

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

JUNE 2021



Congratulations to Christopher and Lisa from Houston, Texas !!!

DONATIONS

Nick Bass
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Bryson Goda
Mimi Horiuchi
Rodney & Sharon Isa
James & Melba Kurashige
Christopher & Lisa Markel
Timothy & Yumi Martinez
Steve Miwa
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Craig & Diane Nishida
Reuben Oh
Lois Okawa
Akiko Sanai
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Robert Stallings
Michael & Joy Tamashiro
Adam Teeley
Lena Yafuso
Lisa Yafuso



Tanabata is one of Japan's five seasonal festivals.

Originating in China as *Qixi* and first observed in the 8th century, the festival marks the annual meeting of *Orihime* (Vega) the weaver star and *Hikoboshi* (Altair) the Cow herd star.

Tanzaku tags and pens will be available in the shrine from July 1 - July 7 between 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.

Write your wishes on one of the *tanzaku* tags of various shapes and hang them on the bamboo branch.

Mahalo to **Diane Nishida** for crafting the *tanzaku* tags.



CALENDAR

JULY

- 1 - 7 8:30 am ~ 4:00 pm**
(Open to the public)
Tanabata tanzaku writing
- 4 3:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service

AUGUST

- 1** Back-To-School Blessing
(CANCELED)
- 3:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service

SEPTEMBER

- 5 1:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Autumn Thanksgiving Festival

Shrine Volunteer Award

Generous with their time and talents, volunteers bring light and life to all endeavors - they are the lifeblood of the shrine.

The Shrine Volunteer Award was established in 2015 to recognize altruistic individuals for their valuable contributions and for being an essential part of the shrine.

We would like to acknowledge two outstanding members that have been a vital part of the shrine for many years.

Our deepest gratitude goes out to **Gary** and **Linda Shinsato** for their loyal dedication that have enabled this shrine to better serve our community.

A certificate of gratitude from Chief Priest Nobuhiro Nishitakatsuji of Dazaifu Tenmangu was presented to the Shinsatos.

They have demonstrated a sustained



commitment of hundreds of hours each year to the betterment and preservation of the shrine.

This recognition is a symbol for all shrine supporters, that we are an organization of volunteers, working together in service to the community, in a unified goal of the preservation and perpetuation of our cultural and spiritual heritage.

Mahalo Nui Loa Gary and Linda !!

Shrine Volunteer Award

2015

Shinken Naitoh
Bob Harada

2017

Tom Jannuzzio

2019

Craig Nishida
Diane Nishida
Marilyn Naitoh

2021

Gary Shinsato
Linda Shinsato

GOKITO Private Blessings



A Family Blessing was performed for shrine friends on June 13.

Kanai Anzen or Family Blessings are for good health and protection and to affirm our love and gratitude for one another.

Rituals like Family Blessings establish identity and perpetuate the connection among generations.

A House Blessing was performed for a home in Manoa on June 24.

Ritual purification of the land and home was performed to clear old negative energies, making way for a positive and balanced atmosphere which encourages good fortune, health, growth, peace, happiness and protection.

Blessings are often done prior to or upon moving into a home or before selling it.



The annual Chinowa for People and Pets was canceled again this year due to COVID-19.

The event draws over 500 people and pets, which exceeds the State's Tier 4 recommendation of 75 people for outdoor events.

A private blessing was performed on June 26 for Cosmo, a regular participant of our event since 2004 and his feline siblings !!!

MEMORIAL DAY

The annual Honolulu Shinto Renmei Memorial Service was canceled, however, Rev. Takizawa visited Punchbowl, Makiki Cemetery and Moiliili Cemetery on May 11 to honor the men and women who died while serving the US military.



Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific was built in 1948 to serve as a resting place for soldiers of the American Armed Forces who lost their lives during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.



Makiki Cemetery is home to the Yosebaka Memorial, a 12-ton granite monument that houses the remains of 289 Gannen-mono - the first Kanyaku Imin Japanese contracted plantation workers - Japanese pioneers who died here, leaving no trace of their existence but broken-down headstones.

