower has a pleasing fragrance. When several flowers are in bloom at the same time, the air smells a little like coconut oil! Ancient chants tell about how its flowering branches were used to decorate the hale (house).

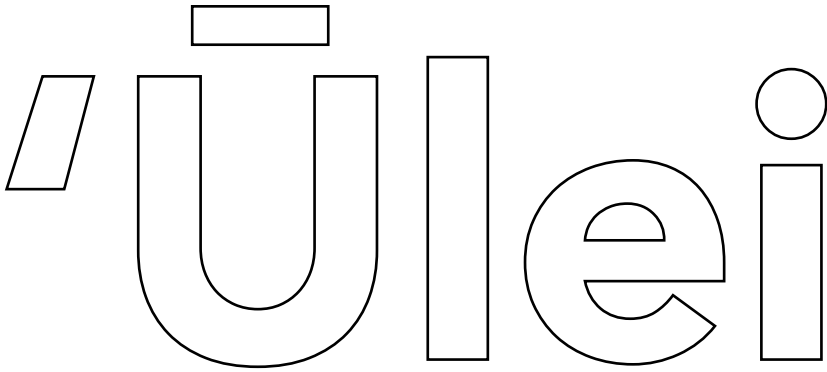


'Ohai

Sesbania tomentosa

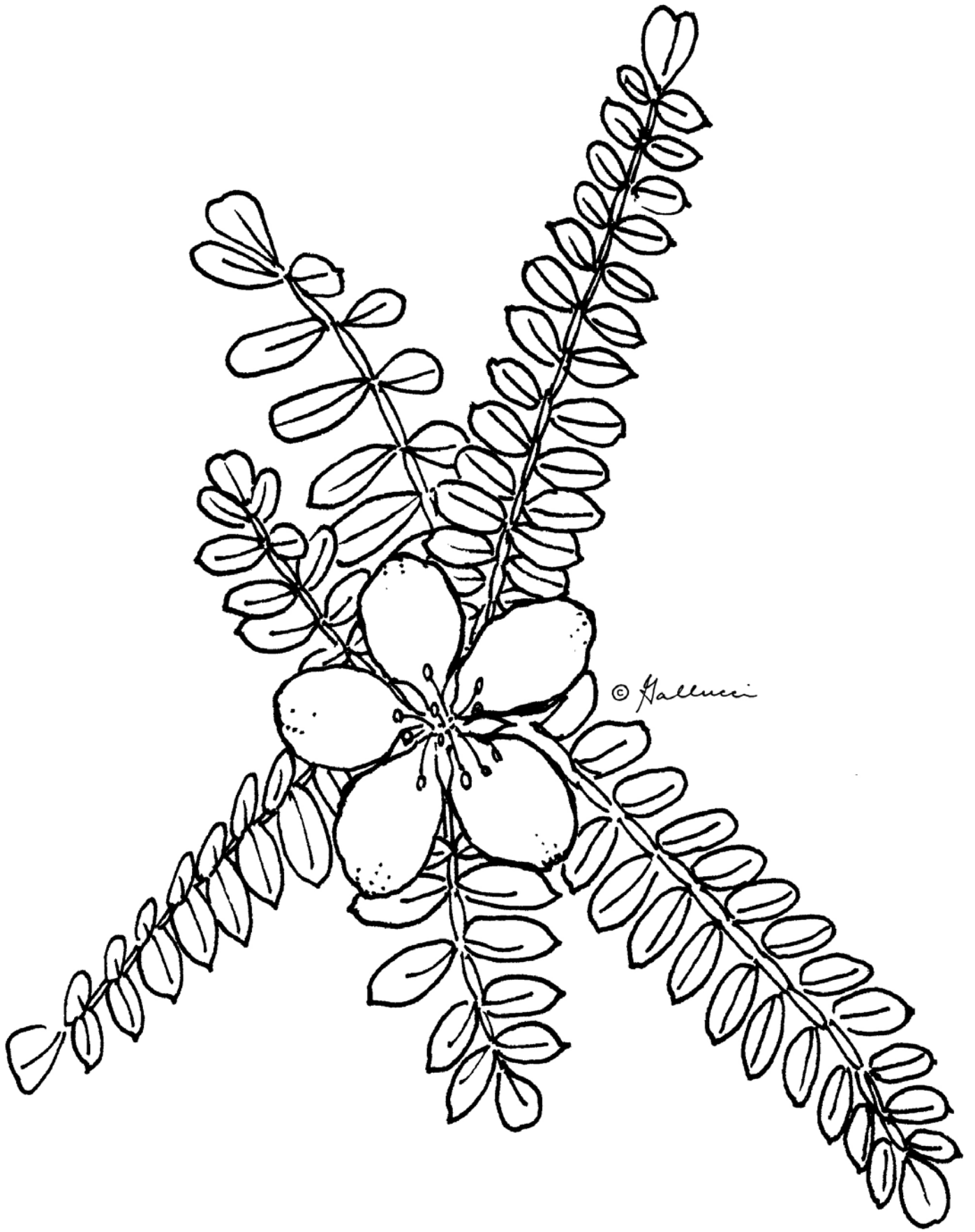
The branches and fragrant leaves of 'Ohai are covered with very fine silvery hairs. These hairs act as a natural sunscreen. The hairs shade the plant from the sun. The flowers are red, orange, apricot, and yellow. They bloom the most after it rains. These flowers are used to make beautiful Hawaiian lei.





