



UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

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Sumiti Itsimadin: Imprints on Eternal Generations

Celebrations of Milestones for Our Sister States and The Hawaii Okinawa Center

The time has come! A celebration featuring the collective work of several generations will be held from Friday, July 10 to Saturday, July 12. A series of events will feature and celebrate the,

- 30th Anniversary of the Hawaii Okinawa Sister State Relationship and
- The Silver Anniversary (25th) of the Hawaii Okinawa Center

Both of these were established thanks to our *Issei* and *Nisei*, and have been developed, flourished and cared for by our current generations. In 1985, familiar names such as past HUOA Presidents Ken Kiyabu and Ryokichi Higashionna, along with then Legislators Ken Kiyabu, Dennis Nakasato, Robert Nakata, Marshall Ige, Yoshito Takamine and many others made a significant effort to lobby then Governor George Ariyoshi for the establishment of a Sister-State relationship between the State of Hawaii and Okinawa Prefecture. With an already well-established relationship between the 'states' as well as smaller Okinawa municipalities, the Sister-State relationship would provide support and funding through government efforts to develop relationships fostering the exchange of ideas and collaboration through joint efforts in areas such as tourism, business and economic development, energy research, and of course culture and arts. Since then many programs have been developed through this relationship, including the life shaping Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange Program which celebrates its 25th set of

exchanges between our high-school youth this year!

Further inspired by this relationship, fundraising, planning and strategizing continued while bringing the Hawaii Okinawa community together in efforts to build a *Kaikan*. In honor of our *Issei* who endured much hardship to pave a better life for all of us, and with the help of so many in our community and in Okinawa, the Hawaii Okinawa Center opened its doors in 1990. Over the years, it has been our home to showcase performances and concerts for our *Geinou* performing artists, as well as those who visit us from Okinawa. We have also used the Legacy Ballrooms for gatherings like the *Uchinanchu* of the Year and Installation Banquet, lectures and member club *Shinnen Enkai*. To the rest of the Hawaii community it has served as a place for celebrations such as weddings, graduation parties and ceremonies. At any time during the week we may find classes and groups such as Uta Sanshin, Ichigo Ichi E, Uchinaaguchi, Ikebana, Kobudo Taiko, Okinawan Geneological Society of Hawaii, the Monday Crafters, in addition to all the volunteers who keep our gardens immaculate and center in good working order. The Hawaii Okinawa Center has truly been treasured as our home, and is a symbol of our *Uchinanchu* Spirit!

Friday, July 10, will feature an Energy Innovation Forum and an Opening Reception. Events will be held in conjunction with the Hawaii State Department of Economic and Business Development and Tourism (DEBDT). These events will be held at the State Capitol and Washington



More on Eternal Generations—page 3

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Eternal Generations—continued from page 1

Place and will feature a re-signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for Renewable Energy Initiatives. Due to the limited space of these venues, attendance will be by invitation only.

On the morning of Saturday, July 11, everyone is welcome to join the joyous celebrations at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. A Silver Anniversary Celebration will be held over brunch reflecting the 25 years of the Hawaii Okinawa Center. There is much anticipation from Okinawa who will be joining us in the celebration. Purchase your ticket at the Hawaii Okinawa Center so that we may together celebrate the fruits of the steadfastness of our past generations and the foundations we will lay for our future generations!

Also on Saturday, we will provide opportunities for collaboration and learning: The Geinou Performing Arts Workshop scheduled for Saturday morning, July 11, will feature *sensei* and perform-



ers from Okinawa who will share about different aspects of our performances. The Hawaii-Okinawa Sister State Roundtable scheduled for Saturday afternoon, July 11, will review the successful results of our Sister-State relationship, but then encourage our Hawaii Okinawa community and our friends from Okinawa to look at how we might build on this creating programs that can continue to share support in the efforts and issues that face both Island states. To ensure your spot in these events, don't forget to register and place your lunch reservation.

The weekend's events will culminate in a grand collaboration between the people of the sea: Hawaii, Okinawa and Fukushima. *Drums of Hope* is a production presented by Eisa Drum Festival and acclaimed Okinawa artist Daiichi Hirata, featuring performers from Okinawa as well as our *geinou* performers and youth in Hawaii who are rehearsing diligently for these performances. Don't miss out on one of these two performances to be held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on Sunday, July 12!

Sumiti Itsimadin promises to be a celebration that has something for everyone: the scholar, the dedicated artist, those who enjoy and appreciate our arts, the past and present trailblazers, and our future leaders and performers. We will be able to reflect on and honor the past, showcase and celebrate the present, can collaborate and imprint for the future!

Along with our Okinawa *choode* (brothers and sisters), let's set this as the marker for many more anniversaries to come—*Chibariyo!*

❀❀❀

30th Anniversary of the Hawaii-Okinawa Sister State Relationship & The Silver Anniversary of the Hawaii Okinawa Center

Friday, July 10

Hawaii-Okinawa Sister State Opening Sessions

(sponsored by DEBDT, by Invitation Only)

2:00 - 5:15 pm-Hawaii-Okinawa Energy Innovation Forum at State Capitol: Chamber of House of Representatives

Re-signing of MOU for Renewable Energy Initiatives

5:15 - 9:00 pm-Sister-State Welcome Reception at Washington Place

Saturday, July 11

Hawaii Okinawa Center Silver Anniversary Celebration

8:45 am - 12:00 pm-Silver Anniversary Celebration at Legacy Ballrooms

Tickets for event, brunch and entertainment available for purchase at HOC. (Ticket Price: \$20)

Geinou Performing Arts Workshops at Serikaku Chaya (Place your reservations at HOC)

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm-Hawaii Okinawa Blessing Ceremony at Takakura Garden

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm-Hawaii-Okinawa Sister State Roundtable at Legacy Ballrooms
(Place your reservations at HOC)

Sunday, July 12

Eisa Drum Festival and Daiichi Hirata Present *Drums of Hope* at Legacy Ballrooms

(Tickets Available at HOC & A Little Bit of Everything)

1:00 pm-Matinee Performance

6:00 pm-Night Performance



Eisa Drum Festival and Daiichi Hirata Present ‘Drums of Hope’

By Shari Tamashiro

Like the beat of our hearts, the beat of the drum can be a powerful force. The Eisa Drum Festival and Daiichi Hirata are pleased to announce a new show called “Drums of Hope.” This production brings together drummers from Hawaii, Okinawa and Fukushima. There will be two shows on Sunday, July 12: a matinee at 1 p.m. and an evening show at 6 p.m. Each show will be roughly two hours long.

