

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

MAY 2021

A solemn ceremony was held to express gratitude and to reflect on the many gifts that we receive from nature and the friendships, kindnesses, generosity and guidance received from everyone who has touched and shaped our lives.



In compliance with the State's COVID-19 Tier 3 regulations, the festival was performed on Sunday April 25 with the shrine's Directors.

International travel is still difficult and priests from Dazaifu Tenmangu Fukuoka were not able to participate again this year.

The ceremony began with a moment of silence by Dr. Shinken

Naitoh for the 3,200,000+ global victims of COVID-19.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the Coronavirus a pandemic.

It's been a year since, with hopes that the FDA-authorized vaccines will begin to mitigate transmission and immunize the populations.

Challenges continue under COVID 19 and reminds us of how interdependent we are.

As COVID-19 affects our world - - we continue to pray.



DONATIONS

Thomas & Linda Agawa
Gail Aoki
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Bryson Goda
Miyoko Hanahara
Hanayagi Dancing Academy
Hawaii Foundation
Hawaii Senbukan Karate
Arthur K. Isa
Rodney & Sharon Isa
James & Melba Kurashige
Steve Miwa
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Nisei Building Maintenance
Craig & Diane Nishida
Akiko Sanai
Danielle Sato
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Robert Stallings
Naomi Teramoto
Glenn & Junko Yonemura

Koi Nobori carps have been a vital part of *Tango no Sekku* since the Edo period.

The *Yaguruma* arrow-spoked wheels at the top turns in all directions - keeping children of the home out of harm's way.

The 5-colored *Fukinagashi* streamers symbolizes the five elements: Blue for water, green for wood, white for metal, yellow for earth and red for fire.

Koinobori carps are meant to "swim" or billow in the skies to symbolize strength, determination and success.



CALENDAR

JUNE

- 6 9:00 am (CANCELED)**
Chinowa for People & Pets
- 13 3:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service

JULY

- 1 - 7 8:30 am ~ 4:00 pm**
Tanabata tanzaku writing
- 4 3:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Tsukinami-sai

AUGUST

- 1 10:00 am (CANCELED)**
Back-To-School Blessing
- 3:00 pm (INTERNAL)**
Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service

2021 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu believes that education is crucial to the development of future leaders.

The Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu Scholarship was created in 2012 to award scholarships to qualified applicants attending an accredited high school, university, or vocational school in Hawaii, regardless of race, religion, sex or national origin.

This is our 10th year since inception and we are happy to award 5 outstanding students.

Kody Watanabe

Kody Ichiro Watanabe is a senior at Iolani School and will be attending UH Manoa in the fall as a Pre-Engineering major with plans to become a lawyer.

Kody will also have the privilege of continuing his baseball journey as a Rainbow Warrior! A star athlete, Kody also enjoys surfing and hiking.



Landon Kimura

Landon Kimura is presently a senior at Moanalua High School and is gifted in athletics - playing Infield for the Baseball team and a Wide Receiver for the Moanalua Menehunes.

Landon will be pursuing a degree at Oregon State University in the fall.



Skye Miyauchi

Skye is a senior at McKinley High School and will be graduating with honors this May.

Skye has received numerous awards and accolades in academics while challenging himself in performing arts as president of the MHS Dance Club and the chess club. He will be attending UH Manoa in fall.



SCHOLARSHIP 2021

Becky Sun Isa

Becky is attending Kapiolani Community College (KCC) to attain certification in Para-Optometry.

The ParaOptometry program at KCC is an on-campus course with a mandatory 1-year apprenticeship employment with an Opthamologist.



Dorthea Yoakum

Dorthea Miki Mei Yoakum has been studying Japanese classical dance with HDAHF since she was two-and-a-half years old.

Dorthea is a sophomore at Mid-Pacific Institute and enjoys playing basketball and volleyball and has played for her school varsity teams in both sports.



Past Scholarship Recipients

2012

Bryson Teruo Goda
Kai Aaron Igarashi
Lukas Mattice
Tatiana Omokawa

2013

Jeffrey Ga Min Fujioka
Geraldine Gambalan
Lukela Los Banos
Jill Mari Nishida
Daniel Christopher Song

2014

Stacie Akemi Hata
Calvin Mai
Melvin Monces
Scott Tsubasa Okamura

2015

Alexandria Carlyle
Milena Sayaka Naitoh
John Sunahara
Dane Yamada

2016

Kazuumi Fujioka
Kyle Ling
Stuart Pang
Bethany Faye Schwartz
James Yonemura

2017

Cassandra Carlyle
Cherie Ishihara
Skye Sakashita
Staci Tsuruko Shimamoto
Jensen Yasui

2018

Gavin Desamito
Victoria Hallett
Taylor Suzuki
Kylie Tamashiro
Micah Tong
Katherine Yoakum

2019

Joseph Agag
Dakota Rei Chun
Kilala Hall
Brenna Imada
Zeph Kaneshiro
Jordan Kimura
Konner Uratsuka

2020

Keng-Hsien Chao
Rayce Manriki
Kaylee Rafol
Jasmine Umeno



GOKITO Private Blessings

Death is full of painful milestones. In Japanese religions, memorial services are held for the departed (after they have been cremated or buried) during specific years to reflect on and acknowledge the moments and memories shared.

