



# UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

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## Heavy Activity Marks Critical Milestones on Our Long Journey

The close of the first quarter of 2018 was a whirlwind for the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Project. Construction activity was at full steam as we watched the building and site take form with details such as the roof and exterior finish start to make the project sparkle from afar!

As the project seemed to spring up from nowhere since last April, we took several pauses in February and March to observe construction together through site visits and to gather to remind ourselves of our mission in creating this commercial plaza: to provide a means of support for maintaining our home—the Hawaii Okinawa Center—and to ensure that we can sustain the many programs, cultural activities and classes that we offer our community. Members and donors gathered in February, at a “Topping Off Party” to signify this milestone in construction, and to share project history, provide updates, and rally for continued fundraising efforts.



HUOA Members break bread (or Okinawan Sweet Potato) with our friends Kazuyuki Matsunaga, Makoto Takeda and Satoko Kaneshi, from the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

March marked a month of many visitors and supporters from Okinawa. JTB Okinawa and the Okinawa Visitors and Convention Bureau brought 53 Okinawa business executives, many who are our staunchest supporters and contributors from Okinawa. Aside from the aforementioned groups, some other attendees included Orion Beer, Ryukyu Shimpo and Okinawa Times. Impressed with the project’s progress, they enthusiastically rallied within the group to have an impromptu fundraising effort that had wonderful results. A few weeks later, representatives from the Okinawa Prefectural Government visited to inspect the completed roof for which they provided a 15 million yen subsidy to assist in the costs to build. They agreed that the red clay tile roof gives the plaza building a distinctly Okinawan flavor that complements the other buildings on the HOC campus.

As construction of the building shell approaches the final stretch towards completion in mid-May, we continue to seek tenants to fill the approximately 12,000 s.f. of leasable area. Thanks to the help of many of you, we have received numerous calls and have experienced increased leasing activity. Many are happy to know that we will have an array of offices that include



The Hawaii Okinawa Plaza looks spectacular with its red clay tile roof. Take a visit for yourself in person if you haven’t been there recently. Building Shell completion slated for May 2018.

medical, insurance services, and a religious group, while so many are showing significant interest in a space, such as restaurants, educational facilities, language and music schools. Please continue to spread the word! We will keep working hard to ensure every square foot is leased up and every space is built out! If you have any referrals, please contact the HUOA office at 676-5400.

We will have continued opportunities to visit the site, rally together for fundraising efforts, and to celebrate in the next few months. We expect to gather on site for a gathering after the completion of the building shell. Please look



Members and donors gather for a fundraising effort marking a big milestone for the project. Ippee Niffee Deebiru for your role in getting us to his point!

for announcements for a potential gathering in June. On Labor Day Weekend, an estimated 200 of our supporters are expected to join us from Okinawa for the Okinawan Festival. On Monday, September 3, we will gather with our friends on site to commemorate the construction completion of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza and have a continuing celebration during the Festival Aloha Party at the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Okinawa continues to plan significant fundraising events, two of which will be held in Hawaii this year. The first is the Natsumero Concert on

MORE ON PAGE 3

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Project	Page 1
President’s Message	Page 2
Okinawan Festival Update/HOP Project (cont. from pg 1)	Page 3
2018 Aisatsu Visit	Page 4
150 <sup>th</sup> Gannenmono Anniversary/Honolulu Festival Parade	Page 5
“Warabi Ashibi”- Children at Play Day Camp	Page 6
2018 Hui O Lailima Cultural Grant Awardees/2019 Grant Application	Page 7
Ikuyu Madin/Preserving Our Legacy	Pages 8 & 9
Shinnen Enkai: Big Island	Page 10
Shinnen Enkai	Page 11
Club News	Page 12
Club News	Page 13
Hawaii Okinawan Invitational Golf Tournament	Page 14
Student Exchange/Okinawan Proverbs	Page 15
HUOA Schedule of Events/HOT Schedule	Page 16

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## President's Message By Courtney Takara



### Haitai and Aloha!

While it has only been a couple of months since our last newsletter, so much has happened! February and March were filled with *shinnen enkai* celebrations. I was honored to attend 13 of them, including Hui Okinawa's party in Hilo! It was a pleasure to meet all of your club members and enjoy the delicious food and great entertainment! I also had the opportunity to attend the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza "Topping Off" party and Hui O Laulima's 50th Anniversary Gala. As I attended the various parties, I constantly witnessed the spirit of *Hiyamikasa* - club members, committees and volunteers rallying together to execute successful parties.

Besides all the parties, phase one of our Hawaii-Okinawa High School Student Exchange took place. It was amazing to watch the bonds that formed over the two weeks between the students from Okinawa and their host families in Hawaii. I got to spend some time with the students on their first day and we even interviewed a couple of them on KZOO radio. Past President Norman Nakasone and I also had the pleasure of taking the chaperones *holoholo-ing* around the island. By the end of the two weeks it was hard to tell the Okinawa students from the Hawaii students! This is truly one of HUOA's most fulfilling programs and I can't wait to hear about the experiences our Hawaii students have when they go to Okinawa in June.

The day after the Okinawa students left, Jo and I were back at the airport to leave for our Aisatsu visit to Okinawa. The Aisatsu visit was a great experience, catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. Everyone in Okinawa was excited to hear about the construction progress and see photos of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza. Check out the special Aisatsu article on page 4 and see photos from our trip.

Jo and I returned to Hawaii just in time for the Honolulu Festival. We attended a cocktail reception hosted by JTB Okinawa and the Okinawa Convention and Visitors Bureau. Attendees included prominent Okinawan business owners, along with many of our HUOA past presidents. It gave us an opportunity to network and discuss ways to strengthen the bond between Hawaii and Okinawa.

That Sunday, I attended Nago Club and Ginowan Shijin Kai's *shinnen enkai*. With both parties held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, it was easy to go back and forth throughout lunch. I want to especially thank Nago Club and Ginowan Shijin Kai for rallying together to warmly welcome and host our *Uchinanchu* friends from Brazil. That afternoon, we all got ready to march in the Honolulu Festival Grand Parade. It was amazing to see all our colorful banners lining Kalakaua! Jo and I had so much fun dancing *kachashi* to the beat of the Young Okinawans of Hawaii's *eisa* drummers.

Wow, I'm exhausted just writing about everything that has happened. However, it's just the beginning and we have a lot of fun and exciting events to look forward to this year. Thank you for your continued support. *Hiyamikasa* and *Chibariyo!*

## Save the Date

### 'Irei no Hi' Remembrance Event 2018

"Irei no Hi," known as Okinawa's Memorial Day, is commemorated in Okinawa each year on June 23. This day is set aside in Okinawa to remember and honor the over 240,000 military and civilian lives that were lost in the Battle of Okinawa.

**Please join us and let us remember together:**

**Thursday, June 21, 2018, 5:30 p.m.**

**Hawaii Okinawa Center**

**Details to follow.**



# 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 *ippee niffee deebiru* to the following donors. Mahalo for keeping *Uchinanchu* alive and thriving.

#### *Uchinanchu* Donors February 1 to March 31, 2018.

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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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Please include this form with your donation and send to:

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

## 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



The year at a glance!



- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| May 26-27 | Goodwill Golf Tournament, Pali Golf Course  |
| June 5-8  | Children's Day Camp, HOC                    |
| June 10   | Pan Pacific Festival/Parade                 |
| June 15   | Senior Health Fair, HOC                     |
| June 21   | Irei no Hi , HOC                            |
| July 24   | RMD Urasoe Cultural Presentation, HOC       |
| Sept 1-2  | Okinawan Festival, Hawaii Convention Center |
| Sept 3    | HOP Celebration, Aloha Party, HOC           |
| Sept 4    | Natsumero Charity Concert, HOC              |
| Sept 15   | Autumn Dance Festival, HOC                  |
| Oct 2-12  | Study Tour to Okinawa                       |
| Oct 14    | Legacy Banquet, Hilton Hawaiian Village     |
| Oct 29    | World wide Uchinanchu no Hi, HOC            |
| Nov 24-25 | Winter Craft Fair. HOC                      |
| Dec 5     | Evening Craft Fair. HOC                     |

Check HUOA website – [www.huoa.org](http://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 ..... Courtney Takara  
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Contractors are minding the details for our soon to be finished Plaza.