Previous Eisa Drum Festivals were free and open to the public, thanks to the generosity of Kapiolani Community College and many other donors. Unfortunately, KCC is no longer holding their graduation on campus, which means that the stage they held for a community event the next



day is no longer available.

HUOA has graciously stepped forward and offered use of the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The biggest change is that this show will have limited seats and require ticket purchase. Sales of tickets are needed to cover the expense of the production.

There will be mini stages placed all over the Legacy hall to maximize performance space. This means audience members will have a better view of our performers but it also means there will be fewer seats available. Therefore, please don't wait until the last minute to purchase tickets!

Tickets are \$30. There will also be a limited number of “Super Supporter” Tickets for \$100. Each SS Ticket comes with a

parking stall at HOC, early entrance, reserved seat, and a \$70 tax deduction. Please make checks out to “HUOA.”

Tickets will be available for purchase at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (808.676.5400) and A Little Bit of Everything (808.589.0045) in Downtown. Location and hours can be viewed at: sharingabitofeverything.com

“Drums of Hope” will be directed by Daiichi Hirata and produced by Shari Tamashiro. It will be different from the previous Eisa Festivals and more like the productions Daiichi has been directing in Okinawa. In “Drums of Hope,” we are



exploring the connections between Hawaii, Okinawa and Fukushima (all people of the sea) and how culture can provide the light we need to get through some of our darkest times.

Hawaii performers include Chinagu Eisa Hawaii, Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts, Nuuanu Shorin Ryu Karate, Tamagusuku Ryu Senjukai Hawaii, and Norman Kaneshiro Shinshi. From Okinawa, Daiichi Hirata and members of his academy will be performing, as well as Souka Kariyushi, the recipients of the 2014 Aloha Spirit Award and third place winners of the Worldwide Eisa Festival competition. From Fukushima, there will be the *taiko* drummers of Team Ibuki. Hawaii members of Daiichi's academy will also be performing.

Kazufumi Miyazawa, the lead singer of *The Boom*, will be a special guest performer. Kazufumi is a fellow World Eisa Ambassador. He and Daiichi will debut a new song they wrote for this show. Please check for updates at: www.facebook.com/eisahawaii

Drums of Hope
Sunday, July 12
performances at
1:00 pm & 6:00 pm
at the Hawaii
Okinawa Center

A Look Behind the Scenes of ‘Drums of Hope’

By Jon Itomura

An integral part of moving forward involves looking back. Over the weekend of July 10-12, we will be celebrating a look back across 25 years to the opening of the Hawaii Okinawa Center and 30 years back to the establishment of the Hawaii-Okinawa Sister State relationship. This special commemoration will feature a stunning and riveting stage performance of the 2015 Eisa Drum Festival – Presenting Daiichi Hirata’s original musical production, “Drums of Hope.”

In 2008, Daiichi Hirata brought the highly acclaimed “Kimutaka No Amawari” Katsuren youth stage production (“Amawari”) to the Hawaii Okinawa Center to celebrate their 10th Anniversary and Okinawa’s relationship with Hawaii’s Okinawan



community. “Drums of Hope” highlights the representation that drums resonate throughout all communities and all cultures bringing hope that these similarities can overcome any differences.

Before looking forward to July 12, however, taking a look “behind the scenes” offers many stories that will support and strengthen the message to be delivered by the “Drums of Hope” performance. On April 17, Daiichi Hirata, his wife Yoko, their 2-year-old daughter Kotoha, and former *Amawari* cast member and current Ryukyu University student Nanami Yara, arrived in Honolulu to start preparations for the July celebration. Over the course of three weeks, the Hiratas regularly attended practices with the Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts (HOCA), Tamagusuku Ryu Senjukai Hawaii, and Chinagu Eisa Hawaii.

One very interesting performance will feature a collaboration of many groups. Daiichi created a very popular dance and *karate* choreography for the *Amawari* production, a high-energy song known to many as “Dynamic Ryukyu.” HOCA and local Hawaii students have been diligently working to learn the intricate yet exhilarating dance and *karate* steps. Coincidentally, HOCA is traveling to Okinawa in June for their inaugural “shishimai tour” and has been invited to dance *Dynamic Ryukyu* with the *Amawari* cast at the *Kimutaka No Amawari* performance on June 14 in Katsuren, Okinawa.



Thus, the expectations are high, but the HOCA members and Hawaii students have been picking it up quickly. The magical energy and passion that Daiichi possesses was a very evident as he was the ever-patient teacher who took the time to thoroughly explain the meaning behind each step. Sessions were held at Jikoen Hall, the Hawaii Okinawa Center, and even Eric Nitta’s front yard. At a recent *shisa* repair and restoration event, at 11:00 p.m. HOCA members took a break from knitting thousands of raffia strips onto a new *shisa* netting in order to practice their dance steps and *karate kata*. Most importantly, he asked them to remember how they felt when they were taught the dance steps for the first time because he knows they will look back and realize how far they have come in such a short time and feel very good about themselves.

Daiichi and family left on May 7, but Nanami-sensei has been continuing her efforts and working very hard with all of the groups, as she will stay in Hawaii until after the Eisa Festival. With less than two months left to prepare, looking forward appears daunting. However, I believe the true reward is, as Daiichi told the HOCA students, looking back and realizing that his vision of the “Drums of Hope” bringing Hawaii, Okinawa and the world even closer together and creating a new global identity is coming true.

Irei No Hi: Practicing Remembrance, Respect and Lessons for the Future

Each year on June 23, *Uchinanchu* in Okinawa and around the world recognize *Irei No Hi*. Considered as Okinawa's Memorial Day, it is a public holiday observed in Okinawa that signifies the end of the Battle of Okinawa, a tragic event in history that has had a significant effect on everyone—both past and present generations.

Thousands attend a service each year at Heiwa Kinen Koen (Peace Memorial Park), including dignitaries from Japan. Located in Mabuni on the southern point of Okinawa, this is the site of many who perished at the final days of the battle, either through fighting or suicide. Over 240,000 civilians and soldiers lost their lives in the Battle of Okinawa. The names of those who lost their lives are inscribed on the marble tablets at the Peace Memorial Park and names continue to be added each year.

Students in Okinawa learn about the history, war tragedies and about the importance of peace through talks, films, research and poetry. A moment of silence is observed at noon on *Irei No Hi* all across Okinawa.

Only 70 years have passed since this event, but the resources we have today through educational material and knowledge of survivors are all critically important, as it has been a mission for Okinawa's living culture to promote peace at home and around the world. *Irei no Hi* and Heiwa Kinen Koen are for remembrance, education of young and old about the war, and for prayer for peace. 

Students in Okinawa learn about the history, war tragedies and about the importance of peace through talks, films, research and poetry. A moment of silence is observed at noon on *Irei No Hi* all across Okinawa.

