



# UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

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## Ginoza Son's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Benefits HUOA

**G**inoza is a tiny village located in a remote part of northern Okinawa on the Pacific Ocean side of the island. It is known basically as an agricultural community. During ancient times, however, Ginoza served as a retreat for aristocrats from Shuri who enjoyed the arts of music and dance. It is no wonder that the performing arts have flourished there over time.

Up until World War II, Ginoza was a part of Kin Town. Seventy years ago, following the end of war, Ginoza officially became an independent village, separating itself from Kin. In celebration of Ginoza Son's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Mayor Atsushi Touma led a contingent of approximately 80 individuals to Hawaii to present a special dinner concert to benefit the Hawaii United Okinawa Association.

On February 25, the concert of music and dance titled Ginoza Son Geinou Kouryu Kouen was held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, featuring performers from Okinawa and Hawaii. Joining the Okinawa



*Shochikubai*

Ginoza Son Performing Arts group were Hawaii's Ginoza Sonjin Kai members Dazz Toguchi and the Ishikawa Family.

An audience of over 400 enjoyed the dinner and the memorable performances, principally for the section of Kanna and Matsuda to give Hawaii their special presentation. *Shishimai* and *michijuune* processions were performed with precision and Ginoza's unique flavor.

One of the highlights of the evening was the performance of *Shochikubai*. Most traditional dance academies have their own renditions of this auspicious number. The people of Ginoza truly gave a meticulous visual interpretation of this dance that was unmistakably filled with color, pride and spirit.



*Kazuo Ishikawa Sensei is surrounded by his daughters Judy Tome and Linda Asato and grand daughters Emily and Miley. Ishikawa Sensei played the jikata along with Grant "Sandaa" Murata Sensei.*

In his greeting to the audience, Mayor Touma emphasized the connection that his village has with Hawaii and his hope for strengthening the bridge of communication and understanding between Ginoza and Hawaii.

All proceeds from the tickets sold were donated to HUOA. HUOA is deeply appreciative of Mayor Touma and the visitors from Ginoza for this wonderful program and for their very generous donation to HUOA. 

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# President's Message

By Tom Yamamoto

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*Itsi Madin – Laulima,  
Forever Working Together*

*Haisai and Aloha,*

Within these past few months many events and celebrations have occurred, such as our member club *Shinnen Enkai* celebrations, two fabulous concerts, our cherished Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange Program Phase I, the Honolulu Festival, and HUOA's courtesy visit to Okinawa.

With 50 member clubs under our umbrella organization, each *Shinnen Enkai* varies in size and content, each takes on its own unique flavor reflective of the club's heritage and customs. Generations of traditional practices, in fact, are preserved through these special gatherings. In every situation, whether on Oahu or the neighbor islands, club members come together in the *Spirit of Laulima* to organize their special events.

To highlight one in particular, I am truly grateful for the hospitality of Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai, especially the Matsuda family. Ted and Cathy provided accommodations for us at their lovely home. The Kohala group preserves its unique tradition of cooking their pig in an imu. Members gather the day before to prepare the pit and season the pig for the day-long cooking process. At their *shinnen enkai* on February 27, the buffet table was lined with various homemade dishes to compliment the freshly cooked kalua pork. The sound of *sanshin* and *taiko* drums resonated throughout the hall as performing arts groups presented their various art forms to the audience members. Mahalo to "ambassadors" Conrad Hokama and Clyde Yafuso for being my weekend guide and ride from Hilo to Kohala, and to Kona.

We welcomed the students, chaperones and leaders from Okinawa who arrived in Hawaii on February 25 for Phase I of the 26<sup>th</sup> Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange Program. New partners to the program, Lokahi Foundation and Nippo Tourist Inc. designed a program focusing on the tourism industry. Thank you to our host families, participating organizations and volunteers for making this experience a fruitful and educational one for the students. We are looking forward to the having the same experience as our Hawaii students prepare to travel to Okinawa in June on Phase II of the program.

Celebrating 70 years since becoming an independent village, Ginoza Son put on a spectacular concert at the HOC featuring their performers along with our local artists. Led by Mayor Atsushi Toma of Ginoza Village, their contingent of over 70 individuals and our club members celebrated the event and engaged in rich conversation, laughter and memorable moments.

With 50 member clubs forming our HUOA, it is very critical for them to realize that they all play a vital role as stakeholders in our organization, and that they are encouraged to be actively involved in all HUOA matters. As part of our efforts to ensure that our club leaders and future leaders are supported, the HUOA's Club Development and Sustainment Committee, spearheaded by Vice President Brandon Nakasone, organized the HUOA 2016 Leadership Workshop series at the HOC which included information on participating in HUOA events, club development and procedures, and a valuable workshop session on developing communication and leadership skills led by Yomitan Sonjin Kai's President Gwen Fujie. We encourage all clubs to participate in these series, so make sure to attend the remaining Leadership Workshops.

The HUOA proudly participated in JTB's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Honolulu Festival and its many events and activities. The festivities kicked off with the Friendship Gala at the Hawaii Convention Center featuring artists from Japan and Hawaii, and ended with Ryukyu Koten Afuso Ryu Ongaku Kenkyuu Choichi Kai Hawaii and Chinagu Eisa Hawaii as the finale.

Throughout the weekend of the Honolulu Festival the Hawaii Convention Center housed stunning and informational exhibits from the various Kenjin Kai. Many thanks go out to our fabulous ladies of Hui O Laulima who truly live their name "Laulima" by joining hands to put together such a stunning "Uchina" exhibit for the visitors to see. Awesome job ladies! The Honolulu Festival culminated with their Grand Parade, and the HUOA was proudly represented by our club members and officers, Chinagu Eisa of Hawaii, and participants of the *Ryukyu no Kaze* in Hawaii performers.

The long-awaited concert that many were raving about for months finally

*Continued on Page 3*



## UCHINANCHU

*Ippee Niffee Deebiru... Mahalo!*

*Uchinanchu* is our voice – the voice of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association, its members, and the "home" we all built together, the Hawaii Okinawa Center. By sharing information and experiences, *Uchinanchu* keeps us connected as a family, dedicated to preserving, sharing and perpetuating our Okinawan cultural heritage.

Every dollar donated – along with the valuable income from advertising - helps offset the cost of publishing *Uchinanchu*. HUOA sends a sincere *ippée niffee deebiru* to the following donors. Mahalo for keeping *Uchinanchu* alive and thriving.

*Uchinanchu Donors February 1 to March 31, 2016.*

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Production costs for *Uchinanchu* have escalated due to increases in circulation, labeling expenses and postage. Your contribution to help defray some of the expenses is greatly appreciated.

