AUTHENTIC HAWAI’I

WITH AN EXCLUSIVE STAY AT A PRIVATE MANSION

FEATURING PROFESSOR PEDRO MARENCO

Dear Bryn Mawr alumnae/i and Friends,

We invite you to join Professor Pedro Marenco and fellow Bryn Mawr alumnae/i to experience a most amazing exploration of Hawaii’s Big Island with an exclusive stay at a private Victorian mansion located on Reed’s Island in historic Hilo.

The grand Victorian home, known as Hilo House, is located in the area where native Hawaiian royals used to reside. Built in 1916 by British banker, Thomas Guard, who favored the Victorian plantation style with Greek revival pillars, large lanai (front porch) and spacious rooms; Hilo House is a stunning example of the Big Island’s colonial architecture. The property has been placed on the National Registry of Historic Places and Hollywood director George Lucas stayed here when shooting Indiana Jones in the jungle outside Hilo.

Descend in time to historic Hilo and explore its museums, magical waterfalls, authentic shops, galleries and restaurants. This charming coastal city by the bay is known for its friendliness and diversity of residents.

For a well-rounded experience, we will visit academic institutions and organizations working to advance scientific understanding and preserve the rich heritage of the area.

Charlotte Xu Dewar is the owner of this exquisite property and China Advocates (our tour operator for this program). As seasonal residents of the Big Island for the past 10 years, Charlotte and her late husband Howard discovered many outstanding sites and activities in their community and around the island. This unique tour is a special opportunity to explore the wonderful sites scouted by Charlotte and Howard and experience authentic island-life from a resident’s perspective.

Please join us on this insider’s exploration of the Big Island. Since space is limited, be sure to get your reservation in today! This enchanting setting will create memories for a lifetime, you will not want to miss them.

Sincerely yours,

Wendy M. Greenfield
Executive Director
Bryn Mawr Alumnae Association
**Tour Highlights**

*Experience the Delights of a Well-Crafted Itinerary*

- Enjoy daily breakfasts served on the *lanai* where you can view wild birds amidst the lush gardens.
- Visit the black sand beach in *Waipio Valley*, recently named one of the 10 most beautiful beaches in the world by *Conde Naste Traveler*.
- See the amazing lava glowing against the dark night sky at *Volcanoes National Park*.
- Marvel at the thousands of tropical plants species thriving at the *Tropical Botanical Gardens*.
- Enjoy two *Hawaiian dinner banquets* at *Hilo House*, prepared by a local chef with produce grown in his personal garden.
- Visit the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo’s ‘*Imiloa Astronomy Center and Planetarium* for an insightful interpretation of the astronomy being conducted on the summit of Mauna Kea.
- Stroll through the stalls of the lively *Hilo Farmer’s Market* where you can chat with local merchants and sample the delicious plethora of fruits and vegetable grown near-by.
- Tour a small locally-owned *coffee and chocolate farm* and sample the delicious products.
- Enjoy a special private performance of *traditional Hawaiian music and dance* by award-winning husband and wife team of Manu Josiah and Leilehua Yuen.

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**Bryn Mawr Enrichment Lecturer**

*Professor Pedro Marenco*’s research involves the interplay between past environments and life. Specifically, he has studied how extreme environmental change has affected mass extinctions in the fossil record. He also studies how ecological changes have affected the distribution in space and time of structures known as stromatolites that are built by microbial communities. Such rock structures were prevalent before animals evolved but today are only found in certain environments.

Marenco teaches Evolution, Paleobiology, and Earth History. The Galapagos are an important part of the history of evolutionary thought and he dedicates a fair amount of time discussing Darwin’s experiences on the islands as well as more recent and ongoing work. Marenco looks forward to the opportunity to share a geologist’s perspective on the natural history of these important islands.
February 23 • Arrival Day - Hilo

Arrive at Hilo Airport on the Big Island of Hawai’i. You will be met by one of your guides and transferred to beautiful Reed’s Island, to Hilo House, the private home of Charlotte Xu and her late husband Howard Dewar. You will spend five nights at this exclusive historic mansion surrounded by tropical rainforests, waterfalls, rivers carved by volcanoes, and beautiful gardens. The property has significant meaning to Hilo and local communities, and has been placed on the National Registry for Historic Places. The epitome of exclusivity and comfort, Hilo House will be your home away from home for the next six days.