Tuesday, September 4, at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The concert will feature the talented stylings and vocals of various Okinawa and local performers showcasing *Natsu* (*kashii* or nostalgic) *Mero* (Melodies). The concert will also have a fashion show featuring the beautiful couture of Mitsuko Yamauchi Sensei, acclaimed fashion designer from Okinawa. On Saturday, October 27, we will have a rare opportunity to experience the renowned traditional *Ryukyu* dance of Fusako Shida-Sensei and other local and visiting *geinou* performers. These two stellar performances and fundraisers are expected to be a fantastic way to ring in the new building!

There is so much that we are grateful for and we realize this is a point on a continuing path for all of us. Our journey started long ago with the early *Uchinanchu* trailblazers working hard so we could benefit from opportunities and a good upbringing, while maintaining close ties to our culture. Each generation left imprints for the next – from our *sonjin-kai* and *chojin-kai* organizations to the efforts of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association, and to the creation of our Center. Today, we are striving for the success of our new Plaza with a vision that it too will bear fruit for future generations.



Members of the Okinawa Prefectural Government met with HUOIA, and contractor Chairman Gerard Sakamoto and Project Superintendent Chad Peters of S&M Sakamoto to inspect the roof for which OPG is providing a subsidy.

Our dedication to sharing our stories, contributing through volunteerism, generous giving, and caring for our community, practices and craft will ensure that our treasured culture can endure *Ikuyu Madin – From Generation to Generation!*

*Ippee Nifee Deebiru and Yutasarugutu Unigeesabira*

## 2018 Okinawa Festival Update

"*Hiyamikasa* (Rallying together for everyone's success)!" is happening and Festival planning is well under way. Chairpersons for the Festival and the booth chairs have been busy working on the details to ensure a smooth transition to the Hawaii Convention Center. As stated earlier, food booths (except for shaved ice) will remain the same and children's games with inflatables will be present.



- **Saturday, September 1 - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.** Doors will open at 9 a.m. and the program will begin at 9:30 a.m. Bon dance will take place from 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, September 2 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.** Doors will open at 9 a.m. and the program will begin at 9:30 a.m. All booths will close at 4 p.m.
- Scrip will be distributed to club presidents at the end of May, in time for club picnics. Each sheet is \$10.
- Parking at the Hawaii Convention Center is \$10 for the day; there are over 600 stalls available.
- Off site parking with shuttle service (\$3) is being coordinated at this time.
- There is no admission charge; a turnstile may be used to help determine attendance.
- Check with your president and booth chair for additional updates.



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# 2018 Aisatsu Visit: "It felt like a homecoming..."

By HUOA President Courtney Takara

Each year HUOA's President and President-elect travel to Okinawa for what has become known as the Aisatsu visit. The purpose of this trip is to meet with various government officials and organizations in Okinawa that support HUOA. We share updates about what has been going on in Hawaii regarding our events and programs and thank them for their continued support of HUOA. In recent years, Aisatsu visits have also included asking for support for our Hawaii Okinawa Plaza project and thanking our many donors in Okinawa.

After a long flight and layover in Nagoya, President-elect Jocelyn "Jo" Ige and I arrived in Okinawa late Monday night, March 5. We were warmly greeted by our Okinawa friends holding welcome banners. It was quite the scene in the arrival area of the Naha International Airport. They helped us load our six suitcases (filled with *omiyage*, of course) and whisked us away to the Sun Palace Kyuyokan, which would be our home for the week. The hotel was conveniently located behind Kokusai Dori and just minutes away from Ryubo department store and Kencho, the Okinawan Prefectural Government (OPG) building.

Tuesday morning, Jo and I enjoyed a delicious breakfast at the hotel



The Aloha Party hosted by OHK at Jimmy's Restaurant is always a highlight of the Aisatsu trip. (L-R): OHK President-elect Akira Yamauchi, Asami Ginoza, OPG International Exchange Division Supervisor Satoko Kaneshi, Choichi Terukina Sensei, Courtney Takara, Jo Ige, Choko Takayama, OHK Member and President of Jimmy's Seiichiro Inamine, Eiko Terukina, Masaji Matsuda and OHOP Yukari Sato.

and prepped for what would be a jam-packed week of meetings and a couple of fun activities. Our first meeting was with the Board of Education Superintendent Shojin Heshiki. We thanked Heshiki-san for Okinawa's continued support of the Hawaii Okinawa High School Student Exchange Program. We also shared our appreciation for the inaugural Geijutsu cultural exchange that was held in October 2017. Next, we met with Director General Takao Kadekaru of the Department of Culture, Tourism and Sports, and with members of the International Division. Next, we met with Naha Mayor Mikiko Shiroma, where we celebrated women in leadership, "josei pawa-!" We ended our day meeting with Prefecture Assembly Chair Yonekichi Shinzato. That evening Jo and I had some free time and enjoyed a nice dinner, including Okinawan favorites such as *jimami tofu*, *mozuku tempura* and Okinawa *soba*.



We presented 26 lap blankets made by our Monday Crafters to a senior center in Nakagusuku Village. Ladies of the senior center, all in their 90's, were dressed in aloha attire holding a sign that read "Mensore."

He was happy to hear about our efforts in Hawaii to promote, perpetuate and preserve the Okinawan culture. We also shared photos of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza (HOP) and thanked him for OPG's continued support of the project. That evening, OHK member Colin Sewake took Jo and me, along with a few OHK members to eat dinner at Takayesu Soba in Urasoe and got to catch up with owner Fukuye Takayesu.

Thursday's schedule was a little more relaxed, so Jo and I had some time to do some shopping in Heiwa Dori, where we met some very nice locals. In the afternoon, we met with Junichi Tomita, President of *Ryukyuu Shimpo*, then with Yoshitaka Toyohira, President of Okinawa Times. Both newspapers publish articles about our HUOA events in Hawaii and have



HUOA is very lucky that every Aisatsu trip includes a visit with the Governor of Okinawa. (L-R): Okinawa's Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Fund Raising Committee (OHOP) Executive Director Asami Ginoza, Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai (OHK) President Choko Takayama, Courtney Takara, Governor Takeshi Onaga, Jo Ige, OHK members Masaji Matsuda and Colin Sewake, and Department of Culture, Tourism and Sports Director General Takao Kadekaru.

donated to HOP.

Thursday evening was amazing! OHK hosted an Aloha Party for Jo and me at Jimmy's Restaurant in Naha, where there were approximately 200 guests in attendance. It was great to see so many friends like Choichi Terukina Sensei, Daiichi Hirata, Takashi and Masako Gushiken (Hanae Higa's parents), and the list goes on. The evening was full of non-stop entertainment, including Yui Buyo and Lei Nani. Jo did a great job delivering her speech entirely in *Uchinaaguchi!* I played *sanshin* and sang *Tinsagu nu Hana* and was so nervous knowing that Terukina Sensei was in the audience.

I think Friday was the most memorable and fun day of the trip! Ginoza-san drove us to Nakagusuku Village, where I got to visit with Mayor Keisuke Hamada. It felt like a homecoming for me, since I had spent three months living in Nakagusuku Village. I got to see a lot of friends who work at the village office. Then, we went to a senior center in Nakagusuku where we presented 26 lap blankets. Over the past few years, HUOA's Monday Crafters have made beautiful lap blankets using Hawaiian-print material that we have been taking to Okinawa as a way



HUOA President Courtney Takara visited her maternal great-grandparents' hometown of Nakagusuku Village (L-R): Asami Ginoza, Choko Takayama, Courtney Takara, Mayor Keisuke Hamada, Jo Ige, Akira Yamauchi, Vice Mayor Tadanori Higa, and Head of Nakagusuku's Planning Division Tomoya Owan.

to give back to the community. We were warmly greeted by the residents, including a group of women dressed up in bright colored *muumuu* and lei. I also got to meet a man who was originally from Amami Oshima, an island once part of the Ryukyu Kingdom and where my grandmother was from. We instantly made a connection!