A Call for Your Stories, Thoughts, Experiences

Oral and personal history is an important part of preserving our culture. We have well known Uchinaa kupuna who experienced the Battle of Okinawa and World War II first hand. Many of these stories are well documented, but we need to ensure that we properly preserve and share these with our future generations.

There are many of us though, whose parent's or grandparent's sacrifices at that time, shaped who we are today. Don't let these stories be lost. Record them for your families, and take this opportunity to write a short story or two to submit to HUOA. We would like to document your short stories, have them available for people doing research, or so each of us can continue to remember and share the importance of peace.

Please limit your entries to 1 – 2 pages.

Submissions due: July 17, 2015

Email to: edhuoa@hawaii.rr.com

Or Mail to: HUOA – Irei no Hi
94-587 Ukee Street
Waipahu, HI 96797

500-900 words if possible.

Include:

Name
Contact Information
Member Club if applicable

Document & Share with Our Youth



irei no hi 06.23.15

Memorial Service

at Takakura Garden of Hawaii Okinawa Center
on June 23, 2015 at 5:30PM

Join us as we share & collectively pay our respect through discussion, music and a service.

ByoB (beach chairs, beach towels, bento and other 'B' items)

Gov. Ige Meets Gov. Onaga and Two Mayors

Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga and his entourage spent three days in Hawaii meeting with many individuals including Governor David Ige before traveling to Washington, D.C. Look for more information on Governor Onaga's visit to Hawaii in the next issue of the *Uchinanchu* newsletter.



(L-R): Mayor Denjitsu Ishimine of Yomitan Village, Governor of Okinawa Takeshi Onaga, Gov. David Ige and Mayor Susumu Inamine of Nago City. 

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Each bottle and pouch of Kuba awamori sold in Hawaii, a \$1 donation will be made towards the construction of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza.



"Once completed, the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza will be a model of what a community can do working in harmony with each other. More important, it is honoring our Issei for their "spirit" of never giving up in the face of adversities. Our Hawaii Okinawa Plaza will generate on-going funds to support our priceless culture for generations to come. Our culture is intended to cultivate us to be outstanding individuals skilled at our craft. These wise character building principles and values are graciously imparted to us from our ancestors through our songs, dances, and the fine arts. Share the "spirit" on our quest to perpetuate our Okinawan culture for future generations!"

CAMPAGNA DETAILS: ELIGIBLE PRODUCTS INCLUDE KUBA AWAMORI IN BOTH BOTTLE AND POUCHES SOLD IN HAWAII. THIS CAMPAIGN IS APPLICABLE TO PRODUCTS SOLD BETWEEN JULY 1ST TO OCTOBER 31, 2015.

Connect, converse, share...one sip at a time!

welcome! *Mensore*



Vice Governor Ageda Visits HOC

The HUOA has had the honor of hosting many dignitaries from Okinawa in the month of March, beginning with the Vice Governor Mitsu Ageda and his entourage. Front row (L-R): Director of Military Base Affairs Osamu Unten; HUOA President Mark Higa; Vice Governor Ageda; Director General, Executive Office of the Governor Masaru Machida; Supervisor of Secretary Division Takao Aharen; and Secretary to Vice Governor Kazaharu Omine. Back row (L-R): Cyrus Tamashiro, Sandy Yanagi, Ford Chinen, Dexter Teruya, Brandon Nakasone, Tom Yamamoto, Stanley Takamine, George Tamashiro, Jane Serikaku and Ed Kuba. Vice Governor Ageda was pleased to meet seven former HUOA presidents that evening... Can you identify the seven?



Ms. Keiko Itokazu Leads Council Group

HUOA officers and staff joined members of the Yomitan Club led by President Mel Horimoto, members of the Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai led by President Allison Yanagi, and members of the Nago Club led by President Alicia Rogan to provide a warm welcome to (L-R with lei): Councilwoman Hideko Tamanaha from Chatan, Diet member Keiko Itokazu, Councilwoman Kikue Tsuhako from Yomitan, and Councilwoman Kumiko Onaga from Nago.

Mensore continued on Page 7

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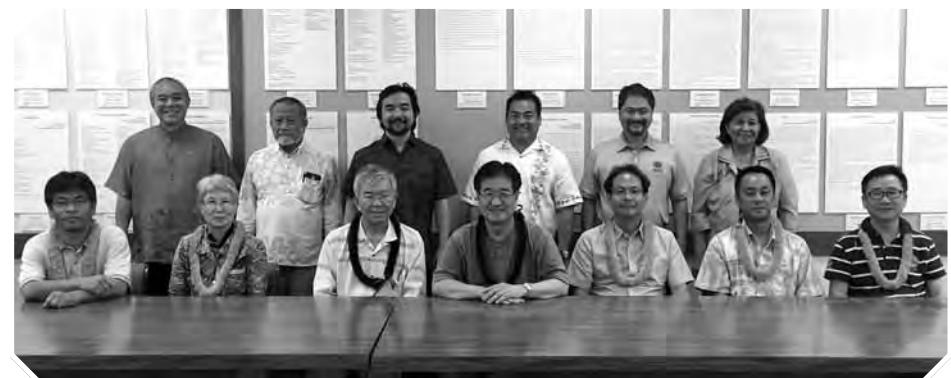


www.senjukaihawaii.com



Daiichi Hirata and Family

Okinawa's famous director, producer, chanter, poet and artist Daiichi Hirata spent several weeks in Hawaii with wife Yoko and daughter Kotoha along with Nanami Yara, one of his former student performers. Daiichi san was here to work with several Hawaii performing arts groups in preparation for "Drums of Hope." See pg. 4 - *A Look Behind the Scenes* - for more information.



University of the Ryukyus and Meio University

Visiting the Hawaii Okinawa Center and having a meaningful exchange with HUOA officers are: Front row (L-R): Director of the General Affairs Division Kosei Yamashiro of Meio University; Vice President of International Affairs, University of the Ryukyus Prof. Tomiko Hokama; President of University of the Ryukyus Hajime Oshiro; President of Meio University Katsunori Yamazato; Director of International Exchange, Meio University Dr. Tsukasa Takamine; Head of International Collaboration Section, University of the Ryukyus Toru Kinjo; and Director of International office, Meio University Toi Nakayama.

The Presidents of University of Hawaii, University of the Ryukyus and Meio University signed a Memorandum of Understanding witnessed by Governor David Ige. The document solidifies and enhances the partnerships between the schools, which began many years ago.