A 1st Memorial service was performed for shrine friend Terry on April 26. The ceremony was video recorded for the family who were unable to attend in person.



In Shinto, the terms for these memorial services are made up of the relevant number of the anniversary year plus the ending *-sai* or festival. In the case of the 1st anniversary of death, the service is called *Ichinen-sai* or 1st year festival.

In Buddhism, the rites are named with the number plus the ending *-kaiki* which roughly translates to "period of mourning." The 1st death anniversary would be called *Ichi-kaiki*.

Funerals in Japan are extremely complex and vary greatly between traditional to the simpler, more modern approach. Funerals also differ according to region, background, family history and religion.

Wakes are held on the eve of the

funeral - usually within 1 - 2 days from the day of death.

According to the *Zennihon Kankon Sosai Association*, the average amount of funeral gifts given by mourners in Japan in their 40s - 80s are as follows. Younger people are expected to give less:

- Grandparents \$300 - 500
- Parents \$500 - 1,000
- Siblings \$500 - 1,000
- Uncles/Aunts \$200 - 300
- Relatives not listed above and In-laws \$100 - 300
- Friends \$100 - 200
- Neighbors \$50 - 100
- Colleagues at work \$50
- Superiors at work \$100

Mochi with two layers are called *Kasane-mochi* or *Kagami-mochi*.

Kasane-mochi consists of two *mochi* of slightly different sizes that are placed on top of each other. It is often used as offerings at shrines.

Kagami-mochi is *Kasane-mochi* with decorations and is often offered to the *Toshigami* or *kami* of the New year.

Kagami-mochi consists of: *Shiho-beni* white paper with a red edge which is placed on the bottom. This symbolizes protection within the four corners of the home.

Urajiro - a fern native to Japan is placed on top of the *Shiho-beni* paper.



Urajiro fern symbolizes longevity.

An orange with leaves is placed on the top of the *kasane-mochi*. The orange symbolizes fertility and many descendants.

Rev. Takizawa takes pride in making the shrine's *kasane-mochi*.

The bottom layer is shaped with a slightly flatter top whereas the top layer is shaped rounder and fuller with an indented bottom.



SKOSH

Meaning: Little or few

Origin: During the occupation of Japan at the end of World War II, US forces borrowed some vocabulary words from Japanese.

One of the more popular words were - *sukoshi* meaning little or few of quantities, time and distances.

Americans dropped the vowels *u* and *i* from *sukoshi* and pronounced it *skosh*.

Skosh appears in a 1955 article by Arthur Norman entitled "Bamboo English: The Japanese influence upon American Speech in Japan."

The term *Bamboo English* referred to a strange Japanese-English pidgin spoken by US servicemen when talking to the Japanese on military bases.

US fighters brought the term *skosh* to the Korean War in the early 1950s and then back home to the US. It's been part of military slang since.

PRESERVING TRADITIONS

The Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Foundation welcomed a new natori - Hanayagi Mitsusae (Jasmine Umeno) with a formal *sakazuki* exchange ceremony on May 2.

Sakazuki is a special, flat cup used to drink sake during rituals - to seal promises, vows and deals.

The most familiar *sakazuki*

exchange is probably the *Sansakudo* ritual at a Shinto wedding where the bride and groom sip *sake* in *sakazuki* three times to pledge marriage.

The traditional type of *sakazuki* is one made of unglazed clay.

From about 1711, lacquered *sakazuki* was used by the aristocrats at the imperial court and the upper echelon of the warrior class.

It wasn't until the early 1800s that porcelain *sakazuki* was produced for the masses.



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Mahalo to all who have made contributions through this program !

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MAINTENANCE



Ficus plants have vigorous, invasive root systems and grow into large trees, making them unsuitable to plant in residential gardens. Even in pots, the roots grow out of the drainage holes.

The roots growing out of the potted Ficus plants are pruned annually to ensure that it has no opportunity to grow to its genetic potential.

Here at the shrine, Ficus plants are maintained at a certain height for visitors to tie their *omikuji* fortunes on.



Two tiny, days-old nestlings were found chirping in their nest. The nest was removed from the tree prior to pruning and returned to a safe branch on the tree.

According to the Audubon Society, it's best to walk away and not feed the fledglings when there is presence of a parent bird.