Osteomeles anthyllidifolia

'Ūlei belongs to the Rose family. In Hawai'i it has lost its thorns as it didn't need protection against big herbivores. They developed a wonderful fragrance to attract native birds and insects that pollinate these plants. Shearwater birds can find shade and escape from predators under these plants. They burrow beneath its branches.

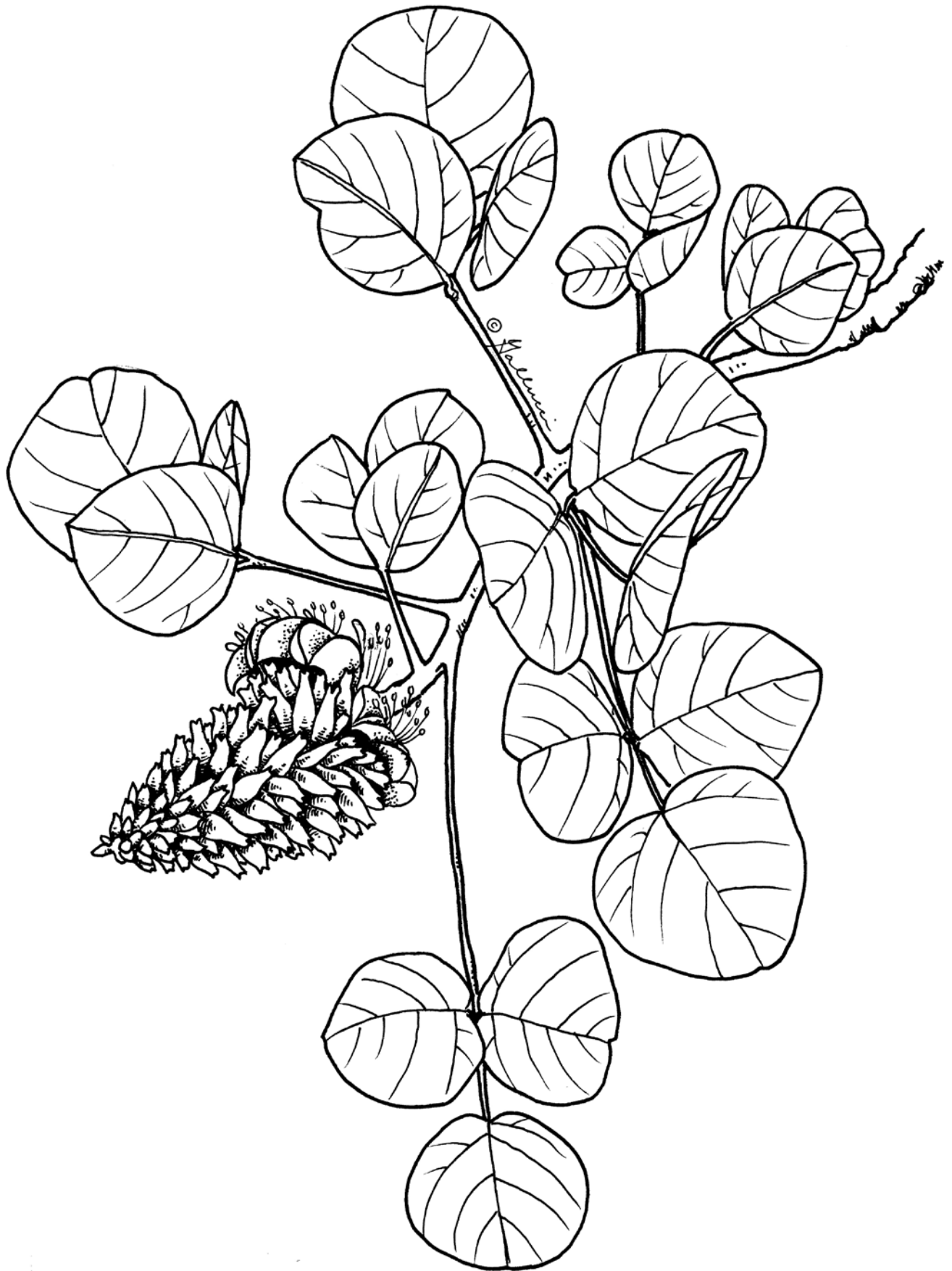


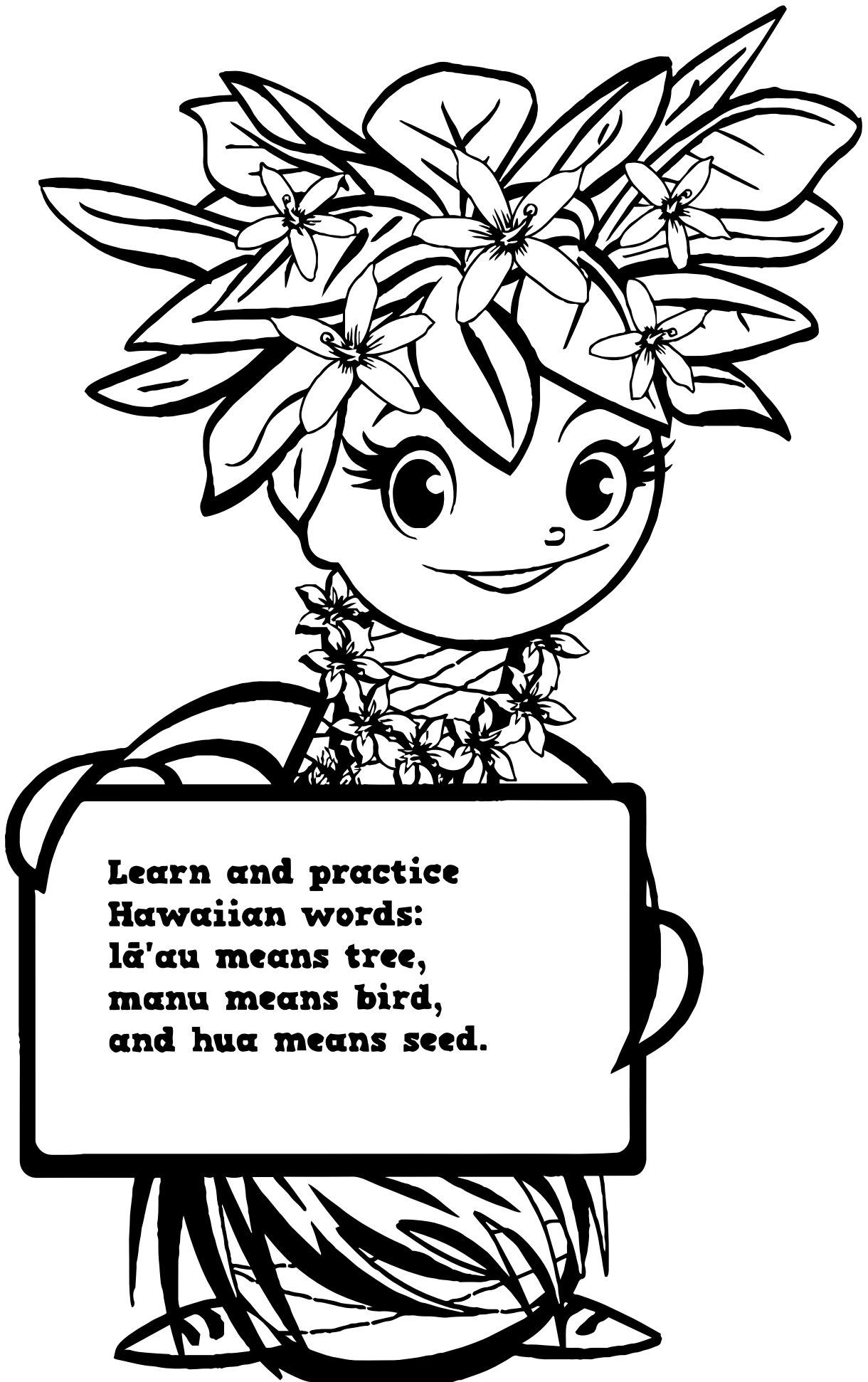
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wiliwili