From Nakagusuku Village, we headed north to Kin Town, where Jo's ancestors are from. We stopped at a local restaurant, Cho-raku, where this time it was Jo who made a connection! Jo's son interned at the restaurant a few years ago when he participated in Kin's *kenshusei* program. Then, we went to the town office to meet with Mayor Hajime Nakama. I'm



Jo and Courtney visited Okinawa's Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Fund Raising Office. Asami Ginoza generously donated the use of the office space rent free!

sure it was like a homecoming for Jo too, since she had visited the office many times and even has a couple of relatives working there. We also got to visit Kin's new museum next to the Toyama Kyuzo statue, which focuses on the immigration of Okinawans around the world. After our visit in Kin, we went to Yomitan Village where we got to watch the Hawaii Okinawa Goodwill Softball (HOGS) team play. Then, we joined both the Hawaii and Yomitan players for a friendship reception.

On Saturday, Jo and I enjoyed our free time in the morning before heading to the airport where many of our OHK friends were waiting to see

Continued on Page 5.

# Honolulu Festival Parade and Exhibit 2018



A brilliant splash of colored flags from the Hawaii United Okinawa Association brought smiles to the parade-goers along the Kalakaua Avenue as the 2018 Honolulu Festival Parade marched by on Sunday March 11. Over 50 banner carriers and marchers along with the Young Okinawans of Hawaii Eisa made up the HUOA's unit this year.

At the Hawaii Convention Center the ladies of Hui O Laulima created a cultural Okinawan exhibit for the HUOA with emphasis on Okinawan pottery. On Saturday morning, sanshin troubadour Dexter Teruya entertained the crowd. Thank you to everyone who made this Festival so successful. (L-R): Karen Kuba-Hori, Jo Richardson, Geri Maeda, and Ellen Shimabukuro.



# 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Gannenmono



(The first organized group of migrants from Japan)

In 1868, approximately 153 Japanese aboard the ship "Scioto" set sail from Yokohama to Hawaii to seek work outside of Japan. 1868 was Meiji Gannen or the first year of Emperor Meiji's Era, so these people were called Gannenmono, or "First Year People." They would be followed by the Kanyaku Imin in 1885, then mass immigration to South America from 1908.

At the 1968 Centennial of the Gannenmono, a highlight was a Hawaii visit by Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Hitachi. Additionally, the Association of Nikkei and Japanese Abroad held its convention in Hawaii for the first time, and symbolically, Japanese sailing vessels reminiscent of the Scioto visited the Port of Honolulu.

June 6, 2018 – The public is invited to register for the Association of Nikkei and Japanese Abroad Convention at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort, which is being held in Hawaii for only the second time. Go to [www.jadesas.or.jp](http://www.jadesas.or.jp). The fee for the convention for Hawaii residents is \$100 early registration by March 31, \$110 thereafter. Participation is limited to 300 persons. Meet Nikkei from a multitude of nations and continents and learn about their achievements. Brazil now has the largest population of Nikkei at approximately 1.9 million.

June 7, 2018 – The public is invited to the Gannenmono Ceremony and Symposium at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort to learn about the Gannenmono and their descendants. To register, visit [www.kizunahawaii.com](http://www.kizunahawaii.com). The fee for Hawaii residents is \$100.

The website also has information about 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary Gannenmono events which will be celebrated throughout 2018. The HUOA Okinawan Festival on September 1 and 2, 2018 at the Hawaii Convention Center is one of the key Gannenmono events.

Participation is limited, so please register early!

## 2018 Aisatsu - Continued from Page 4.

us off. While it was bittersweet to leave Okinawa, we were also excited to have a new friend traveling with us to Hawaii! Ryoma Arakaki, a student at Naha Senior High School joined us on our flight as he was headed to Hawaii for two weeks for a special study aboard program. Upon arriving back in Hawaii, we were greeted by our very own Mark and Hanae Higa who would be Ryoma's host family during part of his stay.

Our Aisatsu trip was productive and memorable. Thank you to all of our friends and supporters in Okinawa who made it such a pleasant experience. *Ipee Nifee Deebiru* to Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai for helping to arrange all of our appointments and providing transportation, especially Choko Takayama, Asami Ginoza, Masaji Matsuda and Colin Sewake. Jo and I truly enjoyed spending time with you folks throughout our week in Okinawa.

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# Okinawan Summer Day Camp for Children

## Warabi Ashibi—Children at Play

Camps Scheduled for all major Islands—Oahu, Maui, Kauai, Hawaii



**“Warabi 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.

“Warabi Ashibi” was first established by the Hawaii United Okinawa Association for Oahu in 1996. 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, “It is such a joy and very inspirational to see our

### Listing of Camps and General Information

#### Oahu

Location: Hawaii Okinawa Center  
 Date of Camp: June 5 - 8  
 (sleepover at the Hawaii Okinawa Center scheduled on Thursday)  
 Hours: Tuesday - Thursday: 8:30am to 2:30pm  
 Friday: 8:30am - noon.  
 Coordinating Club: Hui O Lailima  
 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-huo@hawaii.rr.com  
 (application available on-line, visit www.huoa.org)

#### Maui

Location: Maui Okinawa Culture Center  
 Date of Camp: June 5 - 8  
 Hours: 9:00am - 3:00pm  
 Coordinating Club: Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai  
 Maui Ryukyu Culture Group  
 Directors: Elaine Fujita and Christine Hondo  
 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 1<sup>st</sup> grade - 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
 Contact: MOKK, (808) 242-1560  
 MOKK, P O Box 1884, Wailuku 96793

#### Hawaii - Hilo

Location: Higashi Hongwanji Hilo  
 Date of Camp: June 10 - June 15  
 (Excursion scheduled for Thursday - with a Wednesday Fun Night)  
 Hours: 8:00am - 2:30pm  
 Coordinating Club: Hui Okinawa  
 Registration: \$100 (discount for multi-child households)  
 Number of Kids: 48 / Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age  
 Director: Dwayne Miyashiro  
 Contact: Dwayne Miyashiro (808-896-0512)  
 dwaynemiyashiro@hawaiiantel.net

#### Hawaii - Kona

Location: Konawaena Elementary School  
 Date of Camp: June 23 - June 24  
 Hours: 8:00am to 4:00pm  
 Coordinating Club: Kona Okinawa Kenjin Kai  
 Registration: \$45.00  
 Number of Kids: 20 / Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age  
 Director: Doris Grace  
 Contact: Doris Grace (808) 896-0477  
 gracedoris48@gmail.com

#### Kauai

(To be determined at a later date. Please visit the HUOA website www.huoa.org or contact the HUOA office at 676-5400 for updated information.)

children embrace our Okinawan culture.” This year two of our camps will be facing new challenges as their normal venues will be changing. Hilo will be moving to Higashi Hongwanji and Kauai is still looking for an appropriate location.

For additional and updated information, please visit our website at www.huoa.org or call the HUOA office at 676-5400 or email at kuba-huo@hawaii.rr.com.

**Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA)**  
**2018 Warabi Ashibi, Okinawan Cultural Day Camp for Children - Oahu**  
**June 5 - 8, 2018 - Tuesday to Friday**  
**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**Registration Deadline: Friday, May 18, 2018**  
**Enrollment limited to 80 participants, ages 8-13**  
 (child must be 8 years old by December 2018)

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

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

Returnee: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No / No. of Yrs Participating: \_\_\_\_

T-shirt size: Youth / Adult Small / Medium / Large  
 (check one) (check one)

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

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

Returnee: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No / No. of Yrs Participating: \_\_\_\_

T-shirt size: Youth / Adult Small / Medium / Large  
 (check one) (check one)

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

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

Returnee: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No / No. of Yrs Participating: \_\_\_\_

T-shirt size: Youth / Adult Small / Medium / Large  
 (check one) (check one)

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

#### Registration Fees (fee includes one t-shirt for each registered child):

One child (\$100) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Two children (\$180) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Three children (\$260) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

#### Additional t-shirts are available for purchase as follows:

(Youth) - \$7 Quantity \_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Make checks payable to HUOA.

Mail to: **HUOA**  
**Children’s Day Camp**  
**94-587 Ukee Street**  
**Waipahu, HI 96797**

*Ippee niffee deebiru!* Thank you ver much!

HUOA use only – Input completed \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_



# 2018 Hui O Laulima Cultural Grant Awardees



"Giving a Helping Hand"

Hui O Laulima (HOL) is pleased to announce the 2018 Cultural Grant recipients. HOL, a non-profit women's organization, offers grants to individuals and organizations that promote and perpetuate the unique culture of Okinawa in our island communities. Each awardee demonstrated potential to promote and expand the influence of our vibrant and colorful Okinawan culture. A total of \$13,000 was awarded to 11 organizations.

We congratulate and extend our best wishes to each of the following recipients for a successful year:

- ◇ 1. Afuso-ryu Choichi Kai Maui - To help with airfare for Kenton Odo Sensei from Oahu to teach monthly sanshin classes
- ◇ 2. Hilo Okinawan Cultural Club - To help with airfare for Tsuruko Oshiro Sensei from Okinawa to teach new dances/ conduct workshop
- ◇ 3. Jimpu Kai Maui - To help with Cheryl Nakasone Sensei's airfare for monthly dance classes
- ◇ 4. Kauai Sanshin Club - To help with Grant Murata Sensei's monthly airfare and for historian supplies/ video equipment for training
- ◇ 5. Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai - To help with Ukwanshin Kabudan's and Young Okinawans' airfare to the annual Hawi Jodo Mission Eisa Obon
- ◇ 6. Maui Okinawa Sanshin - To help with airfare for Keith Nakaganeku Sensei from Oahu to teach monthly classes
- ◇ 7. Maui Ryukyu Culture Group - To help with airfare for Norman Kaneshiro Sensei and Eric Wada Sensei to teach classes in sanshin, kucho, eisa taiko, language, history, shishimai dancing, and cuisine
- ◇ 8. Nomura Ryu Ongaku Kyo Kai Hawaii Shibu - To help with Keith Nakaganeku Sensei's airfare to teach uta-sanshin monthly on the Big Island
- ◇ 9. Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii - To assist with expenses for the July 24, 2018 benefit concert for HUOA
- ◇ 10. Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Kohala/Waimea - To help with Oahu instructors' airfare and to assist with 10th Anniversary concert
- ◇ 11. Ukwanshin Kabudan - To help develop a website dedicated to preserve and promote native Ryukyuan languages 🇺🇸

# 2019 Hui O Laulima Cultural Grant Applications

Hui O Laulima is pleased to announce that applications for the 2019 Cultural Grant are being accepted. Grants and scholarships have been awarded by HOL since 1984 and total more than \$185,000. Hui O Laulima is a women's organization promoting the Okinawan culture and true to its spirit of "giving a helping hand," has continued to perpetuate and preserve its culture by awarding grants to individuals and groups who share the same desire. It is an active member of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association.

A few of the criteria for selection include:

- Interest in the study, perpetuation and promotion, including goodwill projects of Okinawan culture (music, dance, art, or other forms of artistic expressions), language and history;
- Leadership ability;
- Community service;
- Financial need;
- Overall potential for success;
- Clarity of goal(s);
- Two letters of recommendation from individuals other than relatives.

All prospective grant activities should take place from January through December 2019. Deadline for submission is July 31, 2018. The 2019 Cultural Grant application contains a complete list of the criteria for selection. Please direct inquiries and/or requests for application to Karen Fuse, Committee Chairperson, at (808) 735-4523, or email [kcuse@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kcuse@hawaii.rr.com).

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[Tory.Nago@servco.com](mailto:Tory.Nago@servco.com)  
808.564.1127

## Order Your UCHINANCHU 2017 Today!

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) is pleased to announce the publication of Uchinanchu 2017, an annual compilation of vibrant, full-color photos from this past year's activities such as: installation, Uchinanchu of the Year, shinnen enkai parties, Okinawan Festival, summer picnics, music and dance performances, Legacy Awards, Hawaii Okinawa Plaza, and much, much more.



Like a family album, Uchinanchu 2017 is a keepsake that will help to preserve the many memorable moments that our members have shared in our six regular issues of our Uchinanchu newsletter in 2017.

Priced at \$10 per book, clubs ordering 20 or more copies will be charged a discounted price of \$7 per book. Thanks to the support of numerous advertising sponsors, all proceeds from the sale of Uchinanchu 2017 will benefit the HUOA.

For information on advertising or book orders, email Jane Serikaku at [jserikaku@huoa.org](mailto:jserikaku@huoa.org) or call (808) 676-5400.

### UCHINANCHU 2017 ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Email or Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of copies Uchinanchu 2017 \_\_\_\_\_ (@ regular price of \$10)  
 Club Orders: \$7 per copy - Will Pick-up at HOC.  
 Rec'd Pmt: Y or N    Cash    Check #    Pick up    Processed by: \_\_\_\_\_

# Bridging from Generation to Generation - For Our Children!

# *Ikuyu Madin*

Rallying Together for Everyone's Success

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

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 \$43,365.00. 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.

We are appreciative to the clubs and their members who have continually support us. Our campaign recently received \$10,000 from Hui O Laulima celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and the 200 for 2M Campaign would like to welcome Courtney Takara and the James M. Tamashiro Family to our ohana.

Magukuru Kara Ippee Niffee Deebiru – from our hearts, thank you very much. Donations listed below were received from February 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018.

