

**Wednesday, July 28 • UHM Art Auditorium\_ *Unleashing Abilities: The Genius of Dogs*\_with Maureen Maurer, Cate Dorr, Dr. Wendi Hirsch, Brian Kajiyama, and Service Dogs Tucker and Zeus**

**Maurer and Dorr present their findings on Canine Cognition and Communication and the development of Canine Sign Language (CSL) with its glance commands for those who cannot communicate verbally with their service dogs. Kajiyama demonstrates how he communicates to his Service Dog Zeus through CSL and Dr. Hirsch offers testimony about the life-changing work of Therapy Dog Tucker at Kapi'olani Medical Center. The panel concludes with a discussion of scent detection research and how dogs are saving people's lives through early detection of medical conditions.**

**Maureen "Mo" Maurer is the founder of Hawai'i Canines for Independence (HCI). Maurer has been providing Assistance Dogs to people with disabilities in Hawai'i since 1992. She recently developed a new language for people with limited mobility who are also non-verbal to communicate with their Service Dogs. Maureen is currently working on innovative new research into dog's abilities to detect medical conditions in humans, including cancer. Hawai'i Canines for Independence has recently received international recognition for their groundbreaking work.**