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The word “model” implies professionals from the fashion industry; all the models photographed for this project, however, are Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian relatives, friends, and ordinary people encountered in travels around the Islands. To the 151 models—who posed patiently and pleasantly, sometimes under difficult restraints of heat, terrain, and time—we extend our deep mahalo and aloha. Models’ names are listed under each photo. Unfortunately, for various reasons, not all the photos could be used. We give equal thanks to those models who gave their time but are not recognized by a published photo. Mahalo nui loa to you all.

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“All gathering was respectful, a religious reality. The traditional lei maker was a respected, creative artist.”