## 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<br>NANCY AKAMINE ARIZUMI, CLAIRE<br>MATSUMOTO, WILMA OGIMI<br>ARASHIRO OHANA<br>CHARLES & GLADYS TOKUNAGA ASAO<br>GEORGE BARTELS, JR. &<br>DOREEN BARTELS<br>DR. GLENN M. & LUCILLE K. BIVEN<br>FORD & DANEIL CHINEN<br>DR. DORIS CHING<br>ALTON CHUNG<br>FURUGEN FAMILY LTD. PARTNERSHIP<br>GWEN & CLAYTON FUJIE<br>GAZA YONAGUSUKU DOSHI KAI<br>GINOWAN CLUB<br>HAWAII SHURI-NAHA CLUB<br>CHRISTINE & STANLEY HIGA<br>HENRY SHIYEI HIGA & GLADYS<br>MATSUE HIGA BY CO-TRUSTEES<br>JANE AKIKO KAMIYA, ALICE ETSUKO<br>HIGA & EDWARD SHISEI HIGA<br>LAVERNE HIGA<br>MARK & HANAE HIGA<br>MILDRED HIGA<br>DR. KYOKO HIJIRIDA<br>HUI ALU, INC.<br>HUI MAKAAALA<br>HUI O LAULIMA<br>CAROL & STANLEY IGE<br>JOCELYN IGE<br>RALPH & JEAN IGE<br>IN MEMORY OF MELVIN<br>"BLACKIE" IHA AND BENJAMIN<br>"BLACKIE" & VIOLET IHA | RICHARD IHA, JR.<br>YURIKO INAMINE<br>JON ITOMURA<br>ARTHUR KANESHIRO<br>NOBUKO KIDA<br>KIN CHOJIN KAI<br>RODNEY & CAROL KOHAGURA<br>PAUL Y. & KRISTI KOMEIJI<br>THE FAMILY OF RICHARD AND<br>KIYOKO KUBA - LUI, CHUNG,<br>MORIKAMI, KUBA-HORI<br>ASAKO KUWAZAKI<br>JANE SETSUKO & WON KUK LEE<br>MIKI & BRIAN MAESHIRO<br>MAVIS MASAKI<br>DWIGHT T. MATSUDA<br>ROBERT T. MATSUDA<br>SALLY & HISASHI MATSUMOTO<br>GUY MIYASHIRO<br>FLORENCE SUEKO, PATRICK<br>& NONA MIYASHIRO<br>LAWRENCE & ALICE MORISAKO<br>CATHERINE MORISHIGE<br>MARK MUGIISHI<br>RUSSELL & CHARLOTTE MUKAI<br>NAGO CLUB<br>NAKAGUSUKU SONJIN KAI<br>CAROL & JACKSON NAKASONE<br>KAREN NAKASONE<br>MITSUKO TOGUCHI NAKASONE<br>NORMAN & RENETTE NAKASONE<br>OKINAWA GENEALOGICAL<br>SOCIETY OF HAWAII | THE FAMILY OF SHINICHI<br>& UTOME OKUHAMA<br>OROKU AZAJIN CLUB<br>RUTH OSHIRO<br>YOSHIMORI OSHIRO<br>YASUO AND CHIYO SADOYAMA<br>THE FAMILY OF AKIRA<br>& JANE SAKIMA<br>JANE SERIKAKU<br>CHRIS & SHIORI SHIMABUKURO<br>EARL & SUE SHIMABUKURO<br>HERBERT & LILLIAN SHIMABUKURO<br>R.K. & C. SHIMABUKURO<br>BOB & MIMI SHIROMA<br>COURTNEY TAKARA<br>KAREN KEIKO TAMAE & AKIRA<br>SUGIKAWA; ROY, DAWN &<br>MAKANA SUGIKAWA; JANET<br>& NEAL YAMANOUCHI<br>TAMAGUSUKU CLUB<br>CYRUS & ANN TAMASHIRO<br>GEORGE & EMELINE TAMASHIRO<br>JAMES M. TAMASHIRO FAMILY<br>DANIEL TENGAN<br>MARK & JOANIE TERUYA<br>CHARLES T. TOGUCHI<br>LINDA TORIGOE<br>DARRYL UEZU<br>MAURICE & JEAN YAMASATO<br>KENNETH & HELEN YANAMURA<br>YOMITAN CLUB<br>BOB YONAHARA<br>HAROLD & ELSIE YONAMINE<br>IN MEMORY OF KENNETH K.<br>& HAZEL C. UEHARA |
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- Gaza Yonagusuku Sonjin Kai by Yoshiaki & Coletta Shiroma
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- Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club by Keko Fukuda
- Dr. Kyoko Hijirida
- Hui O Laulima
- Clara Kajiwara
- Dr. Mark M. Mugiishi
- Nago Club by Tori Miyagi

- Nago Club by James & Loretta Tokuda
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- Oroku Azajin Kai by Ebesu Family in Memory of Robert Ebesu, Jr.
- Earl & Sue Shimabukuro
- Courtney Takara
- Robert & Amy Tsuru (2)
- In Memory of Clara Higa by Nago Club
- In Honor of Richard and Kiyoko Kuba Family
- In Memory of Martha Kame Tamashiro by James M. Tamashiro Family
- In Memory of Mr. Roy Tominaga by Ginowan Club

### Hui O Laulima Supports HOP

Hui O Laulima President Jean Yamasato presents Courtney Takara with a \$10,000 capital campaign donation for the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza project at Hui O Laulima's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon at the Hawaii Okinawa Center held on March 17. Hui O Laulima has supported the capital campaign throughout the years, donating a total of over \$42,000 towards construction of the Plaza.



# Preserving Our Legacy

2017 TO 2018-ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM



We are in our sixth month of our Annual Giving Campaign. Members embracing the theme "Hiyamikasa – Rallying together for everyone's success," have generously come forth and contributed towards the success of our organization.

Events coming up such as Children's Day Camp, Irei no Hi, Waianae Community Service Project and Hawaii Okinawa Student Exchange are supported by your donations.

Since our last report, we have received responses from 764 generous donors, representing \$116,909.00. We truly appreciate your early support and the confidence you have shown in us. *Ippee Niffee Deebiru!*

The following list of donors reflects contributions from February 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018.

**GOLD (\$1,000 AND ABOVE)**

In Memory of David Gishin & Metsu Kanemoto

**SILVER (\$500 AND ABOVE)**

In Memory of Zenichi & Chiyoko Chibana

**BRONZE (\$250 AND ABOVE)**

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In Memory of Michiko Mukaigawa by Peter G. Drewliner

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Eugene Kamimura

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Jerry Wheeler

In Memory of Carol Y. Shinozawa by Masaru Oshiro



## HUOA DONATIONS

February 1 to March 31, 2018

HUOA sends a sincere ippee niffee deebiru to the following donors:



Rumiko Arakaki

Giei Funakoshi

Louise M. Kaneshiro

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by Ethel A. Miyasato,

Harold M. Oshiro & James S. Oshiro,

Oshiro Family Unitrust

### HUOA COMMUNITY SERVICE PICNIC MAY 19, 2018 (SATURDAY)

**Ohana Ola O Kahumana transitional shelter in Waianae  
86-704 Lualualei Homestead Road Waianae, HI 96792  
8:00 am - 1:00 pm (picnic from 9am - 12pm)**

Ohana Ola o Kahumnana provides transitional housing and assistance to families. Approximately 80-100 children and adults from the shelter will join us.

We provide the games, prizes and food and they get to experience a typical Okinawan style summer picnic!

**How can your Club members help?**

- **Donate prizes** (school supplies, household items, drinks/snacks preferred). Please bring to HOC and label "Community Service Picnic"
- **Donate money** (so we can go out and buy prizes & vegetables). Please make checks out to HUOA and in memo put "Community Service Picnic."
- **Come and volunteer** the day of the event 8am - 1pm. We need about 25 volunteers to help with games, distributing prizes, serving food, making andagi, and having fun with residents.

**Contact**

Lynn Miyahira Krupa 808-393-9439, lynn.miyahira@gmail.com



# Big Island Style Shinnen Enkai

By Jo Ige

Big Island Shinnen Enkais are where you really live local. Living up to their legendary hospitality, the three clubs—Hui Uruma (Honokaa), Kohala Okinawa Kenjinkai and Kona Okinawa Kenjinkai—planned very memorable New Year gatherings.

In Honokaa, State Rep. Mark Nakashima presented members 80 years and older with certificates; in Kohala, families celebrate a unique birthday tradition; and in Kona community groups are invited to join in the celebration. It was also fun to see members from Hilo also join in the gatherings.



Jo Ige with members of Jean Matsuda's Family at the Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai Shinnen Enkai.

The food brought back memories of old style potluck parties. Hui Uruma members made awesome homemade pupus; Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai preparations began days ahead for the evening feast. This club prepares their own kalua pig and picks their bamboo stage decorations from their backyards! Families brought individual birthday cakes to celebrate with their honorees and then shared the cakes with everyone at the dessert table! The nishime is all homemade or homegrown.

President-elect Jocelyn Ige, Hui Uruma President Scott Nakahara, and former State Senator Dwight Takamine help to clean-up after Hui Uruma's Shinnen Enkai.



President-elect Jocelyn Ige, Hui Uruma President Scott Nakahara, and former State Senator Dwight Takamine help to clean-up after Hui Uruma's Shinnen Enkai.



Relaxing with Chinagu Eisa Hawaii at Kona Okinawa Shinnen Enkai, First Row: Chloe Mae and Tom Talkington, and Shigeko Nakasone. Second Row: Justin Higa, Kohala's President Cheryl Kurashige, Jo Ige, and Karen Kuba-Hori. Third Row: Chinagu Eisa's President Devin Kawamura.