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Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Home Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include this form with your donation and send to:

**HUOA Newsletter Fund, 94-587 Ukee Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797**

## 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



*The year at a glance!*



- May 9 Governor Onaga & Uchinanchu Taikai Caravan, 7 pm, HOC
- May 15 Benefit Premier of Family Ingredients - Okinawa, 5 pm, HOC
- May 28, 29 HUOA Invitational Golf Tournament, Pali Golf Course
- May 31-June 3 Children's Cultural Day Camp, HOC
- June 3-18 High School Student Exchange in Okinawa
- June 12 Pan Pacific Parade, Kalakaua Avenue
- June 17 Senior Health & Wellness Fair, HOC
- July 9 "Chura Shigata," Ryusei Honryu Ryuko Kai, 2 pm, HOC
- Aug. 13 HUOA Community Outreach Project
- Sept. 3, 4 Okinawan Festival, Kapiolani Park
- Sept. 5 Aloha Party, 6 pm, HOC
- Oct. 26-30 Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai (Festival) in Okinawa
- Nov. 26, 27 Winter Craft Fair, HOC
- Dec. 4 Legacy Banquet, Hilton Hawaiian Village
- Dec. 7 Evening in Waipio Craft Fair, HOC

*Check HUOA website – www.huoa.org for more information.*

### UCHINANCHU

*Uchinanchu* is the newsletter of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Although subject to change, issues will be published bi-monthly. Volunteer writers are welcome. Send your name, address and telephone number to *Uchinanchu* Newsletter, Hawaii United Okinawa Association, 94-587 Ukee St., Waipahu, Hawaii 96797. E-mail articles to [huoa@huoa.org](mailto:huoa@huoa.org). *Uchinanchu* reserves the right to edit all material for clarity and accuracy.

HUOA President ..... Tom Yamamoto  
Executive Director ..... Jane F. Serikaku  
Editorial/Production Services ..... MBFT Media: Arnold Hiura,  
Eloise Hiura and Hilma Fujimoto

#### ADVERTISING INFORMATION

*Uchinanchu* reaches over 9,700 households. For advertising rates and more information, contact us at:

Tel: (808) 676-5400 – Email: [huoa@huoa.org](mailto:huoa@huoa.org) – [www.huoa.org](http://www.huoa.org)

President's Message - continued from Page 2



At Honolulu Festival Friendship Gala Ryukyu Koten Afuso Ryu Ongaku Kenkyuu Choichi Kai Hawaii.

opened with a thunderous roar from the crowd as the Ryukyu No Kaze in Hawaii superstars performed on stage. Hawaii fans as well as visitors from abroad were treated to legendary vocal artists, Sadao China Sensei and the Nenes, Rimi Natsukawa, Mongol 800 and Kazufumi Miyazawa. It was a concert that suited all generations! A heartfelt moment occurred when the Ryukyu No Kaze in Hawaii Planning Committee

presented a check for \$43,500 for the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza. A sincere "Mahalo" goes out the Sadao China Sensei, Chokei Taira for organizing the event, Okinawa-Hawaii Kyokai and JTB Corporation.



Aisatsu visit with Governor Onaga.

Executive Director Jane Serikaku, President-Elect Vince Watabu, and I had such a heartwarming and rewarding experience on our courtesy visit or "Hyoukei Houmon" to Okinawa as we were able to personally show our gratitude to the various agencies, business and individuals who strongly support our Okinawan community in Hawaii. I witnessed the amazing energy and spirit of "Itsi Madin Laulima" from Mr. Asami Ginoza, Mr. Choko Takayama, Mr. Masaji Matsuda along with many of



Mr. Asami Ginoza, Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Construction and Fundraising Committee, and Mr. Choko Takayama, Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai President.



FM Yomitan and KZ00 Radio connection.



HUOA Aisatsu delegation visits with Tomigusuku Mayor Haruki Gibo, who is wearing the aloha shirt that Tom presented to him on our trip.

the members of Okinawa-Hawaii Kyokai and the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Construction Fundraising Promotion Committee, who traveled with us all over Okinawa every day to campaign and advocate in support of our organization. We are greatly indebted to these individuals for the work that they do on behalf of the HUOA.

In the upcoming months we look forward to reuniting with our loved ones in Okinawa for the Sixth World Uchinanchu Festival, or Sekai Uchinanchu Taikai, which will be held October 26-30. Many villages, townships and cities in Okinawa are preparing their "welcome home" parties for their brothers and sisters from around the globe. I hope that you can join us in being among the contingent of 1,000-plus who will be representing the proud Hawaii Uchinanchu and the HUOA.

Let's continue to share our spirit of Itsi Madin - Laulima, Forever Working Together as we look forward to the rest of our year.

Ippei Nihee Debiru!

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Senjukai Hawaii students

Our culture has taught us respect, honesty and the importance of helping others with sincerity. We believe in perpetuating our culture of high values and making a difference to the community. Ipee nihee deebiru for your support over the years! May your home be filled with lots of joy, laughter and love.



[www.senjukaihawaii.com](http://www.senjukaihawaii.com)

# Senior Health & Fitness Fair

**Friday, June 17, 2016**  
**9:00 am to 1:00 pm**  
Hawaii Okinawa Center  
94-587 Ukee St.  
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# Warabi Ashibi – Children at Play

Okinawan Summer Day Camp for Children · Coming in June to Oahu, Maui, Kauai, Hawaii



“**W**arabi Ashibi” is an Okinawan term meaning “children at play.” The spirit of this theme has governed the Hawaii United Okinawa Association’s Okinawan Cultural Summer Day Camp Program for Kids. Developed in 1996 on Oahu, the program is designed to teach children about the Okinawan culture and heritage in a fun learning atmosphere.

From the east side of the Big Island to the island of Kauai – the sounds of our Okinawan music will be heard throughout the state in the month of June. Children ages 7 to 13 will be able to enjoy the beauty and uniqueness of our culture. Campers are introduced to Okinawan history, dance, language, drumming, martial arts, crafts, flower arrangement, cooking and plantation games. Projects are designed to provide a hands-on fun and educational experience for the participants and will vary from camp to camp. Camps select the curriculum that best suits their participants and community.

We would like to express our gratitude to Ruby Maekawa – Hilo’s director for many years. She instituted the six-day camp for Hilo and mentored many junior leaders and children to the beauty of Okinawa and understanding the meaning of the “Uchinanchu Spirit.” We will miss her leadership, enthusiasm and ideas. She will leave the Hilo Camp in the capable hands of Dwayne Miyashiro. Dwayne served as Ruby’s co-director last year.

“Warabi Ashibi” was first established by the Hawaii United Okinawa Association for Oahu. The program is now offered statewide with the assistance from neighbor island Okinawan clubs and a financial grant from the State of Hawaii, State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. According to State Director Karen Kuba-Hori, “Every year each program gets a little more creative and the program this year will be exceptional.”