There are also 16 Japanese sailors entombed at Makiki Cemetery that died here or on Japanese

Naval ships passing by the islands sometime during the 1800s.

Moiliili Cemetery is also home to a Gannen-mono Monument to honor the first immigrants and to remind their descendants of their connection to Japan and their immigrant roots.



CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to shrine volunteers **Rance Takahashi** and **Ai Sato** for tying the knot on June 10!

Rance and Ai are familiar faces at Hatsumode.

May the years ahead be filled with lasting joy, love and happiness !!



Congratulations to **Serena**, daughter of shrine friends David and Masako Jimenez for being selected winner of the Honolulu Museum of Arts April Drawing contest!

Serena's artwork will be displayed on the HoMA website and she will receive a Supporting Level (\$120 value) membership.



Drawing contest winner!

Congratulations to Serena, from Honolulu, winner of the Honolulu Museum of Arts drawing contest: Shangri La! Check the Family Sunday page for this month's contest, art activities, and more.



Congratulations to **Kylie Tamashiro** on her graduation from Boston University !!

Kylie was a recipient of the shrine's Scholarship in 2018.

Congratulations to **Skye Sakashita** - recipient of the shrine's Scholarship in 2017.

This fall, Skye will become a doctorate student in the

Clinical Psychology PsyD Program at the University of San Francisco.

Her research and clinical interests are focused on underserved populations, particularly ethnic and sexual minorities.



If you visit a cemetery, please don't remove the coins on some headstones as they have meaning.

During the Vietnam War, political strife was rampant. Even between families of servicemen and women who were serving or had served had varied opinions as to the necessity of the war.

Servicemen and women who were fortunate enough to return home needed a way to bypass political tensions, yet still let their fallen comrades' families know that they had paid their respects. So, they started leaving coins on headstones as a form of communication.



A quarter on a grave means that the person who left it there was with the fallen soldier when they died



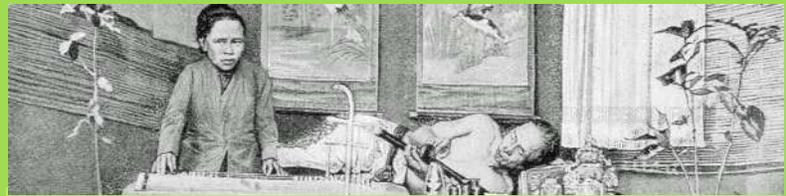
A dime means that the two served together at some point in their careers



A nickel on a grave means that the person who left it there trained with the deceased



A penny means that a fellow serviceman or woman has stopped by to pay their respects, whether or not they knew them personally



YEN

Meaning: a strong craving, desire, yearning

Origin: *Yen*, which means craving or desire in the English language seems like it has its origin in Japanese, however its roots are Chinese. *Yen* comes from the Chinese word 愿 *Yuan*, which means hope, desire or wish.

The term was first used in 1875 during a time when China suffered from widespread opium addiction.

After the fall of the *Qing* Dynasty in 1911, the Nationalist Government, provincial governments, the Communist Party and the British colonial government of Hong Kong all depended on opium taxes as major sources of revenue.

In the mid-19th century, opium was introduced to the US by Chinese immigrants who referred to their craving for opium as "*yin-yahn*."

Americans pronounced it as "*yen-yen*" which after time became "*yen*" - a strong desire for opium.

MAINTENANCE



Trimming of the Ficus Benjamina along Olomea Street continues throughout June. Ficuses are quite adaptable and can be trimmed anytime of the year.

The shrine doesn't have the automated 3-cart Refuse and Recycling services provided by the City. Refuse pickup is still done manually with no Green Waste pickups.

All Green waste at the shrine must be placed in our Honolulu Disposal dumpster.

Mahalo to **Art Isa** for helping with beautification of the shrine grounds.



Hazardous waste like engine oil is constantly being dumped on Olomea Street