The table at Kona had three kinds of ham along with all kinds of potluck dishes and desserts.

The entertainment included local talent, Ryukyu Matsuri Daiko and Chinagu Eisa—all adding a distinct Okinawan party flavor. Even cleaning up was fun! Thank you, Big Island, for a wonderful experience.

## Okinawa City – Goeku Son Shinnen Enkai

Celebrating its 91<sup>st</sup> anniversary, over 170 members of Okinawa City-Goeku Son partied at Natsunoya Teahouse on March 21. Honored this year were Uchinanchu of the Year Christine Talkington Chung and Thomas Talkington; student high school graduates Aaron Fukuhara, Chloe Mae Talkington, and Melanie Simmons; 80 year olds Kenneth Hokama and Amy Oshiro; Tokachi recipients Yoshio Kuba, George Uechi and Saki Uechi; Kajimaya recipient Kiyoko Toma; 100 year old member Sadako Yakabi; and all members over 80 years of age.

This year's entertainment included fantastic karaoke singers, Chinagu Eisa Hawaii, and for the first time Tamagusuku Ryu Senju Kai Frances Nakachi Ryubu Dojo. Mahalo to all performers.

Members are reminded that our picnic will be held on July 8 at Kapiolani Park and our next Shinnen Enkai will be in February 2019 – see you all there!



Okinawa City-Goeku Son members over 80 years of age who attended the 91st Shinnen Enkai on March 21. First Row, seated, (L-R): Jeanette Yee, Masako Kiyabu, George Shimabuku, Robert Fukuhara, Amy Fukuhara, Hatsue Kina, Sally Matsumoto and Hisashi Matsumoto. Second Row (L-R): Richard Fukuhara, Peggy Shimabuku, Helen Shimabuku, Florence Yogi, Richard Yogi and Florence Arakawa.

## Yonashiro Chojin Kai News



L-R: Jocelyn Ige; President Konrad Ikei; Vice President Muriel Donnan; Secretary Cassandra Sherod; Treasurer Gainor Miyashiro; and Advisors Colleen Uejo, Karen Sugikawa, Eunice Hirata, Karli Ann Lum, Elaine Owens, and Elaine Maemori.

After more than 20 years as President and Vice President of Yonashiro Chojin Kai, Gainor Miyashiro and Colleen Uejo happily turn over the reins of the club to Konrad Ikei and Muriel Donnan. Gainor and Colleen will continue to serve as Treasurer

and Advisor respectively on the Yonashiro Board. At its February 17 Shinnen Enkai celebration at Masa's Cafeteria, the following officers and advisors were installed by HUOA President-elect Jocelyn Ige.

Proudly representing Yonashiro Chojin Kai at the Honolulu Festival Parade are a mixture of sansei and gosei members: First Row, L-R: Reagan Odo, Carianne Nabarro, and Ariya Trivedi. Second Row, L-R: Gainor Miyashiro, Ken Arasato, Muriel Donnan, Marion Arasato, and Frances Kanayama.



## Oroku Azajin Club Shinnen Enkai

Aloha from Oroku Azajin Club! On Sunday, March 4, Oroku Azajin held its 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Shinnen Enkai luncheon at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Thank you to all the board members and volunteers that helped to plan and setup for the lunch. And thank you to everyone that came out to show your support for the club! But the biggest mahalo goes



Oroku Azajin Keirokai Seniors (Back Row): Howard Takara, Wayne Arakaki, Walter Eto, William Teruya, Masaichi Uehara, James Uehara, and Fredrick Takara. (Middle Row): Alice Masutani, Evelyn Onna, Ethel Teruya, Violet Irinaka, Barbara Uehara, Jane Takara, Ruby Uehara, Jane Uehara, Virginia Takara, and Myrtle Yoshioka. (Front Row): Tsutoe Taira, Lillian Teruya, Margie Uyehara, Margaret Takara, Elsie Mitsu (Kaneshiro) Teruya, Doris Sheppard, Frances Kakazu, Nelson Yoshioka Sr., Dorothy Alvarado, and Alice Arakaki.

out to the bakers! I look forward to the desserts every year!

We have our HOC clean up day coming up and, of course, our summer picnic will be held on July 15. These activities will be here before you know it! See you all soon!

# Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club Celebrates Shinnen Enkai

One hundred thirty-seven members, friends and guests attended the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club's *Shinnen Enkai* luncheon on February 25 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Attendees were treated to preprogram activities such as balloon hat creations and *kokeshi* and *chondara* face fans at the craft table. They also previewed the upcoming 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Book Exhibit. Wayne Takamine on guitar and vocal was our perennial and much-valued luncheon entertainer. Ryukyukoku



(L-R): UOY Carol and Gordon Yamasaki; Legacy Honoree Hidehito Uki; Tokachi Honorees Doris Arakaki, Louise Tamashiro and Nancy Tome; and Kajimaya Beatrice Shiroma.

Matsuri Daiko, Yukie Shiroma, Afuso Ryu, HUOA President Courtney Takara and the Shuri-Naha Sanshin-Sunshine Band consisting of Mark and Hanae Higa, and Dudley and Cuyler Yogi, highlighted our entertainment.

Courtney also installed our 2018 "hana hou" board members serving their fourth term: 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. Our birthday honorees were our dedicated and hardworking *nisei* who are responsible for the success of our club. Our *Tokachi* ladies were Doris Arakaki, Louise Tamashiro and Nancy Tome. Our *Kajimaya* was our effervescent Beatrice Shiroma. We also recognized Carol and Gordon Yamasaki, our 2017 Uchinanchu of the Year couple, and Mr. Sun Noodle extraordinaire, Hidehito Uki, 2017 HUOA Legacy Honoree.

We all had a great time! *Chibariyo!*

# Kin Chojin Kai Shinnen Enkai

Former Kin Town *kenshusei* played "Aha Bushi" and "Tinsagu Nu Hand" at the New Year Party held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on February 10. (L-R): Christopher Ige, Sarah Fong, Kurt Ginoza, Rachel Kamita, and George Toyama.



Year of the Dog Birthday Celebration: Front (L-R): Fern Toyo Nakama, Diane Toyama, and Dorothy Miyamoto. Back (L-R): Mrs. Nakama's daughters, Dan Fong.



HUI ALU presents the

## 2018 Kauai Okinawan Dance Festival

Friday, May 4th and Saturday, May 5th

Kauai Veteran's Center

5:30-10:30 pm

**FREE ADMISSION, OPEN TO ALL!!**

Okinawan Food   Okinawan Dance   Live Entertainment

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# CLUB NEWS

*our clubs, our Future*

## Hui O Laulima Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Hui O Laulima celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a fabulous luncheon at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on March 17. For 50 years, Hui O Laulima has worked to share and perpetuate Okinawan culture in Hawaii. Our ladies' ages range from 25 to 95 and hail from different hometowns. As part of HUOA, our founders were responsible for planting the seeds for the first Okinawa Festival, called the "Jubilee."

We would like to thank our sponsors who made our anniversary program possible. The State and City honored us with Proclamations, and congratulatory messages were delivered by Hawaii's First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige and HUOA President Courtney Takara.



Chairwomen Ann Asakura, Wendy Yoshimoto and Paula Kurashige.

The highlight of our program was our Hawaii-Okinawan history presented in a multi-media stage production created by Ann Asakura and Yukie Shiroma. They were supported by many other professionals backstage. Also participating were Yukie Shiroma's UH students and our own Children's Day Camp performers. What a show! We learned immigrant history, saw original clothing designs, and were entertained with Okinawan song and dance. *Ippee nifee deebiru* also to Wendy Yoshimoto and Paula Kurashige for chair-



Hui O Laulima founder Ella Teruya.

ing this special event.

For those who could not attend this program, please look for it to be aired on OIlelo's Hawaii Okinawa Today (HOT). Look for the schedule in your *Uchinanchu* newsletter.