Ryudai Medical Team Visits

Three years ago, the UH John A. Burns School of Medicine established a Hawaii-Okinawa Medical Education Fellowship with six-seven medical educators selected by the University of the Ryukyus School of Medicine to participate in a year-long Fellows project. These young doctors, who hailed from various hospitals in Okinawa, were led by Yusuke Ohya, MD, PhD (front and center of photo) and other Fellowship Program faculty. They were introduced to Hawaii Okinawa Center and were intrigued by how Uchinanchu in Hawaii perpetuated their culture through the performing arts, Uchinaaguchi classes, student exchanges and many other initiatives. 

Mitsuko Toguchi Nakasone Recognized by Lanakila Senior Center

Sensei Mitsuko Toguchi Nakasone was awarded the Lanakila Multi-purpose Senior Center's 2014 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for her 28 years



of volunteering at the center teaching Okinawan dance to the Lanakila Nenchosha Okinawan Club members. Since 1986, Sensei has taught Okinawa dance every Thursday at Lanakila Senior Center. Congratulations Sensei! 



Daughter Cindy Gourlay stands proudly with her mom.

Hawaii United Okinawa Association

Senior Health & Fitness Fair

Friday ~ June 19, 2015
9am to 1pm
Hawaii Okinawa Center
94-587 Ukee St.,
Waipio Business Park

Door Prizes ~ Giveaways ~ Fun
Win a free trip to LAS VEGAS

Donated by Vacations Hawaii
Free Admission ~ Open to the Public
~ Health, Safety, Financial, Cultural Booths ~
Educational & Wellness Workshops
throughout the day

Presentation by Kupuna Alert Partners

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

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HAROLD AND ELSIE YONAMINE

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 \$90,845 in gifts or pledges for the building of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza and represent the support of over 107 donors.

Our 200 FOR 2M CAMPAIGN continues to grow, we would like to welcome the Family of Akira and Jane Sakima and Yuriko Inamine to our 39 member family. The HUA 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 Nifee Deebiru* – from our hearts, thank you very much.

Donations listed below were received from April 1, 2015 to May 15, 2015.

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Preserving Our Legacy

2014 TO 2015 ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM



The Hawaii United Okinawa Association is extremely grateful to the over 717 friends that have responded with a generous gift to our current Campaign. We look forward to hearing from many more of you in the coming months. These tax-deductible donations allow us to continue to educate and share our Okinawan culture with the people of Hawaii, creating our "imprint" to Hawaii's community. As of May 15, we collected \$98,512. *Ippee Nifee Deebiru!*

Our list of donors reflects contributions from April 1, 2015 to May 15, 2015.

SILVER (\$500 TO \$999)

In Memory of Zenichi & Chiyoko Chibana

In Memory of Fumiko Kaneshiro by Esther Chin

BRONZE (\$250 TO \$499)

The Kresge Foundation on behalf of Irene Hirano Inouye

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In Memory of Zensei & Kama Isa by Richard T. Isa

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April 1 to May 15, 2015

HUOA sends a sincere *ippee nifee deebiru* to the following donors:

David N. & Charlene Dierking

John R. Kikuyama

Jean E. Matsuda

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In Memory of Nancy Edmonson by Chatan Kadena Chojin Kai

In Memory of Chiyoko Maeda by Chatan Kadena Chojin Kai

In Memory of Sumiko Maeshiro by Chatan Kadena Chojin Kai

In Memory of Masao Nakata, Kimie & Kikujiro Nakama by Yoshiko Hunter

In Memory of Shizuyo Nakata by the Nakata Family

In Memory of Betty Oshiro from family and friends in Hawaii and California



Orion Beer is proudly supporting the construction of a new Hawaii-Okinawa Plaza.

Orion

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"Okinawa BON!!" is Coming to NGN!

NGN Sister State TV - Okinawa Program on Fridays

Premieres Friday, June 26 at 8:30 PM

The program is introduced by Governor Ige, former Governor Ariyoshi and Okinawa Governor Onaga



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'Ongaeshi Okinawa' Urizun Minyo Group Gives Back

Ten years ago, Hawaii's Derek Ichiro Shiroma Sensei, gave a performance at a senior care home in Okinawa. He was touched to see the elderly residents' smiles and the joy that his Okinawan *minyo* (folk) music brought to them. It was a memorable performance that sparked a dream to train his students and one day return to express a special "Thank you and *Kansha*" to the seniors and the many family and friends who supported their music studies in Okinawa and Hawaii.



Okinawa to express their *Aloha* and heartfelt gratitude. "Our focus was to reciprocate the support and encouragement my members and I have received over the years in our quest to preserve and perpetuate the cultural and musical teachings of the *Issei* and *Nisei*," Shiroma Sensei explained.

The group gave several memorable performances in March 2015, including two *imon kouen* (performance giving comfort to the audience) in Ameku, Naha City and Nago City. Additionally, with the participation of Okinawa's Keiko Miyagi Sensei's energetic dance company, Udui Haru, two performances were presented at Naha City's Tenbusu concert hall. The audience included people from Okinawa and attendees who flew in from mainland Japan and Australia.

"On behalf of the Urizun Minyo Group and myself, I wish to thank families and



friends in Hawaii and Okinawa for making "Ongaeshi Okinawa" a dream come true," Shiroma Sensei added. "We will strive to continue our studies and performances of Okinawan *minyo*. We humbly ask for everyone's continued support, guidance and encouragement as we continue to polish our performances and skills, which will enable us to further express our ongaeshi—repay our obligation and kindness to everyone."

Okinawa Minyo Kyokai Hawaii Shibu Students Pass Achievement Tests



Chantel Ikehara, Kazuto Toguchi and Travis Oshiro.

Congratulations to three students of the Okinawa Minyo Kyokai Hawaii Shibu. On March 29, Derek Ichiro Shiroma Sensei took three of his students to Okinawa to take their *Sanshin* level test. In addition to performing for senior care homes and two concerts in Naha, the students still managed to set aside practice time for the annual Okinawa Minyo Kyokai tests.

The three applicants were Chantel Ikehara, who passed and received her *Shinjin sho* (Newcomer's Award). In the *Yuushuusho* level testing both Travis Oshiro and Kazuto Toguchi passed and received their *Yuushuusho* (Award of Superiority).

The HUA congratulates all three young artists on their achievement. May your coming years be even brighter and more successful! 

RMD Hawaii's Akatsuki Tour Of Okinawa

By Melissa Ching

This past March, RMD members from Oahu and the Big Island (plus one of our grandmas from Kauai!) participated in our club's Akatsuki Study Tour to Okinawa, arranged by our chapter's founder, advisor and Regional Director, Akemi



Martin-sensei. Our group of travelers was a great blend of experienced travelers and first-time visitors to Okinawa.

