



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

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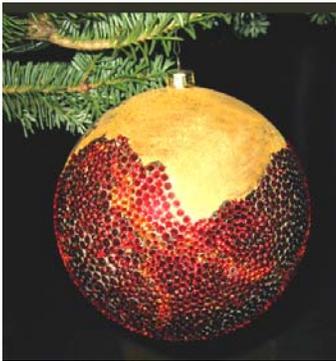
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## Hawai'i Volcanoes NEWS RELEASE

December 17, 2007

### White House Celebrates *Holiday in the National Parks*

#### Hawai'i Volcanoes' Ornament Shines Bright on Official White House Christmas Tree



Hawai'i Volcanoes' ornament is prominently displayed on this year's official White House Christmas Tree. The tree is the centerpiece of elaborate decorations celebrating the theme of *Holiday in the National Parks*.

Located in the Blue Room, the 18-foot Fraser fir is adorned with handmade ornaments representing the country's 391 National Park Service sites. Each ornament was designed by an artist selected by the park to tell its story.

Local artist Nova Lee created the ornament from Hawai'i Volcanoes.

"I wanted to capture the exquisite fire and sparkle of the lava," said Lee, who has personally experienced the awe-inspiring spectacle of Kilauea's eruptions. Lee's golden orb, bejeweled by more than 3000 precision cut Swarovski crystals, mirrors the colors and swirls of flowing lava.

"It was an honor to attend the Artist Reception at the White House and I was inspired by Laura Bush's speech on the Centennial Initiative, challenging the public to match funds allocated by Congress," said Lee.

Responding to the challenge, Lee plans to produce a line of products called the Hawai'i National Parks Collection.

"During the next several years, original designs will be made and discontinued creating a unique collection with 10% of all proceeds donated to Hawai'i's national parks," said Lee. The collection, available in 2008, will culminate with the 100 year anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016.

In addition to Hawai'i Volcanoes, other ornaments from national parks in Hawai'i decorating the White House Christmas Tree include Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau, Kaloko-Honokohau, Pu'ukohola Heiau, Haleakala, and the USS *Arizona* Memorial.



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All of the more than 350 National Park Service ornaments belong to the White House and will be archived there, preserved for future use.

To view high-resolution images of all the tree's ornaments, go to

[http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/whho2007/WebPage-Thumb.00001.html](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/whho2007/WebPage-Thumb.00001.html)

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