Governor Ige takes a break to take a photo with our Children's Day Camp performers and Young Okinawans of Hawaii volunteers.



President's Table: First Row L-R: Laverne Higa, Dawn Amano-Ige, HOL President Jean Yamasato, Governor David Ige, and HUOA President Courtney Takara. Second Row L-R: David Arakawa, Shari Tamashiro, Howard Asato, Maurice Yamasato, Jocelyn Ige, Louise Tamashiro, and Cyrus Tamashiro.

## Ginowan Club News

Ginowan Club, 106 years old, held its *Shinnen Enkai* on March 11 with over 200 in attendance, ranging in age from infancy to eight who were over the age of 90. This event was chaired by Patrick Miyashiro with Aza's Kakazu, Nodake and Uchidomari. A Brazilian Okinawan tour group paid a brief visit, with two members with Ginowan roots.



Roberta Umemo, President Ginowan Club; Courtney Takara, President HUOA.

Hawaii Taiko Kai performed, and Sensei Terry Higa explained the meaning of each number, adding to our appreciation of classical drumming.

College graduate Eamon Campbell, son of Paul and Roxanne Campbell, grandson of Owen and Helen Iha, was recognized. Also recognized were 70-year-old Year of the Dog members, 80, and 90 year olds and the



Kids and parents celebrate on stage: Michelle Mendes, Gavin Yasunari, Ely Mendes, Registration table: Sitting: Marni Carnubida, Nona Tommy Mendes, Tricia Araki, and Carson Miyashiro, and Claire Matsumoto. Standing: Susan Iha and Preston Iha.



2017 Uchinanchu of the Year, Hatsue Kaya of Ginowan Club and Rodney Kohagura, Ginowan member selected by the Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii.

Events to remember: Picnic on August 5, 2018, at Ala Moana Park and the Hawaii Okinawa Festival in September.



Hawaii Taiko Kai: Top Row: John Awakuni, Judy Di Bianco, Nona Miyashiro, Elaine Nishihara, Kayoko Eguchi, and Audrey Gibo. Middle Row: Gordon Yamashiro, Lanette Hayashi, Kaaren Takara, Annette Platt, Beverly Yamashiro, and Jessie Kojiro. First Row: Pat Miyashiro, Sensei Terry Higa, and May Asato.

# CLUB NEWS

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## Mahalo and Aloha Yabe-san!

Kumiko Yabe-Domingo served as HUOA's Japanese Language Secretary for eight years, from 2010 (under President Paul Komeiji) through 2017 (under President Vince Watabu). Originally from Okinawa, Yabe-san has been an invaluable member of HUOA's leadership team, especially with her bilingual skills. She dedicated many of her Sunday afternoons on KZOO Radio translating during our HUOA show. In March, Yabe-san moved to Japan to be with her husband who relocated for work. We were sad to see her leave, but wish them the best of luck. Aloha and Mahalo Yabe-san!



HUOA officers, past presidents and friends got together at Shirokiya with Yabe-san. (Back Row, L-R): Norman Nakasone, Grant Sandaa Murata, Hanae Higa, Tom Yamamoto, Mark Higa, Cyrus Tamashiro, Paul Komeiji and David Arakawa. (Front Row, L-R): Ford Chinen, Gaior Miyashiro, Kumiko Yabe-Domingo, Courtney Takara and Colleen "Umichiru" Ogura of KZOO Radio.

## Mensore: Friends from Brazil

A group of 24 Uchinanchu Brazilians attended the Nago Shinnen Enkai on March 11. They also visited Ginowan's Shinnen Enkai being held next door at the HOC.



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kuba awamori soju *karin*



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# 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii Okinawan Invitational Golf Tournament

Saturday, May 26, 2018 and Sunday, May 27, 2018

Pali Municipal Golf Course

Sponsored by Hawaii United Okinawa Association

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Open to all members and guests of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and affiliated Okinawan clubs.

**FLIGHTS:**

CHAMPIONSHIP	0-9	36 holes	One low gross, all others net
"A"	10-19	36 holes	Low Net
"B"	20-30	36 holes	Low Net
Women	0-38	36 holes	Low Net
Seniors (60 & over)	0-30	36 holes	Low Net
Super Seniors (75+)	0-30	18 Holes	Sunday Low Net Sunday

**NOTE:**

Championship Flight golfer with the lowest 36-hole gross total will be declared the Tournament Champion. In case of a tie, the winner will be determined by sudden death play off. For net scores, ties will be decided by matching cards or by other methods as determined by the Tournament Committee.

**AWARDS & BANQUET:**

Prizes and awards to be presented on May 27, 2018 at Jikoen Temple, 1731 North School Street, with cocktails starting at 5:30pm and dinner at 6pm.



**48<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HAWAII OKINAWAN INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM**

Complete and mail this form so we receive your entry no later than May 1, 2018. Entry fees must accompany this form or it will be rejected. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to verify and adjust handicaps and to accept or reject entries.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION MAHALO!

Team Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Your HUOA Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Or Are You A Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Golf Club Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

**DO YOU INTEND TO PLAY IN THE:**

Senior Flight (60 yrs and over) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Super Senior (75±) SUNDAY ONLY: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADJUST HANDICAP\*\*

<b>GROUP REQUEST</b>	<b>Enter Handicap</b>	<b>Indicate HUOA Club Name or if Guest</b>
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Player #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Player #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Player #3 \_\_\_\_\_

Player #4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Entry Fee - \$130.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Super Seniors Entry Fee - \$65.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Tickets - \$20.00 Each ( \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets)

\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (check payable to HUOA)

MAHALO! IPPEE NIFEE DEEBIRU!

MAIL ENTRY FORM  
BY MAY 1, 2018  
HUOA – Golf  
94-587 Ukee Street  
Waipahu, Hi 96797-4214

**ENTRY FEE:**

\$130.00 includes green fees, cart fees, City and County of Honolulu user fees and awards banquet. Additional banquet tickets are available at \$20.00 each.

Super Seniors: \$65.00 green fees & cart fees, Sunday User fees & awards banquet.

**STARTING TIMES:**

Starting times for all flights will be from 6:30am to 9:00am. Tee times will be posted at the Starter's Booth at Pali Municipal Golf Course. All participants will be grouped according to flights: Seniors, Women, "A", Championship, and "B".

**ENTRY DEADLINE:**

First 120 players or May 1, 2018, whichever comes first.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**

- NEAL TAKARA 291-9672 or
- HUOA 676-5400



## Naha High School Alumni Celebrate First Study Abroad Grant Recipient

On the heels of Naha High School Bears Girls Basketball team's great showing in the 2017 Iolani Classic tournament, the Naha High School Alumni Association selected and sent the first recipient of a new study abroad program to Hawaii for 16 days.

Ryoma Arakaki, a 10<sup>th</sup> grader, traveled out of the country for the first time to expand his views of how others experience school, life in Hawaii, and explore opportunities for higher education abroad.

Ryoma stayed with host Miyashiro family (roots from Yonabaru and Urasoe) for about a week. He shadowed Iolani Junior Micah Miyashiro at school, spending days in class and afternoons experiencing their clubs and sports such as baseball. A shortstop for Naha High School's baseball team himself, he was able to observe intermediate, high school, and even University of Hawaii baseball thanks to support and generosity of many HUOA members.

Ryoma also toured Mililani High School and UH-Manoa, met other high school and college students, and enjoying activities such as hiking and visits to the Polynesian Cultural Center, Arizona Memorial and K1 Speed Go Carts!



Like many of our Student Exchange and Study Abroad visitors, host families and friends went out of their way to show our visitor so many things allowing him to absorb and experience things he can only see in Hawaii through our *Aloha*. Additionally, Ryoma was able to see the Hawaii-Okinawa bonds and our communities passion to preserve the Okinawan culture. Of course he was able to observe our *Shinnen Enkai* and participate in Afuso Ryu's *sanshin* classes- another thing that he has not experienced in Okinawa!