For additional and updated information, please visit our website at [www.huoa.org](http://www.huoa.org) or call the HUOA office at 676-5400 or email at [kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com).



## Listing of Camps and General Information:

### OAHU

Location: Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC)  
Date of Camp: June 9 – June 12  
(sleepover at the HOC scheduled on Thursday)  
Hours: Tuesday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – noon  
Coordinating Club: Hui O Laulima  
Directors: Connie Chun and Kate Ardonia  
Registration: \$100 (discount for multi-child households)  
Number of Kids: 80  
Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age  
Contact: Karen Kuba-Hori, (808) 676-5400  
[kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com)

### MAUI

Location: Maui Okinawa Center  
Date of Camp: June 9 – June 12  
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Coordinating Club: Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai  
Maui Ryukyu Culture Group  
Directors: Elaine Fujita and Janet Miyahira  
Registration: \$95 for MOKK members; \$120 for non-members,  
includes one year MOKK membership.  
(discount for multi-child households)  
Number of Kids: 30  
Ages: Entering 1st grade – 8th grade  
Contact: MOKK (808) 242-1560  
MOKK, P.O. Box 1884, Wailuku 96793

### HAWAII – HILO

Location: Honpa Hongwanji, Hilo Betsuin  
Date of Camp: June 7 – June 12  
(Excursion scheduled for Thursday – with a Wednesday Fun Night)  
Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Coordinating Club: Hui Okinawa  
Registration: \$100 (discount for multi-child households)  
Number of Kids: 48  
Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age  
Directors: Ruby Maekawa and Dwayne Miyashiro  
Contact: Ruby Maekawa, (808) 959-4855  
[rmaekawa@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:rmaekawa@hawaiiantel.net)

### HAWAII – KOHALA

Location: Hawi Jodo Mission  
Date of Camp: June 20 – June 21  
Hours: Saturday - 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Sunday – 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Coordinating Club: Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai  
Registration: \$40 (discount for multi-child households)  
Number of Kids: 24  
Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age  
Director: TBA  
Contact: Karen Kuba-Hori, (808) 676-5400  
[kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com)

### HAWAII – KONA

Location: Konawaena High School  
Date of Camp: June 27 – 28  
Hours: Saturday – 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Sunday – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Coordinating Club: Kona Okinawa Kenjin Kai  
Registration: \$45  
Number of Kids: 20  
Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age  
Directors: Doris Grace and Pat Nagy  
Contact: Doris Grace, [gracedoris48@gmail.com](mailto:gracedoris48@gmail.com)  
Pat Nagy, (808) 325-0060  
[pnagy808@hotmail.com](mailto:pnagy808@hotmail.com)

### KAUAI

Location: Kauai War Memorial Convention Hall  
Date of Camp: June 16 – June 18  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Coordinating Club: Hui Alu, Inc.  
Registration: \$100 (discount for multi-child households)  
Number of Kids: 50  
Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age  
Director: Gloria Hiranaka  
Contact: Gloria Hiranaka, (808) 652-1223 or  
[gjhiranaka@hotmail.com](mailto:gjhiranaka@hotmail.com)

# Rocking Out at Ryukyu no Kaze

By Courtney Takara

On March 14, the roughly 1,500 people who filled the Hawaii Convention Center were treated to an evening of musical delight at the “Ryukyu no Kaze” concert. This special concert was brought to Hawaii thanks to the efforts of the Ryukyu no Kaze in Hawaii Organizing Committee, JTB Corporation, Japan

Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA)  
 2016 Warabi Ashibi, Okinawan Cultural Day Camp for Children - Oahu  
 May 31 to June 3, 2016 - Tuesday to Friday  
**Registration Form**  
**Registration Deadline: Friday, May 20, 2016**  
 Enrollment limited to 80 participants, Ages 8 - 13  
 (child must be 8 years old by December 2016)



Check presentation (L-R): Sadao China Sensei, Tom Yamamoto, Hiroyuki Takahashi (JTB) and Chokey Taira (OCVB).

Airlines and the Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau. The concert was produced in Okinawa, but Sadao China Sensei thought it would be a great opportunity to stage the concert in Hawaii as a benefit for the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza project. JTB Corporation donated the proceeds from the concert, and President and CEO Hiroyuki Takahashi presented HUOA President Tom Yamamoto with a check for \$43,500.

HUOA Vice President Lynn Miyahira co-emceed the concert with Yoshimi Kuwae “Miichuu,” a former member of Rinken Band. The concert featured a wide variety of music from Okinawa, including everything from *koten* to punk rock.

The Nenes, an all-female Okinawan folk music group, opened the concert. Formed by China Sensei, the group is now in its fourth generation. The Nenes perform weekly at a live house in Naha, Okinawa and showcase true Okinawan culture from their songs to their colorful *bingata kimono*. China Sensei played *sanshin* for them before taking the stage for a few solo numbers. He is known for playing *koten* or classical Okinawan music and is the founder of Nidaime Teishin Kai.

Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii performed between acts. The sound of *taiko* and *heishi* resonated throughout the hall and prepared the crowd for Mongol 800.

Formerly known as Monpachi, they are a famous punk rock band from Urasoe, touring all over Japan with a huge following of young fans. Many of our HUOA members were shocked to see a mass of young people rush to the front of the stage, jumping and singing along with the band.



After concert gathering (Clockwise): Tom Yamamoto, Lynn Miyahira, Rimi Natsukawa, Kiyosaku Uezu (Mongol 800) and Kazufumi Miyazawa.

Excitement grew as Rimi Natsukawa took the stage. Rimi is a famous contemporary singer from Ishigaki Island, best known for “Nada Soso.” This was her first trip to Hawaii, and she expressed how much she loved being here. The crowd was in awe of her beautiful voice throughout her performance. Following Rimi was another famous singer, Kazufumi Miyazawa, the founder of The Boom and best known for “Shima Uta.” Kazufumi was actually a surprise mystery performer who was not advertised on the concert flyer.

For the finale, all the entertainers took to the stage, singing a number of songs together, including “Shimanchu nu Takara.” And, like all great Okinawan gatherings, everyone stood up to dance *kachashi*. “Ryukyu no Kaze” was an amazing concert and HUOA members had a great time singing and dancing along to their favorite Okinawan artists.

Thank you to all our HUOA members who purchased tickets and *Ippee Nifee Deebiru* to Japan Airlines, JTB Corporation, Chokey Taira from Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau, and Sadao China Sensei for making “Ryukyu no Kaze” in Hawaii possible—and a special thank you to JTB Corporation for donating the proceeds of the concert to the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Project!



