Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha
Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

June 2025



A blessing was performed for the Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Foundation (HDAHF) that will be welcoming Hanayagi Jusuke VI for their 25th Grand Recital on June 28 at the Hawaii Theatre.

DONATIONS

Bill & Keiko Doughty
Bryson & Reiko Goda
Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Fdn
Rodney & Sharon Isa
Brandt Lau
Yae Miko
Steve Miwa
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Craig & Diane Nishida
Akiko Sanai
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Robert Stallings
Irene Takizawa
Joy Tamashiro

SAKE DONATIONS

Art Isa
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Irene Takizawa

501(c)(3) nonprofits are a specific class of nonprofit organizations recognized by the IRS, including most churches that operates solely for religious purposes.

MAHALO for your most generous donations to the shrine, which are tax-deductible up to fullest extent allowed by law as long as you itemize your deductions.

Shrine's tax exemption number: 99-6007158

CALENDAR

JULY

1 - 7 **8:30 am - 4 pm**
Tanabata Wish Tags available in the shine

5 **1 pm**
Prep for Chinowa/Back-to-School Event

6 **9:30 am - 1 pm**
Chinowa for People & Pets and Back-To-School Blessing



AUGUST

3 **2 pm**
Tsukinamisai Monthly Service

SEPTEMBER

1 **8:30 am (Online at www.jinja.us)**
Reservations accepted for Shichigosan, Totose no Oiwai and Jusan Mairi

7 **2 pm**
Tsukinamisai Monthly Service

SUMMER EVENTS

The Ka

Come celebrate all creatures at our annual **Chinowa for People & Pets and Back-To- School Blessing !**

On **July 6 (Sunday) 9:30 am ~ 1 pm** leashed or caged pets and people of all faiths are welcome for a complimentary blessing steeped in ancient tradition.

Reservations are not required. Lots of street parking and a few spaces are available in the shrine "barking" lot.





Tanabata is one of Japan's five ancient festivals and is observed annually on July 7.

The five festivals are: New Years Day, Girl's Day, Boy's Day, *Tanabata* and *Choyo* Chrysathemum Festival.

Originating in China as *Qixi* and first observed in Japan in the 8th century, Tanabata marks the annual meeting of two star-crossed lovers - *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**.

Wish upon a star by writing your wishes on one of the *tanzaku* tags of various shapes and hang them on the bamboo branch in the shrine.



GOKITO Private Blessings

An office blessing was performed for Kokusai Sake Kai Hawaii and a law firm that shares space, to give thanks for the new office and the firm's growth and success.





A one-year remembrance service was performed for a shrine friend on 6/6.

You will always be remembered fondly.



A private blessing was performed for Yoshi, a 13 year old who is undergoing treatments for cancer.

As pet parents, a diagnosis of cancer in our furry friend can be a heartbreaking and challenging time. Despite the advances in veterinary medicine, sometimes what you need most is to find solace in a private blessing which can offer hope and strength not only to our canine companions but also to their human caretakers.

MAINTENANCE



Mahalo to Gary Shinsato for repairing a refrigerator with a broken compressor.

After a few tests, Gary switched out the compressor starter and capacitor and saved the shrine an expensive service call.

The bougainvilleas propagated from a stem by Rev Takizawa is now thriving and quite a sight to behold.





Heartfelt congratulations to shrine Scholarship recipients Kody Watanabe, Jensen Yasui and Landon Kimura.

Kody received a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts from the University of San Francisco, Jensen received a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Hawaii West Oahu and Landon received a degree in Kinesiology & Exercise Science from Oregon State.

This is a significant achievement ! Keep reaching for the stars - - we're so excited to see where life takes you.

GESHI - Summer Solstice



Geshi or the Summer Solstice falls on Saturday, June 21 marking the longest day and shortest night of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.

This event signifies the point when the Earth's tilt is maximized toward the Sun, resulting in the most daylight hours.

According to the Eastern philosophy of Yin and Yang, the male or Yang energy is stronger from the Spring Equinox to the Summer Equinox.

During the Summer Solstice - - it is said that it's easier to get sick because the yin and yang energy is unstable, switching back and forth. The yin or female energy is said to become prominent from the Summer Solstice to the Autumn Equinox.

Since ancient times in Japan, the Summer Solstice has symbolized growth, fertility and abundance. There are many regional customs and traditions associated with the Summer Solstice throughout Japan.

There are also many food traditions that reflect the seasonal change.

In the Osaka area, *tako* or octopus is eaten during the Summer Solstice.

The rice planting season takes place around the Summer Solstice and farmers ate *tako* in hopes of a bountiful harvest. It was thought that the rice seedlings will be planted firmly in the ground like the gripping strength of the eight legs of the octopus.

Togan or winter melon which is packed with vitamin C is a vegetable that is eaten during the Summer Solstice for nutrition and hydration.

In Nara, a mochi called *Hangesho mochi* is eaten during the Summer Solstice.

Hangesho is the 11th day after the Summer Solstice. The poisonous plant, *Hange* starts growing around this time, which marks the end of the rice planting season. *Hange* is said to be a period to rejuvenate one's body in preparation for the hot and humid summers in Japan.

Hangesho mochi is made with wheat and a little rice flour and rolled in *kinako* soy powder.