Coral Tree | *Erythrina sandwicensis*

The lightweight wood of the wiliwili has been used for surfboards and fish net floats. The name means "twisted." It describes the seed pods that twist open. They lose their leaves during the hot summer months to conserve water. The colorful flowers are red, orange, salmon, peach, chartreuse, green, and even white. The brightly colored seeds are used to make lei.





**Learn and practice
Hawaiian words:
lā'au means tree,
manu means bird,
and hua means seed.**

The Story of Briggy and Ālula

Briggy and Ālula are brother and sister, and are a very special type of plant from the island of Kaua'i. They have a cousin on the island of Moloka'i that looks a lot like them, but our Kaua'i plants have yellow flowers, and their cousin on Moloka'i has white ones.

Ālula is the Hawaiian name for these special plants. Their scientific name is a long one—*Brighamia insignis*. But they like their friends to call them Briggy and Ālula. Will you be their friend?

Briggy and Ālula had their home on the high sea cliffs of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. They had lots of brothers and sisters who lived there too. They all grew strong and healthy until some other plants and animals moved in and destroyed their home.

Your friends at the National Tropical Botanical Garden found Briggy and Ālula. They helped them get more brothers and sisters by growing them in their gardens. Today Briggy and Ālula have a HUGE number of brothers and sisters.

There are many Hawaiian plants that are disappearing. Can you help save them? Can you help save their homes?



The National Tropical Botanical Garden

At the National Tropical Botanical Garden, we love plants and hope you do too! Plants are so important for the health of our habitats and communities. At NTBG, we care for many tropical plants in our gardens and habitats.

Think about the plants that you see and enjoy on a daily basis. What would life be like without them? We hope the plants in these pages have inspired you to think about the plants around you. No matter who you are, you can love and protect plants!

National Tropical Botanical Garden

Allerton | McBryde | Kahanu | Limahuli | The Kampong



*E kuhikuhi pono i na au iki
a me na au nui o ka 'ike.*

Instruct well in the little and the large currents of knowledge.

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