Concert finale with all the entertainers on stage.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: F \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_

Returning Child:  Yes  No No. of Yrs Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size: Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)  
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Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: F \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_

Returning Child:  Yes  No No. of Yrs Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

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Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: F \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_

Returning Child:  Yes  No No. of Yrs Participating: \_\_\_\_\_

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Parent or Legal Guardian's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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Parent/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

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(Adult) - \$10 Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* To qualify for multi-child discount, children must reside in the same household.

Make checks payable to HUOA.

Mail to: **HUOA**  
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 94-587 Ukee Street  
 Waipahu, HI 96797



*Ippee nifee deebiru!* Thank you ver much!

HUOA use only – Input completed \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Honolulu Festival Events at the Hawaii Convention Center

By Karen Kuba Hori

“Japan on Parade” – that’s the feeling you experienced if you attended the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Honolulu Festival. Imagine the entire first floor of the Hawaii Convention Center with rows of exhibition booths from Japan organizations and prefectures; booths featuring Pacific Basin countries; a children’s corner with games and hands-on activities; a mini craft fair; huge Japanese parade sculptures; and an entertainment stage our Okinawan Festival would be envious of.

A special section in the exhibit area is a place I would title “*Kenjinkai Alley*.” Here, booths from several local prefectural clubs like the Hawaii United Okinawa Association did their best to inform and display the artifacts that represent their



HUOA President Tom Yamamoto is surrounded by his fans (L-R): Hui O Lailima’s Caroline Okazaki, UJSH Past President Rika Hirata, and Hui O Lailima’s Jo Richardson and Sonette Muramoto.



prefecture. HUOA is called “*Okinawa Ken*” on the floor and with the assistance of Hui O Lailima we featured an exhibit of Okinawan textiles and our prefecture “*Okinawa*.” The booth was very colorful and beautifully done. It featured dolls weaving *katsuri* fabric made by Okinawan doll making master Sueko Zamami. Two *sanshin* troubadours – Dexter Teruya from Nidaime Teishin Kai and Tom Yamamoto from Afuso Ryu Gensei Kai—entertained the crowd. The whole experience is an excursion that you won’t want to miss next year. It’s like visiting Japan on a whirlwind tour.



Chondaras Hachi Higa and Dexter Teruya encouraged China Sadao Sensei and popular singer Rimi Natsukawa to get out of their convertible at the end of the parade for a photo op.

## Taikai Caravan Coming to HOC on May 9

Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga will lead the Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai Caravan to share information about the Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai, which will take place in Okinawa October 26-30, 2016. The Taikai Caravan’s first stop will be at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on May 9 at 7 p.m. It will then travel on to Los Angeles, Vancouver, B.C., and Washington, D.C.

Don’t miss this opportunity to greet the Caravan and learn more about the big event first hand.

This information sharing session is open to anyone who is interested in learning more about the events that are taking place at the Taikai. No reservations are necessary. Seating is open and everyone welcome!

**Aloha Shirts:** People who have already signed up to attend the Taikai but have not already done so will have the opportunity to “try on for size” and order/pay for their aloha shirts that evening. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for those who wish to order Aloha shirts.



“Kasamaru,” the official mascot of the Sixth Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai.



# Student Exchange Celebrates New Partnerships

Okinawa students and their Hawaii host students welcome new partners to the Okinawa-Hawaii Student Exchange Program, Phase I.



(Front Row-Left): Tsuyoshi Tsurumi, President of Lokahi Foundation, and Vince Okada, Vice President. Front Row-Far Right): Hirofumi Eto, President of Nippo Travel, and Ryoichi Okubo, President of Lighthouse Hawaii. Holding the "Mensore" sign are (L-R): Coordinator Tamotsu Miyagi, Councilor Nariaki Moromi, and HUOA President Tom Yamamoto



Students from Okinawa visit Gov. David Ige.

# Ehime Maru Memorial Clean-Up

On February 6, members of HUOA's Executive Council and friends from Okinawa come together in the Spirit of Laulima to clean the Ehime Maru Memorial and surrounding area. As an annual gesture of goodwill, the HUOA is among several community groups who volunteer to help maintain this symbol of forgiveness and friendship located at the Kakaako Waterfront Park. This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragic accident of the Ehime Maru and the USS Greenville submarine.



Front row: Tylar Nakasone, Taylor Nakasone, Tom Yamamoto, Sandra Yanagi, and Allison Yanagi. Back Row: Misato Oshiro, Akino Oshiro, Lisa Tamashiro, Norman Nakasone, Brandon Nakasone, and Cyrus Tamashiro.



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## Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club Celebrates 43<sup>rd</sup> Shinnen Enkai

One hundred twenty-five members, friends, and guests celebrated the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club's 43<sup>rd</sup> *Shinnen Enkai* luncheon at the HOC on February 28. Members were treated to family gifts, fortune cookie favors, and balloon creations. Lucky \$1 raffle winners took home a flat screen HDTV and iPad-mini. Wayne Takamine on guitar and vocals was our perennial and much-valued luncheon entertainer.



*Special Honorees: Ed Kuba, Bobbi Kuba (Koki No Iwai), Rose Mizokawa (Tokachi), Janice Okudara (Kajimaya), and Cyrus Tamashiro (2015 Uchinanchu of the Year).*

HUOA President-Elect Vince Watabu installed our 2016 *hana hou* board members: President Christine Taylor, Vice President Greg Kuwazaki, Secretary Janice Kawachi, Treasurer Bobbi Kuba, and Advisors Louise Tamashiro and Doris Arakaki.

The spotlight was on our special honorees. Ed and Bobbi Kuba were our *Koki No Iwai* (73) honorees, Rose Mizokawa was our *Tokachi* (88) honoree, and our *Kajimaya* (97) honoree was Janice Okudara. Our 2015 *Uchinanchu of the Year* was Cyrus Tamashiro.

Chinagu Eisa Hawaii opened our entertainment program with a call to celebration. We were treated to the electrifying and energetic *Eisa* drummers. The audience whistled and clapped as they performed three rousing numbers one after another.



*Installation: Doris Arakaki, Louise Tamashiro, Bobbi Kuba, Janice Kawachi, Greg Kuwazaki, Chris Taylor, and Vince Watabu.*

Frances Nakachi Sensei performed *Hayakuduchi*, an auspicious dance with wishes for a glorious new year, and five talented children performed *Hana Nu Kajimaya* with pinwheels, a joyful dance representing longevity.

The Shuri-Naha Sanshin Sunshine entourage, Mark and Hanae Higa and Cuyler Yogi, delighted us with *Tinsagu Nu Hana*, *Nuchibana*, and *Densa Bushi*. Cyrus Tamashiro serenaded our female dancers with *Yokohama Serenade* and closed the show with the ever popular sing along, *Shimanchu Nu Takara*.