In the late afternoon, walk the peaceful Liliuokalani Gardens named after Hawai’i’s last reigning monarch, Queen Liliuokalani. Located on Hilo’s Banyan Drive, this authentic, 30-acre Japanese garden was dedicated in 1917 as a tribute to Hawai’i’s first Japanese immigrants who worked in the Hawai’i Island sugar cane fields. This beautifully landscaped park features arching red bridges over fishponds, rock gardens, pagodas, Japanese stone lanterns and a tea house. Views of Hilo Bay and Moku Ola (Coconut Island) enhance the beautiful landscape.

In the evening, you may relax at Hilo House or enjoy fine dining with your fellow housemates at the elegant Hilo Bay Café. With stunning bay-front views, as land merges into sea, the chef prepares fine contemporary American bistro, as well as Hawaiian and Japanese cuisines. (no meals included on this day).

February 24 • Akaka Falls, Richardson Beach & Optional Mauna Kea Summit Observatory Tour

We serve gourmet breakfast daily at Hilo House on the open lanai where you sit and relax in the morning sun and breeze with the birds and tropical plants in our gardens. Our chef prepares fresh tropical fruit, local grass-fed meat, smoked fish, organic eggs, coffee and tea. Muffins and bread are baked fresh daily for your enjoyment.

After breakfast at Hilo House, tour Akaka Falls State Park, 14 miles north along the northeastern Hamakua Coast. Visit two gorgeous waterfalls on one short hike. The pleasant 0.4 mile uphill hike will take you through a lush rainforest filled with wild orchids, bamboo groves and draping ferns.

Follow the paved footpath to the 100 feet Kahuna Falls. Continue to follow the loop around the bend, you’ll discover towering Akaka Falls dropping 442 feet into a stream-eroded gorge. Beautiful Akaka Falls is perhaps Hawai’i Island’s most famous waterfall. Easily accessible, this hike takes less than an hour.

Visit Hakalau Beach with an old mill and beautiful beach park. An impressive metal bridge was built here in 1940’s connecting the main loop on the Big Island. If surf is good, you will see local surfers tumbling in the high surf.

Return to downtown Hilo for lunch at Café Pesto and enjoy a colorful menu of locally grown organic greens, freshly caught fish and delicious...
pasta and pizza. Afterwards tour Richardson Beach on the Four Miles Drive with rocky seawalls and parks where locals swim, dive, surf, and fish.

Mid-afternoon, there is an optional tour of the Mauna Kea Summit Observatories. The observatories are an independent collection of astronomical research facilities located on the summit of Mauna Kea, and home of 13 of the largest and most advanced telescopes in the world. At almost 14,000 ft. the location is ideal for astronomical viewing because of its dark skies, towering position above most of the water vapor in the atmosphere, clean air, good weather and an almost equatorial location. The summit is also an optimal location for submillimeter, infrared and optical observations. *Because of the high altitude, please consult your physician to make sure you are fit for this tour.*

Travelers not participating in the Mauna Kea excursion may enjoy an evening at leisure. Our guides will drive you into Hilo for dinner on your own. (b,l, boxed dinner for the Mauna Kea summit tour)

February 25 • ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center & Hilo’s Historic Downtown

In the morning, visit the world-famous ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center, a public science center dedicated to the mission of sharing and interpreting the astronomy conducted on the summit of Mauna Kea, home of 13 of the largest and most advanced telescopes in the world. Imiloa presents the astronomy done atop Mauna Kea within the framework of native Hawaiian traditions of navigation and exploration. Tour the facilities and learn about the on-going scientific and cultural research within the context of the community. Watch a show at the world’s first 3D digital dome in the planetarium and stroll through the landscaped gardens featuring native and Polynesian-introduced plant life.

Visit the College of Hawaiian Language, for
an introduction to their Hawaiian Cultural and Language Preservation program. The program is being tested as a template to restore and preserve indigenous language.

