



In honor of APEC 2011,
First Lady Michelle Obama presented
special gifts reflecting the natural
beauty and rich culture of Hawaii. The
exchange of gifts is a timeless act of
diplomacy. With help from Hawaiian
artists, each of these gifts represents
a distinct part of the aloha spirit and
helps forge new bridges of friendship
and understanding.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Sterling Silver Orchid Brooch

One of the most unique places in the United States of America, the Hawaiian islands are known for their beautiful landscape, diverse cultures, and stunning flora.

Ubiquitous on the islands and often used to create leis, the orchid and its colorful blossom elegantly symbolizes the inherent beauty of the islands and the gracious, welcoming nature of the Hawaiian people.

This intricately designed orchid brooch was handcrafted in sterling silver by award-winning Hawaiian artist Wayne Keeth. The innovative artist grows orchids himself, handpicks each at the height of their beauty, and then casts the individual blossoms without a mold, creating a one-of-a-kind piece. This distinctive gift allows each recipient to leave Hawaii with a special and meaningful part of the islands. The blossoms were specially selected for First Lady Michelle Obama on the occasion of APEC 2011.

Each brooch is presented in a Lauhala style box adorned with a fresh orchid blossom.



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<http://1.usa.gov/silverbrooch>

Quotes from the Gift Makers

The Orchid is one of the most recognizable symbols of the aloha spirit that permeates through Hawaii. To be able to cast them in silver so that aloha can be taken home with each of us is a reminder of the experience shared here and Hawaii's unique way of life. To be able to share this with Mrs. Obama and the other distinguished guests is a very special privilege.

- Wayne Keeth, Sterling Silver Brooch

Sterling Silver Cufflinks with Hawaiian Koa Wood

Ancient Hawaiians had a deep spiritual connection to the native Koa forests, and used the wood of the Koa tree in many aspects of life. In ancient times it was said, "E ola Koa," live long, like the Koa tree in the forest. With wood from Hawaiian woodturner Keith Maile from Oahu, designer Kara Ross created a custom-made pair of Koa Wood and sterling silver cufflinks.

These hand-faceted Koa wood square cufflinks are set in sterling silver and are engraved with the words: "Made Exclusively for Michelle Obama."

Each pair of cufflinks is presented in a Lauhala style box adorned with a carved coconut decoration.



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Quotes from the Gift Makers

It's an honor to participate in creating this gift and showcasing the incredible art in Hawaii to these distinguished visitors. The Hawaiian Koa tree is well-known for the beauty of its wood and grain, which swirls and shimmers in patterns reminiscent of tiger stripes or sandstone. Koa shares its name with the Hawaiian word for warrior, and as such represents strength and durability – a symbolic start to the new partnerships created at APEC.

-Keith Maile, Koa Wood for Cufflinks and Makena Ross, Nobeia Gallery