Our celebration closed with the traditional *Kachashi*. *Chibariyo* – and see you all next year! 🍻

## Okinawa City-Goeku Son Shinnen Enkai

Goeku Son celebrated its 89<sup>th</sup> *Shinnen Enkai* in February at the Natsunoya Teahouse. Members enjoyed the camaraderie of old friends, good food, and picture taking in *kimono*. This *Shinnen Enkai* was especially important as it recognized eight members who were celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and four members who were reaching “*tokachi*” (88 years old).



*(Above-Left): Kokuji Kochi (80); (Middle-Front Row): Warren Hamada (80), Amy Fukuhara (80), Masako Kiyabu (88), and George Shimabuku (88); (Middle-Back Row): Jean Uesato for Robert Uesato (80), Florence Yogi (80), Peggy Shimabuku (80), and Karen Wright for Hatsue Uyesato (88); (Above-Right) Richard Kina (88). Missing: 80-year-old honorees Toshiko Hokama and Ethel Shiraki. 🍻*

# Shinnen

The HUOA is only as strong as its member clubs. We salute you to welcome the New Year, honor the traditions of their families.

## Hui O Laulima News

The ladies of Hui O Laulima stop to have their picture taken on January 16 along with three members of their club who were being honored as *Uchinanchu of the Year*. Joining Hui O Laulima's honoree Laura Ajimine were Ella Teruya (Haneji Club) and Jean Tsuda (Hawaii Sashiki-Chinen Club). Pictured here with all of their Laulima sisters, Ella is in the center of photo with Jean and Laura standing behind her. Missing from photo is Laulima's co-2015 honoree Lillian Hokama, who was unable attend the luncheon. 🍻



## Ginoza Shinnen Enkai

A contingent from Ginoza led by Mayor Atsushi Tsuma arrived in Hawaii on February 24 on a whirlwind visit. The Mayor's group included staff, dancers, musicians, and support group for performers.



who presented a dance and music concert at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on February 25 (see story, page 1).

On February 25, the group also made time to join the Ginoza Sonjin Kai members at the Bishop Museum's Atherton Halau for the club's annual *Shinnen Enkai*. Before the party began, two of the *sonjin kai's* members—Kazuo Ishikawa and Haruko



Shimabukuro—shared their early immigration memories. Kazuo Ishikawa was born and raised on Palau, returned to Okinawa, then immigrated to Hawaii after the war.

The visitors as well as the *sonjin kai* members enjoyed a mix of Hawaiian and Okinawan food prepared by Bishop Museum's food service vendor, Highway Inn, which is owned by a Ginoza Sonjin

*Ginoza Shinnen Enkai continued on Page 9*

# Shinnen Enkai

...te the commitment and spirit of those clubs who gather forebears, and renew their commitment to one another.



## Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai

The Kohala group preserves its unique tradition of cooking their pig in an *imu*. Members gather the day before to prepare the pit and season the pig for the day-long cooking process. At their *shin-*



*nen enkai* on February 27, the buffet table was lined with various homemade dishes to compliment the freshly cooked kalua pork. The sound of *sanshin* and *taiko* drums resonated throughout the hall as performing arts groups presented their various art forms to the audience members. 🍡

## Ginza Shinnen Enkai *continued from Page 8*

Kai member family.

The spirited visitors from Okinawa participated in activities like *Jan Ken Po*, which came down to a child from the *sonjin kai* and a male visitor from Okinawa. The last match was very animated with everyone cheering loudly... especially when the child won!

The 80-year-old and over members of the club were honored and had their picture taken. They included Misao Asato, Soyei Toguchi, Yukio Toguchi, Audrey Toguchi, Joyce Takara. Karen Hamada, John Ratliff, Hideo Toguchi, Doris Ajifu, Doris Wolfe, Haruko Shimabukuro, Kazuo Ishikawa, Dorothy Nakama, Nancy Yama and Lorraine Mizokami.

Club members contributed toward an appreciation gift that was presented to President Vince Watabu for his long and dedicated tenure. The gift was to ensure that his much-anticipated first trip to Okinawa would be a very memorable one. The evening culminated with an energetic *eisa* presentation by the visitors and ended, of course, with *kachashi*. 🍡

## Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai: Celebrating the New Year and Nakagusuku Pride

By Denise Liu, President



The New Year is a time for reflecting on our many blessings and looking forward to the year ahead. The members of Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai came together to celebrate the New Year after a very busy and exciting 2015. HUOA President-Elect Vince Watabu greeted members and shared his vision for 2016. He also shared his family's connection to Nakagusuku!



*Birthday honorees: (Front) Doris Higa, George Nakamoto, Shigeo Asato, Ed Higa, and Toshiaki Nakamoto. (Back): Vince Watabu, Mayor Caldwell, Howard Asato, and Denise Liu.*

We honored former Nakagusuku President Howard Asato as our *Uchinanchu of the Year*. Howard loves all things Okinawan and is our very own Ambassador and Nakagusuku Eye who keeps us connected to Nakagusuku Village. He was even here to officially welcome Mayor Hamada, Gosamaru Drums and Lord Gosamaru to Hawaii for the 2015 Okinawan Festival.

Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell was on hand to help us honor Howard and expressed his appreciation for the warm welcome he received from Howard and Laverne on his recent visit to Okinawa.

We honored and celebrated the 85<sup>th</sup> birthday of Mr. George Nakamoto, and those celebrating 90 years or more, Mrs. Doris Higa, Mr. Shigeo Asato, Mr. Ed Higa, and Mr. Toshiaki Nakamoto. Vince Watabu and Mayor Caldwell congratulated them, and Howard presented each of them with a beautiful ceramic plate from Okinawa.



*Howard Asato family: Nora Lum, Kylie Saito, Makayla Nakamura, Howard, Maddison Nakamura, and Alyssa Asato*

We were very fortunate to have Courtney Takara selected to participate in Nakagusuku Village's Immigrant Abroad Training Program – Nakagusuku's very first *kenshusei* from Hawaii! Courtney reported on her experience during the three-month cultural training program. She then shared what she learned by treating us to a *koto* performance and played *uta sanshin* on a *sanshin* she received from Nakagusuku Mayor Hamada when she graduated from the program.



A special drawing was held last year at our *Shinnen Enkai* for airfare to travel to Okinawa. Jared Vierra was the lucky recipient and shared a great video of his experience of immersing himself in the homeland – complete with *awamori* and *fugu*! This year, Iris Oshiro was the lucky winner of airfare to attend the 2016 *Taikai* in October!

