

# Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha

## Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

October 2023



Shichigosan, Totose no Oiwai, Jusan Mairi, Seijinshiki 10/22 - 11/19



# DONATIONS

Kimberly Aina  
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Megumi Blanton  
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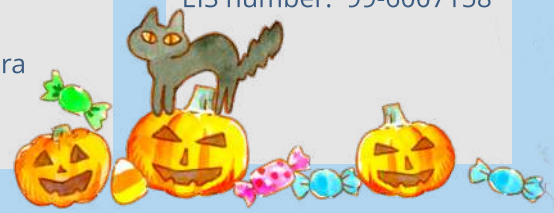
Norissa Ramirez  
Akiko Sanai  
Ronson Sato  
Midori Scott  
Aiko Shibuya  
Gary & Linda Shinsato  
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Robert Stallings  
Yumiko Stevens  
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Aya Yoshida  
Sara Yoshida  
Melveen Yoshihara  
Chie Young

501(c)(3) nonprofits are a specific class of nonprofit organizations recognized by the IRS, including most churches.

Donations to the shrine are tax-deductible up to fullest extent allowed by law.

Donating to a nonprofit with tax exemption status also helps ensure your donations will be put to good use as 501(c)(3) organizations are held accountable to legal standards enforced by the federal government.

Shrine's tax exemption  
EIS number: 99-6007158



# GOKITO Private Blessings

A Kanai Anzen private blessing was performed for shrine friends and their parents from New York.

Family is one of the building blocks of society. Kanai Anzen is performed for family wellness, harmony and happiness.



A 3-year Remembrance ceremony was performed for shrine friend Kell Komatsubara.

The shrine is holding Kell's spirit in our hearts and minds as we remember all the wonderful times we shared together.



# CALENDAR



## NOVEMBER

**4 - 19 9 am - 3 pm**

Shichigosan, Totose no Oiwai, Jusan Mairi

**6 8 am (INTERNAL)**

Tsukunami-sai

## DECEMBER

**3 2 pm (INTERNAL)**

Last Tsukunami-sai of 2023

**23 4 pm**

Cleanup and move into the hall

**26 9 am - 3:30 pm**

Saisaki Mode (Early Hatsumode) & Omamori Early Selection

# SHICHIGOSAN

Shichigosan is said to have originated in the Heian Period (794-1185) among court nobles who celebrated the passage of their children into middle childhood.

Over time, their tradition passed onto the samurai class who added a number of rituals.

Children who were required by custom to have shaven heads until 3, were allowed to grow out their hair in a ritual called *kamitoki*.

The *hakamagi* ritual allowed boys of 5 to wear *hakama* for the first time, while girls of 7

replaced the cords used to tie their kimono with a traditional *obi* in the *obitoki* ritual.

By the Meiji Period (1868-1912), the practice was adopted by commoners and included visiting a shrine to wish for a healthy life.

3 year old girls began to wear a *hifu* vest while 5 year old boys wore *haori* and *hakama*, traditional garments of the warrior class.

7-year old girls wore kimono with elaborate *obi* sashes.

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha  
•Hawaii Dazaifu  
Tenmangu was the first

to initiate a Shichigosan blessing with complimentary kimono dressing in hopes of perpetuating a tradition that is spiritually enriching and culturally exciting.

Since 1994, the shrine has blessed over 8,000 children, a feat only possible through the tireless devotion of our volunteers.

A heartfelt Mahalo goes out to shrine officers, volunteers - especially Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Foundation instructors for their kokua weekend after weekend.

Children are gifted *Chitose-ame* candies (one-thousand year old candy) - - a hard, sweet stick candy that symbolizes healthy growth an a long life.

*Chitose-ame* is placed in a long, decorative bag with auspicious symbols like Cranes, turtles, sages, pine, bamboo and plum trees.



# MAHALO Shichigosan Volunteers

10/7 Cleanup  
& Prep

Art Isa  
Arthur Isa Jr  
Becky Isa



10/15 Preparations

Keng-Hsien Chao	Shinken Naitoh
Art Isa	Craig Nishida
Arthur Isa	Diane Nishida
Becky Isa	Gary Shinsato
Marilyn Naitoh	Linda Shinsato



Keng Hsien Chao  
Bryson Goda  
Stacie Hata  
Kathy Hamada Kwock  
Art Isa  
Becky Isa  
Lorraine Kadota  
Milton Kwock  
Marilyn Naitoh  
Shinken Naitoh  
Craig Nishida  
Diane Nishida  
Gary Shinsato  
Linda Shinsato  
Jasmine Umeno  
Margaret Yamashita



As COVID continues to linger in our islands, the shrine is so appreciative of the volunteers that

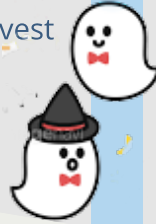
have helped the shrine the past 3 years to meet the evolving needs of the community

with a safe and culturally exciting Shichigosan, Totose no Oiwai and Jusan Mairi.

# TSUKIMI

The Harvest Moon also known as *Chushu no Meigetsu* in Japan and Mid-Autumn Festival in China heralds the beginning of autumn.

Throughout history, Tsukimi or the celebration of moon viewing has connected people under the glow and spiritual energies of the moon as they express gratitude for an abundant harvest and wish for more positive bounties.



Tsukimi Dango 9/29



Harvest Moon 十五夜

# MAINTENANCE



Mahalo nui Mike for repairing the meeting room lights



Hawaii's sun-soaked urban core is experiencing escalating heat.

The split air conditioners and condensers were given its annual cleaning and maintenance on 10/3 by Reuben and crew at Air Conditioning Essentials.