The tour was an amazing learning opportunity for everyone involved. First-time visitors to Okinawa had a fantastic time getting to see and experience Okinawan history and culture first hand. Even after seeing so many photos and videos of places like Shuri Castle, Churaumi Aquarium, and the Peace Memorial Park, it felt completely different to actually be there in person. For more experienced travelers to Okinawa, it was wonderful to get to see Okinawa through the eyes of a first timer again, plus the tour included activities that none of us had ever tried before. We were very fortunate that Akemi-sensei was able to arrange a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our travelers to dress up in traditional Okinawan kimono, complete with hair and makeup! That in itself was an event, but then we were able to have our photos professionally taken in the beautiful, authentic setting of Shikina Garden. In addition to spending time exploring Okinawa-honto, we were lucky to have the chance to visit Tokashiki Island in the Kerama Islands. While we were there, we met up with members of Kerama Daiko who shared their style of taiko with us. We were very

impressed by their precision and strength as well as their hospitality and generosity.

Our tour culminated in a special performance commemorating Akemi-sensei's 20 years of service and dedication to Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko. The theme of

the concert, - ON (profound gratitude) reflected Akemi-sensei's appreciation to the many groups and individuals that supported her in her 20-year mission to build bridges of friendship throughout the world. The recital featured performances and collaborations between Hidekatsu, Mion, REQUIOS, Ryujin, Chijinshu Wakatiida, Ryukyu Kobudou Renmei Bukenkan, Nix Hamaya, Hiroshi Okada, RMD Okinawa and, of course, RMD Hawaii. It was our pleasure and privilege to share the stage with so many amazing performers!

It was a wonderful trip full of excitement, education and entertainment and we are already thinking about going back again Akemi-sensei for your hard work to put together such an incredible trip for us! 





churasa

*Thursday, July 23, 2015 7:30 p.m. at
UH-Manoa Kennedy Theatre*

Churasa is an award-winning youth performing arts group from Tomigusuku, Okinawa. They infuse a lively, contemporary style into traditional Okinawan folk arts of eisa (drumming), shishimai (lion dance) and Ryukyu Kobudo (Okinawan martial arts weaponry.)

This performance is part of the 2015 Asia Pacific Dance Festival featuring outstanding dancers, critics, scholars and more from throughout the Asia Pacific Region. The Festival will run from July 14–27, 2015.

Tickets go on sale starting May 22 and will be available:
Online: <http://outreach.hawaii.edu/community/asiapacific>
Charge by phone: Call 944-2697 (Stan Sheriff, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.)
Monday-Friday, closed holidays
In person: Visit any UH Ticket outlet (Stan Sheriff Center, UH-Manoa Campus Center ticket office)

Advance ticket prices: (Service fees apply)**

- Festival pass: \$100 for all 5 festival shows (Go to <http://www.outreach.hawaii.edu/community/asiapacific> for details about the different shows)
- Adult Admission: \$25
- Discount (students 17 & older, seniors 62 plus, active duty military, UH alumni association members, UH faculty/staff, World Dance Alliance conference attendees*): \$21
- Discount 2 (youth to 17, UH Manoa students*): \$10

Door Sales

- Adult Admission-\$30
- Discount (students 17 & older, seniors 62 plus, active duty military, UH alumni association members, UH faculty/staff, World Dance Alliance conference attendees*)-\$26
- Discount 2 (youth to 17, UH Manoa students*)-\$15

***All require a valid ID**

****Advance sales end 2 hours before the performance. Box office opens 1 hour prior to the performance.**



CLUB NEWS

Our clubs, Our Future

Ginowan News

By Jane Nakamura

Ginowan Shijin Kai held its *Shinnen Enkai* on February 28, 2015 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Emcee Guy Miyashiro did a good job in smoothly guiding a program that included the introduction of officers, advisors and *Aza* Representatives and their installation as the 2015 Board. HUOA Vice President Val Kato, Outgoing



Board members at *Shinnen Enkai*: Guy Miyashiro (Advisor), Jane Nakamura (Maehara), Cindy Yamaguchi (Wahiawa), Ellen Higa (Advisor), Takeo Shimabukuro (Nodake), Garrett Iha (Treasurer), Charlene Tamanaha (Recording Secretary), Roberta Umeno (President), Sandra Nishimoto (Vice President), Christine Higa (Advisor), Patrick Miyashiro (Advisor), John Tasato (Futenma/Advisor).



Kylie and Kaitlyn Canubida

Oroku Aza Jin Club News

By Natalie Teruya

Back on March 1, some 200 members and guests of the Oroku Aza Jin club gathered for their 92nd *Shinnen Enkai* and Annual Meeting. We had great food, games, crafts, and a raffle that featured a grand prize picture painted and donated by Oroku Aza Jin's *Uchinanchu of the Year*, Seikichi Takara. Entertainment was provided by Nidaime Teishin Kai Hawaii Shibu and our homegrown *Urukunchun* performers. The club also honored 30 *Keirokai* members with lunch, a copy of the *Uchinanchu* 2014 annual publication, and *mochi*.

Our next club event is the annual picnic at Ala Moana Beach Park on July 19. We look forward to seeing everyone there!



Back row (left to right): Ethel Teruya (Uyebanjame), Judy Uehara (Uenakajo), Violet Irinaka (Mikumushigwa), Wayne Arakaki (Uenakajo), Walter Eto (Uenakajo), Hitoshi Irinaka (Mikumushigwa), Seikichi Chick Takara (Meinakajogwa), James Takushi (Uenakajo), William Teruya (Menundunchi), Masaichi Uehara (Irimiji), Barbara Uehara (Irimiji), Margaret Takara (Kushinnakajogwa), Edith Uyehara (Nishiakanmi). Front row (left to right): Sumiko Teruya (Agariyuehanjame), Tsutao Taira (Uchiuebaru), Dorothy Alvarado (Agarinakamijigwa), Myrtle Yoshioka (Uenakajo), Alice Eto (Uenakajo), Susan Takara (Mirigushikuda), Frances Kakazu (Nishikakazu), Doris Sheppard (Menokanagushiku), Yoshino Teruya (Heasagi), Jane Taira (Uchiuebaru), Lillian Teruya (Agariyuehanjame), Wallace Uyehara (Nishiakanmi). Not pictured: Nelson Yoshioka (Uenakajo)



President Ellen Higa, and Incoming President Roberta Umeno gave short speeches.