Members enjoyed lots of shopping at our silent auction, which raised funds for HUOA. Elise Miura made luggage tags for members to use when they attend the *Taikai*. And, finally, we were treated to Okinawan music and dance by Tamagusuku Ryu Senjukai and Afuso-ryu Ongaku Kenkyuu Choichi Kai Hawaii!

Thank you to the many hearts and hands that are Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai. Celebrating family. Honoring our ancestors. Perpetuating our culture. Pride in Nakagusuku! 🍡

# Bridging from Generation to Generation - For Our Children!

# Ikuyu Madin

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

いちまごいん

## Our Supporters



### Ikuyu Madin Kai Members Of The 200 For 2M Campaign

(Listed Members have either donated or pledged \$10,000 or more to our current campaign, starting July 1, 2014.)

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| ALOHA TOFU INC., PAUL UYEHARA                         | RALPH & JEAN IGE   | MITSUKO TOGUCHI NAKASONE   |
| NANCY AKAMINE ARIZUMI, CLAIRE MATSUMOTO, WILMA OGIMI] | RICHARD IHA, JR.   | NORMAN & RENETTE NAKASONE  |
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| DR. GLENN M. & LUCILLE K. BIVEN                       | ARTHUR KANESHIRO   | YASUO AND CHIYO SADOYAMA   |
| FORD & DANEIL CHINEN                                  | RODNEY & CAROL KOHAGURA  | THE FAMILY OF AKIRA & JANE SAKIMA  |
| DR. DORIS CHING                                       | PAUL Y. & KRISTI KOMEIJI   | JANE SERIKAKU  |
| ALTON CHUNG   | THE FAMILY OF RICHARD AND KIYOKO KUBA -LUI, CHUNG, MORIKAMI, KUBA-HORI | CHRIS & SHIORI SHIMABUKURO   |
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| GINOWAN CLUB  | MIKI & BRIAN MAESHIRO  | KAREN KEIKO TAMAE & AKIRA SUGIKAWA; ROY, DAWN & MAKANA SUGIKAWA; JANET & NEAL YAMANOUCHI |
| CHRISTINE & STANLEY HIGA                              | MAVIS MASAKI   | CYRUS & ANN TAMASHIRO  |
| GLADYS MATSUE HIGA TRUST                              | DWIGHT T. MATSUDA  | GEORGE & EMELINE TAMASHIRO   |
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| JOCELYN IGE   | CAROL & JACKSON NAKASONE   | HAROLD & ELSIE YONAMINE  |
|   | KAREN NAKASONE   |  |

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association would like to acknowledge the following individuals, families, organizations and companies who have donated or pledged to our Campaign. Since our last report we received over \$22,350 in gifts for the building of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza.

Our 200 FOR 2M CAMPAIGN continues to grow, we currently have 58 committed members. We would like to welcome the family of the late Henry Shiyei Higa and Gladys Matsue Higa.

The HUOA is truly grateful for your support and the confidence you have displayed through your generous donations and humbly ask for your continued support. *Magukuru Kara Ippee Niffee Deebiru* – from our hearts, thank you very much.

Donations listed below were received from February 1, 2016 to April 5, 2016

- |                              |   |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Aloha Tofu Inc.(2)           | Cyrus K. and Ann Tamashiro  | In Memory of Harry Seisho Nakasone by Mitsuko Toguchi Nakasone |
| Dr. Kyoko Hijirida           | The Benevity Community Impact Fund  | In Memory of Walter Rabacal by Ginowan Club                    |
| Leslie T. Morishige          | Charles T. Toguchi  | In Memory of Harry Satoru Tanji                                |
| Karen Tooko Nakasone (2)     | In Memory of Henry Shiyei Higa & Gladys Matsue Higa by the Gladys Matsue Higa Trust | In Honor of Richard & Kiyoko Kuba by Mae Chung                 |
| Takeo & Betty Y. Shimabukuro |   |  |

## Preserving Our Legacy

2015 TO 2016-ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM

Continued on Page 11



The Hawaii United Okinawa Association is extremely grateful to the over 777 friends that have displayed their "laulima" with a generous gift to our annual giving. Your tax-deductible donations allow us to continue to educate and share our Okinawan culture with the people of Hawaii. We look forward to hearing from many more of you in the coming months. As of March 31, 2016 we collected \$106,115. *Ippee Niffee Deebiru!!!*

The following list of donors reflects contributions from February 1, 2016 to April 5, 2016.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>GOLD (\$1000 TO \$4999)</b><br>Audrey Nakamura & Lynn Nakamura  | <b>CONTRIBUTOR (\$100 TO \$249)</b><br>Wayne & Virginia Kuwaye Date<br>Eunice Kishimoto Hayashi<br>Harry & Sachiko Higa<br>Janice S. Ige<br>Ikenobo-Ikebana Society; Hawaii Okinawa Center Class; Nobuko Kida Sensei<br>Raymond & Stella M. Miyashiro<br>Lisa Nakama<br>Paul & Janice Nakama | Richard S. Oyama<br>Jason Taira & Ann Hasegawa Taira<br>Kenny Toyama<br>Bert & Mitsuko Yamaguchi<br>In Memory of Colman J. Izu by Milton & Madelline Oshiro<br>In Memory of Giuei, Kane, Thomas, Susan & Kay Kamiya by Tom & Jan Kamiya Dobiesz<br>In Memory of David G. & Matsu Kanemoto |
| <b>SILVER (\$500 TO \$999)</b><br>Members of Hui O Laulima   |  |   |
| <b>BRONZE (\$250 TO \$499)</b><br>Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. Matching Gift Fund Program on behalf of Stephanie Teruya<br>Ken & Amy Mijo<br>The Ford Foundation Matching Gift Program on behalf of Irene Hirano Inouye |  |   |



# CLUB NEWS

*Our Clubs, Our Future*

## Hui Makaala Scholarship Luncheon and Fashion Show, July 24



Please jot down Sunday, July 24, 2016, on your calendars for the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Fund Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom. It's hard to believe that it is the 47<sup>th</sup> annual show—what a long, long tenure for this great community service activity!

This year, Hui Makaala will feature the designs of:

- DOLKII (Sisters) Yasmin Dar Fasi and Shaiyanne Dar
- BOUTIQUE SHARON - Six boutiques around and in Waikiki
- KAYPEE SOH - Up-and-coming Malaysian designer

We will also have the usual boutique-related happenings starting at 9 a.m., including silent auction, raffle, lunch, entertainment, scholarship awards, and, of course, the fashion show itself ending around 2:15 p.m. The Committee is working hard to put together an enjoyable and fun-filled day. For more information, please call Karen Takushi Shishido at 551-7868 or Jane Tamanaha Lee at 988-1471.