Lunch is at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, tour Hilo’s historic downtown, Hawai‘i Island’s biggest small town featuring century-old wooden storefronts (many of which are on the National Register of Historic Places) housing a variety of sophisticated galleries, shops, restaurants and cultural sites. Start your walk on Kamehameha Avenue facing beautiful Hilo Bay and discover a variety of local shops, restaurants and attractions including the modern aloha wear at Sig Zane Design, Lava Flow photography gallery, and the neo-classical Palace Theatre built in 1925. You’ll also find a variety of art galleries featuring paintings, woodwork, glasswork and jewelry from artists with a unique island point of view. The Pacific Tsunami Museum chronicles the cataclysmic natural disasters of 1946 and 1960 forcing Hilo to rebuild further inland using parkland as a buffer. The Lyman Mission House & Museum features a historic house built in 1839 by American Christian missionaries.

In the evening, enjoy a home cooked dinner at Hilo House featuring our local Hawai‘i chef and fresh market to table delicacies. (b,d)

*Before dinner, you may enjoy a Hawaiian lomi lomi massage at the local spa, five minutes from Hilo House. Advanced reservation required.*

February 26 • Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park

Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park encompasses two active volcanoes: Kilauea, one of the world’s most active volcanoes, and Mauna Loa, the world’s most massive volcano. In recognition of its outstanding natural values, Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park was designated as an International Biosphere Reserve in 1980 and a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987. The park gives scientists insight into the birth of the Hawaiian Island and ongoing studies into the processes of volcanism. Experience the dramatic volcanic landscapes and rare flora and fauna found here. The best and closest place to observe a volcanic eruption is from Jaggar
Museum overlook, and other vantage points at the summit of Kilauea that provide views of Halema’uma’u Crater. During daylight, the robust plume of volcanic gas is a constant and dramatic reminder of the molten rock churning in a lava lake beneath the crater floor. After sunset, Halema’uma’u continues to thrill visitors with a vivid glow that illuminates the clouds and the plume as it billows into the night sky.

An optional four mile hike of Kilauea Iki trail through the lush crater is an invigorating and intimate way to experience the volcanic terrain and ecology. A box lunch with fruit and sandwiches is provided. After exploring the park, settle in for a sunset dinner. Then, emerge to watch the volcano glow at night near the crater. (b,l,d)

February 27 • Hilo Farmer’s Market, Waipio Valley, Tropical Botanical Garden
This morning tour the bustling Hilo Farmers Market (available Wednesdays & Saturdays). Drive to Waipio Valley (45-minute ride), a dramatic landscape surrounded by 2,000 ft cliffs that was the childhood home of King Kamehameha I. An important center for political and religious life in Hawai’i. Waipio Valley was once the home of thousands of Native Hawaiians. Today, there are fewer than 100 residents living amongst the waterfalls, taro fields and rivers permeating the valley. Hawai’i Island’s tallest waterfall, Hi’ilawe Falls, cascades down 1,300 feet in the back of Waipio. Enjoy a picnic lunch on the white sand beach.

In the afternoon, tour the famous “Garden in a Valley on the Ocean” situated on the lush Hamakua Coast’s Scenic Drive, this 40-acre valley is a natural greenhouse, with fertile volcanic soil, and natural protection from tradewinds. The Botanical Garden is a museum of living plants that is international in scope, more than 2,000 species, representing more than 125 families and 750 genera, are found in this one-of-a-kind garden. Throughout this garden valley, nature trails meander through a true tropical rainforest, crossing bubbling streams, passing several beautiful waterfalls and exciting ocean vistas along the rugged Pacific coast.

In the evening, enjoy a special farewell at Hilo House, where a delectable Hawaiian banquet accompanied by Hawaiian cultural experts and musicians will make for the perfect end of your authentic Hawaiian experience. (b,l,d)

February 28 • Depart Hilo
After breakfast, one of your guides will transfer you to the Hilo Airport for your departure. (b) (Check-out time at Hilo House is 10:30 am).
Hilo House: Grounds and Common Areas

The Private Waterfall at Hilo House

The Lanai (front porch)
Hilo House: Accommodations

Private Suites
The two private suites in the mansion have king and queen beds, respectively. Both suites offer gorgeous waterfall views, sitting areas, desks, and private ensuite bathrooms.

Deluxe Rooms
The three deluxe rooms in the mansion have queen beds, a sitting area, a desk, and private bathrooms.

Aloha Rooms*
The two aloha rooms in the mansion have queen and twin beds, respectively with a shared bathroom, and day beds for additional seating. These rooms are perfect for a family or friends traveling together.