Special recognition was given to *Uchinanchu of the Year* Shigemasa Tamanaha, college graduates Randen Morisako (Athletic Training) and Ashley Morisako

(Masters in Public Health). They are children of Randall and Leigh Morisako, and grandchildren of Alice and Larry Morisako. Also honored were six 90-year-old celebrants: Jane Chang, Helen Isono, Jane Sakima, Robert Miyahira, Seihan Tamashiro and Kiyoko Miyashiro, as well as 20 octogenarians. Toasts were led by Shigemasa Tamanaha and Ellen Higa. The Miyashiro Soho Kai and Urizun Group provided entertainment. An impromptu performance of "Ashibina" by Kylie Canubida and Kaitlyn Canubida was a hit.

Led by Patrick Miyashiro, this successful gathering was planned by the Kakazu, Uchidomari and Nodake *azas*. Everyone had a chance to visit and catch up with friends and relatives, and we are all looking forward to

next year's celebration on February 21, 2016.

Save the Date: Ginowan's annual picnic will be held on August 2, 2015 at Ala Moana Park, Section B (our usual spot). Planning *azas* are Aragusuku, Ganeku and Oyama. Come and meet your friends and relatives and join in the fun games for all ages.



Working Together To Do What Needs To Be Done!

Built 25 years ago, the Hawaii Okinawa Center was showing its age, including deep spaces appearing in the joints of the walkway around the perimeter of the Teruya Building.

Seen here taking a photo break from the arduous work to repair the joints are volunteers Mel Masaki, Tom Yamamoto and Darrin Goya. These dedicated volunteers dig out the old joint sealant, fill the cracks with sand, pack the sand down, and then apply a self-leveling sealant. They also grind down and level off the edges of some of the uneven walkway slabs. These gentlemen have dedicated many days—spending about six hours a day—all after their own regular work days are over. Mahalo Mel, Tom and Darrin!

Uchinanchu



MORE CLUB NEWS Continued on page 13



SPORTS CORNER

2015 HUOA Volleyball League Results

The 2015 HUOA Volleyball League consisted of 26 teams and a total of 310 players. These four teams captured their division titles. Photos courtesy of Lance Akana from Aza Gushikawa.



Nakagusuku - Open Division Champs

Front Row (L-R): Masako Larribas, Melissa (Ihilani) Yama, Traci Akimoto, Carly Hayashikawa, Janis Isa, Lianne Kamei-Chow, and Devin Chow. Back Row (L-R): Arthur Louie, Brent Young, Dane Canida, Rodney (Koa), and Wesley Isa. Missing: Derek Atta and Michelle Isa-Atta.



Kochinda - A Division Champs

Front Row (L-R): Wendi Park, Stacie Ito with daughter Katie, and Ty Okihara with daughter Kami. Back Row (L-R): Natalie Ota, Derek Kobayashi, Kathy Kobayashi, Kaleo McCloves, and Travin Makinano.



Kin 1 - B Division Champs

(L-R): Daryl Duldulao, Sheri Duldulao, Kendall Fukuda, Jya Bunch, Lori Fukuda, Sam Matsuda, Liann Nakada, Chad Yawata, Jared Laufou and Candace.



2015 HUOA Mixed Volleyball League C Division Champion

KIN 2

Kin 2 - C Division Champs

(L-R): Roni Kunimitsu, Peka Kapowai, Royston Kunimitsu, Isabel Hung, Rylan Kunimitsu, Lance Okuda, Sara (Toyama) Okuda, and Brandon Kamai.

MORE CLUB NEWS *Continued from page 12*

OGSH Welcomes Masaru Kinjo

On Saturday, March 21, 2015, the Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii (OGSH) was fortunate to have Masaru Kinjo from Itoman as a guest speaker at its monthly meeting. This was Kinjo's first trip to Hawaii and, as a house-guest of his cousin Paul Uyehara, was able to complete the family genealogy by meeting those relatives who had migrated to Hawaii. It was an exciting time not only for Kinjo, but also for the elderly relatives who could relate to memories of people from long ago. Their family genealogy includes over 120 families!

Mr. Kinjo began working at the Itoman City Office at age 19. Throughout his 42 years of work, he moved up the career ladder, holding many positions. His title before retiring in 2013 was Itoman City Office History Editor, a position he held for 16 years. Being well-versed in the history and culture of Okinawa—and especially of Itoman City and its families—Mr. Kinjo's genealogical expertise is often called upon by others, including the Okinawan Prefectural Museum. Currently, Mr. Kinjo is working at the Yaese Town Board of Education Lifetime Learning Culture Section on a project to document the history of Yaese Town, which includes Gushikami and Kochinda.



Nago Club Cleans Up

Energetic and hardworking Nago Club members arrived at 7 a.m. on a Sunday morning to give the Teruya Building a good washing down, including the restrooms, stage and backstage, mezzanine area, and more. We truly appreciate the efforts of clubs who volunteer to help us keep the Hawaii Okinawa Center in tip-top shape.



President Alicia Rogan (up front with the bucket) is joined by (L-R): Lorraine Lefton, Jane and Rod Martin, Loretta Tokuda, Harold Higa, Mark Higa, Chani dela Torre, and Cyrus Tamashiro.

Finding Junichi

By Dan Nakasone

Note: While in Okinawa to work on "Family Ingredients," a national PBS television series that he co-produces, Dan Nakasone went in search of information about his uncle Junichi, who died in the Battle of Okinawa. Junichi was just a high school student when he was conscripted in the Japanese military.

The following notes are from a meeting I had with five former students from Junichi's high school, Okinawa Ken Ritsu Ichi Chu Gakko. One of them, Ryuko Tomoyose, was Junichi's friend and classmate and he remembers him quite well. Fortunately, he spoke excellent English. We met on April 23 at the Shuri High Reunion Clubhouse and Museum—known as the "20 Club"—just down the road from the school. I also visited the school and gathered information about this venerable institution they simply called Icchu Gakko during Junichi's time and Shuri High today.

My contact in Okinawa was Chizu Inoue, an editor for *Momoto Magazine*. I had met Chizu at the 2013 Okinawa Festival in Hawaii. She also helped me to produce our Okinawa episode for "Family Ingredients." It was she who helped to set up my meeting with Tomoyose-san. I showed her a picture of Junichi and she recognized the uniform. Her youngest daughter attends Shuri High, so she was familiar with their museum. Chizu contacted her friend, Keiko Niigami, who works there and found Junichi's files.

Tomoyose-san's recollection of Junichi included:

- "He was quiet, hardly spoke and he was gentle."
- "He was very strong and could hold a big gun up for a long time."
- "He would put on an aloha shirt and shorts and it was so cool. I remember that."
- "I feel sad for you and your family because Junichi died and I lived. We survived, so it's our duty to share information about the Battle of Okinawa for generations to come"

I asked him if Junichi did well in school, and he said, "He was one of the smarter boys in their class."