## Sara Akemi Nakatsu Receives OPG Scholarship

The HUOA is pleased to announce that Sara Akemi Nakatsu has been selected as this year's Okinawa Prefectural Government's scholarship recipient. The Prefectural Government Foundation began collecting applications from the various overseas *kenjin kai* and coordinated the entire application process beginning in October 2015. Documentation include statements by the employer, university, transcripts, health forms, essays and required documents depending on the applicants major or course of study.

Ms. Nakatsu applied to the Arts University with a focus on Okinawan *koto*. She will be the first person from Hawaii to enhance her *koto* studies through this scholarship. She has studied *o-koto* in Hawaii since 1996 under the direction of Bonnie N. Miyashiro of the Miyashiro Soho Kai.

We wish Sara well and look forward to what she will add to our community's performing arts legacy when she returns to Hawaii next year.



## Hawaii Taiko Kai Installs New Officers

Newly installed officers for Hawaii Taiko Kai: President Audrey Gibo, Vice President Mae Asato, Secretary Jean Idemoto, Asst. Secretary Annette Platt, Treasurer Nona Miyashiro (missing: Asst. Treasurer Kaaren Takara).



## Oroku Azajin Club Cleans Up HOC

Mahalo to 16 energetic members of Oroku Azajin Club who dedicated two hours at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. They cleaned restrooms, windows, backstage, trash bins and surrounding area of Teruya Building on a recent Sunday morning.



Seated (L-R): Roland Teruya, Howard Takara, and Alex Teruya. Middle Row (L-R): Beverly Taira, Rosemarie Love, Alice Masutani, Jane Takara, Ethel Teruya, Lorraine Kajikawa, Betsy Ebesu, and Dexter Teruya. Back Row (L-R): Vernon Kajikawa, Alison Ebesu, Tom Kaaiai, Candyce Kaaiai, and Galen Teruya.

## Please Kokua!

Our Hawaii Okinawa Center's beautiful lawn has been overtaken with weeds! Besides the weeds, hedges and the surrounding area of the center are in need of some tender loving care. The area that surrounds our center along Ukee Street and Ka Uka Boulevard are no longer lush with greenery.

We used to have a faithful corps of hardworking volunteers that took great care of HOC, but due to their ages or health conditions, the number of volunteers has dwindled dramatically.

Note: We are so fortunate that Kin Chojin Kai members have "adopted" the Issei Garden at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, for they diligently weed, water and prune, along with everything else that's needed to make the Issei Garden look great. *Ippee nifee deebiru* to Kin Chojin Kai volunteers!

Please help us to bring "life" back to our Takakura Garden area. If you know of anyone that can dedicate even one day a week, we would appreciate it. Bring your friends too! Call us at 676-5400! We are open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



welcome!  
*Mensore*

**HUOA Welcomes the Society for Okinawan Language Revitalization**

Members of the Society for Okinawan Language Revitalization shared information of their efforts to revitalize the Okinawan Language to some of our Hawaii supporters.



Society members include: Keiko Shiroma, Sachiko Higa, Mitsuko Sonan, Muneharu Zamami, Sokuyu Gibu, Nozen Inafuku, and Mitsue Nishihara. HUOA is represented by: Sensei Lynne & Clarence Nakasone, Kyoko Hijirida Sensei, Bob Kishaba, Masakazu Teruya Sensei, Grant "Sandaa" Murata Sensei, George Tamashiro, and Jeanne & Maurice Yamasato.

**Gushikawa Commercial High School**



A group of 36 students from Gushikawa Commercial High School in Okinawa enjoyed their visit to the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Along with a history of immigration, they were introduced to the birth of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and all that we do to collectively promote, perpetuate and preserve our precious Uchinanchu culture.

**Preparing for Ryukyu no Kaze Concert in Hawaii**



The Ryukyu no Kaze in Hawaii's advance team arrived at HOC to finalize plans for the benefit concert held on behalf of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza. The group, led by Mongol 800's popular singer Kiyosaku Uezu (wearing his signature hat), included Uezu's team, JTB Hawaii, and JTB Japan organizers.

**HONORING THOSE WHO PAVED THE WAY**

Here's to our pioneering ancestors who immigrated to this country, seeking the American dream. With only their family name and the shirt on their back, they did what they had to do, so that we, their descendants, can do what we want to do today.

Each one of us has a story to tell about our family history ... and every story has a message. The one theme that runs through each of our stories, including that of the Kuba family, is that with resilience, grit, and determination our forefathers provided for their children a better life than their own.

For many of us, third generation and beyond, little remains besides our family name, that carries on the spirit of our forebears.

Thus, the name "Kuba awamori" pays tribute to all immigrant pioneers who came before us, seeking a better life.

They were living examples of sacrifice, hard work, and never giving up in the face of adversities.

Each generation shoulders the responsibility to see the next succeed. Enjoy Kuba awamori with family, friends, and colleagues. Connect ... Share ... Build Rapport ... Heart to Heart!

**ShareKuba.com**



MADE IN JAPAN

**Let's show our Uchinanchu Spirit!**



**Banner carriers & marchers needed!**  
Sunday  
June 12  
3:30 pm  
at Fort DeRussy

**Join the HUOA in the Pan-Pacific Festival Parade!**

**Parade Information:**

Date: Sunday, June 12, 2016  
Assembly time/place: 3:30 pm, Fort DeRussy  
Parade start time: 5:00pm (near Saratoga)  
Parade Route: Kalakaua Ave. (ends at Kapiolani Park)

**What to Wear:**

Long black pants or black Bermuda shorts (knee length) and any HUOA logo or club t-shirt. Vests (uchikake) and purple sashes will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Don't forget to wear comfortable shoes and apply sunscreen!

**Free Bus Service:**

Bus to and from the parade. Please reserve your spot.

- Leaves Hawaii Okinawa Center 2:30 pm
- Leaves Pearl City Rec Center 2:45 pm
- Leaves Jikoen Temple 2:45 pm
- Leaves Waikiki 6:00 pm

To participate and to ride the bus, please contact the HUOA Office at 676-5400 or email: [bonnie@huoa.org](mailto:bonnie@huoa.org) by June 5  
Ippee Niffee Deebiru - Mahalo Nui Loa!



## 'Family Ingredients' – a Tasty Way to Benefit HUOA!

Do not miss out on a rare opportunity to preview "Family Ingredients – Okinawa" on Sunday, May 15, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The producers of this new national PBS primetime series have allowed the Hawaii United Okinawa Association to be the first to present two (half-hour) episodes of this highly anticipated series.