Dr. Kyoko Hijirida and Hanae Gushiken Higa—both Naha High School alumni—gathered and hosted a *dousoukai*, or reunion. Approximately 10 alumni and another 10 program supporters gathered to commemorate the new program with food, interaction, sharing nostalgia and a Skype session with Ryoma's friends, his sister (a Naha HS 11<sup>th</sup> Grader), and Naha HS Alumni Association managers in Okinawa. One reunion attendee shared his 1959 Annual and the event closed with everyone holding hands and belting out the Naha HS Alma Mater. School pride and a dedication to helping future generations brought over 50 years of alumni and 4,700 miles together.

Aside from Hijirida Sensei and Hanae, many HUOA members pitched in to help Ryoma. Special *mahalo* to Yoko Nakasone and family, and Chris Shimabukuro and family, who went above and beyond in planning his days here.

*Ippee Nifee Deebiru* to all of you out there who offer your time, families, schools, homes and generosity to give both Hawaii and Okinawa youth these once in a lifetime experiences. Your impact on these budding students lives is immeasurable.

If you are a Naha High School Alumni, or know of any in Hawaii and would like to connect, please reach out to Dr. Hijirida or Hanae Higa through the HUOA office at 676-5400. 🇺🇸

### Hui Makaala Scholarship Announcement

Continuing a long-standing tradition that began in 1946, Hui Makaala is again offering academic scholarships for college-bound high school seniors and those presently attending a higher education institution. Along with academic achievements, applicants should also have an interest in and have contributed to the enrichment of Okinawan culture. Applications are now available online at [www.huimakaala.org](http://www.huimakaala.org). Application deadline is June 30, 2018. Awardees will be recognized at Hui Makaala's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Fund Luncheon & Fashion Show Event on July 22, 2018 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom.

## 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange Program

On March 17, twenty-five students and two chaperones from Okinawa arrived in Hawaii to participate in Phase I of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange Program. This year, English teacher consultant Megumu Ishimine from the Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education played a dual role as coordinator and chaperone, and teamed up with co-chaperone English teacher, Sayuri Shimabukuro.



From left to right: Coordinator Mr. Megumu Ishimine, 2018 HUOA President Courtney Takara, Rana Sato, Sheera Tamura, Reina Gaja, and English Teacher Ms. Sayuri Shimabukuro

During the two-week exchange, the Okinawan students attended school with their hosts and were completely immersed in the culture of Hawaii, as they were able to experience classes, activities, and events at school, and family customs and traditions.

Lokahi Foundation provided support for the program by planning and organizing various field trips focusing on tourism, such as the Tourism and Project Management workshop at Kapiolani Community College and a separate Tourism Industry workshop at JALPAK.

The program culminated with the Aloha Party on March 1, as students celebrated together one last time with their host students and friends. Guests were treated to various performances such as a solo *karate* demonstration by Okinawa Shogaku School student Kaito Nohara, a *hula* by Damien Memorial



School's Kailee Padron, and a joint Japanese dance performance by Pacific Buddhist Academy student Sheera Tamura and her two Okinawan sisters, Rana Sato from Naha Kokusai High School and Reina Gaja from Ginoza High School. Sheera Tamura commented, "My most memorable experience was having the opportunity to share my hobby of Japanese dance with my sisters from Okinawa. We practiced almost every night together and when we finally performed *Nada Sou Sou* at the Aloha Party it was an unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime experience!"

We would like to thank all the host families for their kind hospitality in hosting the students for the two-week experience. We would also like to thank the Okinawa Prefectural Board of Education, Lokahi Foundation, and the many HUOA volunteers under the coordination of Executive Director Jane Serikaku. Through this joint effort, this student exchange program has established many experiences that the Okinawan and Hawaii students and families will cherish and remember for a lifetime. We are looking forward to meeting the students and chaperones again as we plan for an exciting trip to Okinawa during Phase II of the program, from June 8-23. 🇺🇸

### Okinawan Proverb of the Month

*Chosen by the Uchinaaguchi Class Members*

Duu nu duu ya, duu shiru shiyuru.

どう- ぬ どう- や、 どう- する しゆる。

(じぶんの体は じぶんが よく わかるものだ。)

English:

One knows oneself best.

(A person knows his personal condition best so he is aware when something is wrong with his personal health and should act accordingly. He should rest to recover or see a doctor if necessary.)

# HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*Mark Your Calendar!*

# HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

## May 2018

- 4-5 Kauai Okinawa Dance Festival; 5:30pm, Kauai's Veterans Center
- 9 Executive Council meeting, 7pm, HOC
- 19 Community Service Event, Picnic at Ohana Ola O Kahumana; 8am, Waianae
- 23 Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, HOC
- 26-27 HUOA 48<sup>th</sup> Invitational Golf Tournament, Pali Golf Course
- 27 HUOA 48<sup>th</sup> Invitational Golf Tournament Award Banquet, Jikoen, 6pm - Dinner
- 28 MEMORIAL DAY - HOC Office Closed
- 29 Okinawan Festival meeting, 7pm, HOC

## June 2018

- 5-8 HUOA's Children's Cultural Day Camp, HOC
- 6 Kaigai Nikkeijin Kyokai Convention; Sheraton Waikiki Hotel
- 7 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gannenmono Ceremony & Symposium; Sheraton Waikiki Hotel
- 8-23 High School Student Exchange - Hawaii students in Okinawa
- 10 Pan Pacific Parade - Kalakaua Avenue
- 13 Executive Council meeting, HOC, 7pm
- 15 Senior Health & Fitness Fair; 9am-1pm, HOC, NO ADMISSION FEE
- 21 Irei No Hi, 5:30pm, HOC
- 27 Okinawan Festival meeting, 7pm, HOC

### 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\*
- Uchinaaguchi: every 2nd Tuesday, 1pm\*; every 4th Thursday, 7pm\*

\*for more information, please call 676-5400

\*\*Subject to Change\*\* (entries as of 3/29/18)

Our new episodes premiere on the first and third Saturday of the month at 7 pm and repeat the following Thursdays at 5 pm on 'Olelo Community Media Channel NATV 53. No HOT show is aired on the fifth Thursday of a month.

All our shows are submitted in high definition format. 'Olelo currently offers HD programming on Hawaiian Telcom's channels 1049 and 1053.

All 'Olelo shows are streamed on the Internet at [www.olelo.org](http://www.olelo.org). Our latest shows are available on-demand on the same 'Olelo 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 the site.

This TV schedule is also available on the HUOA website, which will be updated should any changes occur.

"The Spectrum cable TV company has agreed with the state Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to maintain the current channel numbers for 'Olelo. Our shows will still be on NATV channel 53."

May 5, Sat, 7 pm, May 10 & 17, Thurs, 5 pm 2017 Legacy Award Banquet (Show Two). The event was held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom on November 12. Featured in this episode are three of the five honorees, Hidehito Uki, Herbert Yanamura, and Jake Shimabukuro.

May 19, Sat, 7 pm, May 24, Thurs, 5 pm 2017 Okinawan Festival (Show Two) held on September 2 & 3 at Kapiolani Park in Waikiki. This episode features the Formal Opening Ceremony and Okinawan dances performed by Hooge Ryu Hana Nuuzi No Kai Nakasone Dance Academy.

Jun 2, Sat, 7 pm, Jun 7 & 14, Thurs, 5 pm "Aloha Den - On No Hibiki" (Show One). The event was held on November 19, 2017 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The performance was coordinated by the Nomura School of Traditional Music Association based in Okinawa.

Jun 16, Sat, 7 pm, Jun 21 & 28, Jul 5, Thurs, 5 pm "Aloha Den - On No Hibiki" (Show Two). The event was held on November 19, 2017 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The performance was coordinated by the Nomura School of Traditional Music Association based in Okinawa.



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