I showed them a photo of my dad in his Army uniform and said that he was in the U.S. Military Intelligence Service when the Battle of Okinawa took place. A sigh came over the room. One of the men, Mr. Yoza, said, "That must have been very difficult for your family." A reporter asked where was my dad stationed. They understood the significance of the situation.

Aza Yogi

I had lunch with Shooei Nakasone (no relation), Kazuko Miyasato, daughter-in-law of Toda Nakasone Miyasato (Baban's sister), Maeyumi Nishihara, Shooei's daughter and Kazuko-san's son and daughter in-law. Shooei is considered the ambassador of the Yogi community and he did the research on our family in Yogi.

After lunch, we offered flowers at the Yogi Battle of Okinawa Memorial where Junichi's name is listed. Aunty Yoshino made a donation of 10,000 yen toward the building of the memorial on behalf of her brother.

After visiting the memorial, Shooei took me to a property not far from it. This is where my great grandparents, Yoshino and Junichi lived. About 75 yards away, next to a small farm, was the first cave Yoshino and her grandparents hid in. It was very small. When Junichi returned home from school he took them to a larger cave over and further up a ridge.

The person who provided all of this information was Haruko Shimabukuro. She wanted to marry Junichi and her parents were trying to arrange it with my great

grandfather. But Junichi liked someone else and didn't want to marry her. Haruko was at the cave along with my great grandparents, Yoshino and others when Junichi started to head back to school. She grabbed onto his shirt and tried to hold him back saying please don't go. He had a strong desire to return to school to receive his diploma and join his fellow students, however. They were going to war together. Haruko is still living and apparently her memory of the time is as vivid as the day it happened.

This was beyond a doubt the most incredible experience of my life. I was overwhelmed with emotion just listening to the stories of Uncle Junichi and Aunty Yoshino. And hearing that Junichi was quiet and gentle and very bright was like a huge wave of relief and contentment washing over me. I was getting to know the uncle I never met. We now have insight into the kind of person he was—a young man with the character qualities my grandparents and family would be extremely proud of. This experience and the story seem so surreal but it's a real life story of our family in Wahiawa and Okinawa. I am proud and inspired by the strength and resilience of our Issei and Nisei! As a Sansei, I believe it is essential that their stories be shared with future generations. They need to know whose shoulders they are standing on.

We were helped by good people dedicated to preserving and sharing the stories of the Battle of Okinawa. They want to ensure that future generations understand the tragedy of war and the sacrifices made by the Okinawan people who came before them.

On April 1, 1945, the first guns were fired in the Battle of Okinawa. On the 70th anniversary of that event I find myself traveling to Okinawa to help tell a story related to the battle for a national PBS television series. Little did I know that I would discover Junichi's story and the story of our family in Okinawa. I dedicate this document to Aunty Yoshino and Uncle Junichi. *Okage sama de...*



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Kume Jima Calls To Us

By Mamo and Emi Kuniyoshi

Along with Larry and Nancy Yogi we just returned from a trip to Kume Jima. "Wea Dat?" you ask? Kume Jima is an island off the west coast of the main Okinawa Island on the China Sea side. From Naha, it is about three hours by ferry or 25 minutes by turbo-prop. It's a small island with a small-town feel. It doesn't have a world-class aquarium like the Churaumi, a huge shopping area like the Heiwa Dori, or the mass of shops and people like Kokusai Dori. Instead, it has other, more natural type attractions.

There are no loud noises, no traffic congestion, no graffiti, no pollution. The water is clean and clear. Mamo had his usual handful scoop of ocean water at the Tatami Ishi Beach and exclaimed that the ocean water at Kume is the best he has ever tasted.

There are lookout points from old castle sites. From high up, you can see way down to patches of co-op farming plots stretching toward beautiful white sand beaches. Wild Easter lilies and gladiolus were in bloom all over the island—along the roadsides, in the fields, hillsides and even the runway at the airport. Other wild flowers were a delight in their variety and profusion.

There is a native tree that is called *Chura-fukugi*. These trees grow in abundance at the Hawaii Okinawa Center in Waipio. They are used as windbreakers on Kume and can withstand the annual hurricane winds. There is a street on Kume in which a line of these trees forms a divider between lanes. What's remarkable about these trees is that they don't have aggressive lateral root growth like the monkeypods and poincianas used on the streets of Hawaii. So Kume does not have a problem with broken sidewalks and streets that constantly need to be torn up and repaired. Perhaps our Governor David Ige can send some of his road planners and landscapers to learn from the Kume model.

There is another short stretch of road referred to as the mysterious Ghost Hill. It's an optical illusion. If you stop your vehicle on that stretch and put it in neutral, it will roll in the opposite direction that you think it should.

There are other attractions. We didn't get to see all, of course. To us, however, the greatest impression we carry with us is the interaction we had with the good people of Kume Jima. Their friendly, easy-going nature quickly made us feel like *Shimanchu*. We were hosted for two days by Ms. Aki Yamashiro. Aki wears many hats. She is a go-to person. You need something done? Go to Aki.

Aki took us to a couple of restaurants. One was called Yangwa, a small family restaurant. The owner converted his home by putting some sit-down tables in his liv-

Okinawan Proverb

Selected by the Uchinaaguchi Class Members with Hijirida Sensei

Proverb of the month:

Nubiti tuku turi

ぬびてい とうく とうり

English: "Nubiin" means to put up with or forgive. Overcoming difficulties, conquering adversities, and resolving issues help to discipline the mind and benefit the individual.

Uchinaa-guchi (Okinawan language)

Word of the Month

May

wu·ri·mi, n. [orime] Officially recognized annual events or holidays, often with religious or agricultural significance. Also shichibi, kijari.

June

chite·e·banashi, n. [tsutae-banashi] A legend; a tradition. Also iichitee.

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

ing room. Outside, in his flower garden, he had picnic tables shaded by an overhead trellis covered with *pakalana*. We ate outside. He makes his own Okinawan *soba* every day. We were joined by some of Aki's friends and work associates, including some men and women from the Kume Jima Government Tourism Bureau. It was a work-day for them so they couldn't partake of the Orion and *awamori*. But they could eat *soba* and talk story. Good people, all of them. Sitting out there eating *soba*, drinking Orion, enjoying his flower garden, listening to the birds—what a life! We wanted to stay the rest of the day but Aki had more to show us.

We visited a gift shop. Nancy and Emi were able to check-off a major portion of their *omiyage* list, purchasing some made-in-Kume jams and jellies, *arashio*, *andasu*, and lots of *miso* cookies. On the outside lanai, some grade school kids were enjoying after-school shaved ice. At first, they flashed us the vee sign. We taught them to say *Aloha* and make *Shaka*.