Each episode is hosted by Honolulu chef and food sustainability advocate Ed Kenney. The Okinawa premier features Hisae Uki of Honolulu's Sun Noodle company. Follow Ed and Hisae as they set out on a delectable journey of discovery to find out what makes Okinawa's quintessential dish, *Soki Soba*, so unique. This simple bowl of noodles tells a rich story of the strength and resilience of the Okinawa people and how they share an enduring bond with Hawaii. Included in preparation for their culinary adventure to Okinawa is a special visit to personally experience Okinawa *shishimai* with the Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts group led by Jon Itomura and Eric Nitta.



Chefs Ed Kenney and Alan Wong with Kenji and Ikuko Ando at Senju Negishige (Negi Market).

The second episode is "Family Ingredients – Tokyo." The TV pilot of this episode won a regional Emmy award in 2014. It features Chef Alan Wong, who explains how he was raised in Japan by a single mother. She came to Hawaii with her two young children not knowing a word of English to build a better life for her kids. That journey starts in Chef Wong's hometown of Wahiawa as he traces the origin of his childhood dish to Tokyo and Saitama, Japan.

Executive Producer Heather Giugni stated in a Honolulu Star Advertiser interview with Joleen Oshiro, "I love this show because it's not just about the ingredients to a recipe, but the ingredients to someone's life."

Tickets for this benefit fundraiser for the Hawaii United Okinawa Association will be available for pre-sale. Benefit ticket prices will be \$20 for adults and \$7 for children 7 and under. Call us at 676-5400, email: [edhuoa@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:edhuoa@hawaii.rr.com), or check out our website: [www.huoa.org](http://www.huoa.org).

# Eat, Drink & Enjoy!

Ticket purchasers will be treated to a serving of delicious "Okinawa Soba" featuring noodles by Sun Noodles. You are welcome to bring your own drinks/pupu, if you wish. Ono fresh andagi made on site by Patrick Miyashiro and the Hawaii Taiko Kai members will be on sale. Enjoy performances by Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts' (HOCA) Shishimai and the vibrant Chinagu Eisa Hawaii.



Chef and series host Ed Kenney and Sun Noodle's Hisae Uki don shishimai costumes as part of their journey to Okinawa.

## Uchinaa-guchi (Okinawan language) Word of the Month

### March

**kii-fuujoo**, *n.* A fisherman's wooden pillow, doubling as a waterproof container for tobacco and matches, etc.

### April

**chicha·san**, *adj.* [chikai] 1 (In time) close; early; soon. 2 (In distance) near; short; not far off. 3 (In relationship) close; near; akin to. 4 Almost; be close; nearly.

(Excerpted, with permission, from the *Okinawan-English Wordbook*, by Mitsugu Sakihara, edited by Stewart Curry, University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, 2006)

## Okinawan Proverb of the Month

*Chosen by the Uchinaaguchi Class Members*

### A Proverb of the month:

Hanashi han gaku

はなし はん がく

Meaning: Listening and digesting the words of the speakers is also part of learning.

人の話をきくことは、はんぶんは がくしゅうしたことになる。

## This is Your Newsletter

Please send us your club news items and photos.

Email us at [info@huoa.org](mailto:info@huoa.org)

*Mahalo!*

# HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*Mark Your Calendar!*

# HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

May 2016

- 9 Uchinanchu Taikai Caravan, 7pm, HOC
- 11 Executive Council meeting, 7pm, HOC
- 15 "Family Ingredients" Premiere Showing and Fundraiser, 5pm, HOC
- 25 Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, HOC
- 28-29 HUOA's 46th Annual Invitational Okinawan Golf Tournament, Pali Golf Course Awards Banquet, 6:30pm, Jikoen Temple
- 30 HOC Closed in observance of Memorial Day CDC Set-up
- 31 HUOA's Children's Cultural Day Camp

June

- 1-3 HUOA's Children's Cultural Day Camp
- 8 Executive Council meeting, HOC, 7pm
- 16 Senior Fair Set-up
- 17 Senior Health & Fitness Fair; 9am-1pm, HOC, NO ADMISSION FEES

Classes · Other Meetings at Hawaii Okinawa Center:

- HUOA Sanshin: every Thursday, 7pm\*
- Ichigo Ichi E: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7pm\*
- Ikebana: 1st Wednesday, 7pm\*
- Karaoke nite: 4th Tuesday, 6:30pm\*
- Kobudo Taiko: every Monday, 7pm, contact Calvin Nakama 224-7374
- Monday Crafters: every Monday, 9am\*
- Okinawan Genealogical Society meeting: 3rd Saturday, 9am\* (March meeting moved to March 26)
- Uchinaaguchi: every 2nd Tuesday, 1pm\*; every 4th Thursday, 7pm\*
- \*for more information, please call 676-5400
- \*\*Subject to Change\*\* (entries as of 3/3016)

In 2016 new shows will premiere on the first and third Saturday of a month at 7 p.m. and repeat the following Thursday at 5 p.m. on Olelo Community Media Channel NATV 53. Our shows do not air on the fifth Thursday of a month.

All Olelo shows are also streamed live on the Internet at [www.olelo.org](http://www.olelo.org). Most, if not all, of our latest shows are available on-demand on the same website at: What's On; OleloNet Video On Demand; then search for keyword "Okinawa." The HUOA website, [www.huoa.org](http://www.huoa.org), has links to these sites.

May 7, Sat., 7 pm & May 12 & 19, Thurs., 5 pm - Show Three of the 33<sup>rd</sup> HUOA Okinawan Festival held on Labor Day weekend (September 5 & 6, 2015) at Kapiolani Park in Waikiki. This episode features Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii, Jimpu Kai USA Kin Ryosho Ryukyu Geino Kenkyusho Hawaii Shibu, and Ryusei Honryu Ryuko Kai.

May 21, Sat., 7 pm & May 26 & June 2, Thurs., 5 pm - Part Two of the 2015 HUOA Legacy Award Banquet held at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel on November 1, 2015. This episode presents three of the five honorees - Gwen Fujie, Masakazu Teruya, and Seiichi and Sachiko Toguchi.

June 4, Sat., 7 pm & June 9 & 16, Thurs., 5 pm - Show Four of the 33<sup>rd</sup> HUOA Okinawan Festival held on Labor Day weekend (September 5 & 6, 2015) at Kapiolani Park in Waikiki. This episode features Radio Okinawa's 2015 Miuta Taisho Winner-Ritsuko Shibahiki, and Nakagusuku Gosamaru Drums.

June 18, Sat., 7 pm & June 23, Thurs., 5 pm Part Three of Sadao China Anniversary Recital on March 29, 2015 in Okinawa. This episode features Rimi Natsukawa, Kousetsu Minami, and Ryoko Moriyama. [Note that this episode does not air on Thursday, June 30 because it's the fifth Thursday of the month.]

## Make Your Event Memorable with A Catered Experience.

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