*Note: Aloha Rooms are located on the garden level.
**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**RESERVATIONS:** Bookings are subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in these sections. By placing a deposit you agree to the terms and conditions listed herein. To confirm your reservation, a deposit of $700 per person is required. Credit card payment is accepted for the deposit only; final balance must be paid by check.

**AIR:** Air cancellations and penalties are based on each carrier and ticket. Be sure to review these policies before purchasing. China Advocates, Inc., Bryn Mawr College and Engaging Journeys are not responsible for any penalties incurred due to air changes or cancellations.

**CANCELLATIONS:** No cancellation is valid until it is received in writing by the office of China Advocates. Cancellation penalties are based on the date of receipt of written notice and are as follows: 91 or more days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of $500 per person is retained; 90-46 days prior to departure, $2,000 per person; 30-6 days prior to departure, no refund is made.

Cancellation penalties for additional hotel nights, hotel and cruise ship room upgrades, tour extensions, and any special arrangements, are as follows: 30-46 days prior to departure, 25% of cost is retained; 30-6 days prior to departure, no refund is made. No refunds will be given for unused portions of the tour.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** China Advocates, Inc., Bryn Mawr College and Engaging Journeys act only as agents for the various carriers for which tickets are provided and assumes no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, vessel, carriage, aircraft, motor vehicle or other conveyance which may be used either wholly or in part, in the performance of their duty to the passenger. Neither will they be responsible for any act, error, or omission or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by a reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger, or for any hotel proprietor, hotel service or restaurant, or for any other person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operators. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices rates in effect at the time of brochure publication and are subject to change. While the tour operator will do everything possible to maintain the published trip price, it may be necessary to institute a surcharge. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passengers as members for the tours. In such instances, there may be no refund for unused portions of the tour. Refunds for unused carrier tickets may be only in accordance with the regulations of the carriers. CST 2064279-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California. All legal questions will be settled within the jurisdiction of the County of San Francisco, California.

Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended and available. Information and an application will be sent to you from Bryn Mawr College after you reserve. Please contact Sarah Doody with the Bryn Mawr Alumnae Association for further information on trip cancellation insurance. email: sdoody@brynmawr.edu or 610.526.5316

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**Tour Costs**

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<th>Private Suite</th>
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<th>Aloha Room</th>
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Main Tour Includes: • Double occupancy accommodations • Airport transfers • Meals as indicated in itinerary as (b,l,d) • All sightseeing, entertainment, and activities listed in itinerary • All air and ground transportation • Local tour guides • China Advocates tour director • Gratuities to local guides • Preparatory materials

Not Included: • Domestic U.S. airfare • Porterage • Meals not included in the tour • Mauna Kea Summit Tour • Excess baggage charges • Travel insurance • Wine, Liquor, and other items of a personal nature

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**Tour Reservation Form**

Bryn Mawr Alumnae Association

**Authentic Hawaii** February 23 - 28, 2016

Enclosed is a deposit for $ ________________ ($700 per person) to hold ___________________ place(s).

Please make checks payable to China Advocates. Final payment is due November 25, 2015 (Reservations will be accepted after this date if available and accompanied by full payment.)

Name/s ___________________________ ___________________________ Birthdate

Name/s ___________________________ ___________________________ Birthdate

Address _____________________________________________________________ City _____________________________________________________________

State__________ Zip _________________ Email _______________________________________________________________________________

Primary Phone ___________________________ Alt. Phone ___________________________

Accommodations: ☐ Single ☐ I need assistance in securing a roommate (If a roommate cannot be secured for me, I agree to pay the single supplement fee(s).) ☐ Double


I/We understand that, by signing below, I/we acknowledge that the Responsibilities and Conditions section of this brochure has been read and accepted.

Signature ___________________________________________________________ Date ________________

Signature ___________________________________________________________ Date ________________

Please note: Any payment to China Advocates constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

Credit Card Number for Deposit: ___________________________ Date ________________

Exp. Date ___________________________ CVV Code ___________________________ (Credit card payment is for deposit only. Balance must be paid by check)

Signature ___________________________________________________________ Date ________________

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**Please mail or call in your reservation to:**

China Advocates • 3843 Brickway Blvd., Suite 210 • Santa Rosa, CA • 95403
Tel: 888.333.2585 or 415.334.4505 • Fax: 415.841.1790