During our evening meal, Larry ordered black squid ink soup, which brought back memories of his childhood in Waipahu since his mother used to make that soup on Sundays. The rest of us wanted any typical Okinawan/Kume dish. Aki ordered. We ate. It was delicious. Dessert was peanut *tofu*.

That dinner was our last scheduled event for this trip. Another 24 hours would have been nice. We could have done more—some hands-on nature and cultural things such as seashore kayaking, crafts and cooking, visiting the smaller islands and beaches, checking

out fireflies at night, soaking in the deep ocean water *Bade Haus* (bath house). But we ran out of time. Next day, we were scheduled to fly back to Naha.

We told Aki that if any travel agency in Hawaii puts together an optional package to Kume at Taikai time, we would surely like to return with more people from Hawaii.

With apologies to Tony Bennett and San Francisco, we left our hearts in Kume Jima.

Order Your UCHINANCHU 2014 Today!

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association is pleased to announce the release of Uchinanchu 2014, its second annual memory book filled with beautiful full-color photos capturing the HUOA's past year of activities. Share the

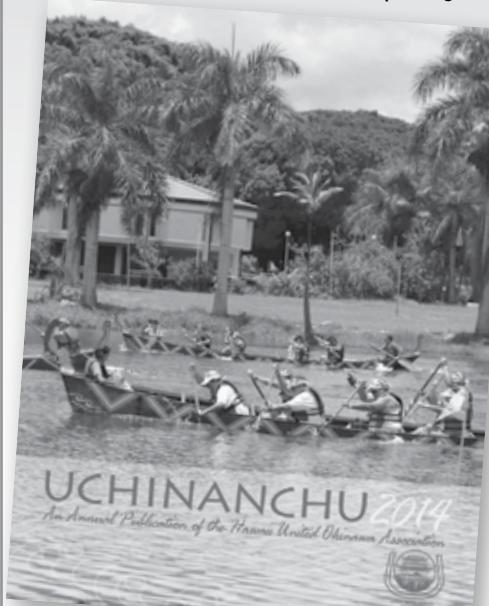
spirit that makes our community so special by ordering Uchinanchu 2014 for friends and family.

Cost: \$10 an issue, plus shipping and handling of \$6/book, or you can pick up your copies at The Hawaii Okinawa Center. Proceeds will benefit the HUOA.

Clubs: Ask about discounts for orders of 25 or more books. You will save \$3/book, which you could keep as a mini-fundraiser for your club!

Limited copies of Uchinanchu 2013 are available for \$5 per copy.

For information, email Jane Serikaku at jserikaku@huoa.org or call (808) 676-5400.



Please complete the order form and mail to: 94-587 Uke'e St, Waipahu, HI 96797.

UCHINANCHU 2014 ORDER FORM

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Contact Email or Phone _____

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(For HUOA office records, Do Not Fill.)

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HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar!

July 2015

- 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY-Office is closed
 - 6 Okinawan Festival Committee meeting, 7pm, HOC
 - 8 Administration Committee meeting, 7pm, HOC
 - Executive Council meeting, 8pm, HOC
 - 10 30th Anniversary - Hawaii-Okinawa Energy Innovation Forum, State Capitol
 - 11 Hawaii Okinawa Center's 25th Anniversary Celebration and Hawaii-Okinawa 30th Anniversary Celebration-Hawaii Okinawa Center
 - 12 Eisa Festival - Daiichi Hirata's "Drums of Hope" - Hawaii Okinawa Center
 - 22 Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, HOC
 - 23 "Churasa" Eisa group from Tomigusuku, Okinawa at UHM Kennedy Theatre
 - 27 Okinawan Festival Food Committee meeting, 7pm
- August 2015
- 10 Okinawan Festival Committee meeting, 7pm, HOC
 - 12 Administration Committee meeting, 7pm, HOC
 - Executive Council meeting, 8pm, HOC
 - 24 Okinawan Festival Food & General Committee meeting, 7pm

Classes · Other Meetings at Hawaii Okinawa Center:

- HUOA Sanshin: every Thursday, 7pm*
 - Ichigo Ichi E: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7pm*
 - Ikebana: 3rd Wednesday, 7pm*
 - Karaoke nite: 3rd 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 5/6/15)

HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

In 2015 our shows premiere on Saturdays at 7 p.m. and repeat the following Thursday at 5 p.m. every week on Olelo Community Media Channel NATV 53. All Olelo shows are also streamed live on the Internet at www.olelo.org. Some of our latest shows are available on-demand on the same website at: What's On-OleloNet Video On Demand-Culture and Ethnic.

July 4, Sat., 7 pm & July 9, Thurs., 5 pm - Dedication of the Serikaku Chaya at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on December 11, 2005.

July 11, Sat., 7 pm & July 16, Thurs., 5 pm - Show One of "Dento No Hibiki - The Mighty Sounds of Tradition," 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Ryukyu Kobudo Taiko, Hawaii Shibu, held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on August 5, 2001.

July 18, Sat., 7 pm & July 23, Thurs., 5 pm - Show Two of "Chu Hisa - First Steps," a variety show presented by the Okinawan Prefectural Government Scholarship Recipients Alumni at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on November 24, 2013.

July 25, Sat., 7 pm & July 30, Thurs., 5 pm - Show Two of "Dento No Hibiki - The Mighty Sounds of Tradition," 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Ryukyu Kobudo Taiko, Hawaii Shibu, held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on August 5, 2001.

Aug 1, Sat., 7 pm & Aug 6, Thurs., 5 pm - Hawaii Okinawa Student Exchange Program, covering 25 Okinawa high school students visiting Hawaii during two weeks in March 2015.

Aug 8, Sat., 7 pm & Aug 13, Thurs., 5 pm - Part One of "Teeku-Tu Udu Yabira" (Dancing with the Taiko), a performance by Hawaii Taiko Kai with Chi-Hiro Kai Ryubu Renjo from Okinawa at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on May 29, 1993.

Aug 15, Sat., 7 pm & Aug 20, Thurs., 5 pm - Part One of "Shurijo Rekishi Emaki," a historical play performed at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on June 17, 1995.

Aug 22, Sat., 7 pm & Aug 27, Thurs., 5 pm - Part Two of "Teeku-Tu Udu Yabira" (Dancing with the Taiko), a performance by Hawaii Taiko Kai with Chi-Hiro Kai Ryubu Renjo from Okinawa at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on May 29, 1993.

Aug 29, Sat., 7 pm & Sep 3, Thurs., 5 pm - Part Two of "Shurijo Rekishi Emaki," a historical play performed at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on June 17, 1995.

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