



UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

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The Okinawan Festival: 'Hawaii's Best of 2015'!

By Tom Yamamoto, 33rd Okinawan Festival Chair



H^{aisai!} Come one, come all to the “best cultural festival in town”! That’s absolutely correct! The Hawaii United Okinawa Association is extremely proud to host its 33rd Okinawan Festival on September 5 and 6. Recently named by the Honolulu Star Advertiser’s Hawaii’s Best of 2015 as the “Best Cultural Festival in Hawaii,” this recognition would not have been possible if not for the multitude of HUOA club members, various organizations and individuals who drive this two-day long event. The months

of planning, weeklong set-up prior to the festival and breakdown after the festival all go unseen to the many festival goers who come to enjoy the perfect Okinawan experience with just the right mixture of entertainment, food, exhibits, vendors, and workshops! To all the volunteers, we applaud you for all that you do in helping sustain what is truly the best cultural festival in the State of Hawaii and for sharing *Uchinanchu Aloha!*

Join us at the Kapiolani Park Bandstand for entertainment starting from 9 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. Artists from Okinawa and Hawaii take the stage with *udui* (dance), traditional and contemporary Okinawan music,

sanshin, eisa, koto, taiko, shishimai, and karate. We are delighted to have Radio Okinawa’s Miuta Taisho Grand Prix winner Ritsuko Shibahiki, Okinawa Yui Buyo with their contemporary Okinawan Line dances, and Nakagusuku Gosamaru Daiko, an award-winning *eisa* group from Nakagusuku Village. Performing for the first time is the collaboration of three dynamic *eisa* groups: Chinagu Eisa Hawaii, Tokyo’s Nankuru Eisa and members of Naha Daiko, who bring flair and intensity to the stage! Returning to our festival is “Hizuki” who was with us two years ago. Updates and details on festival entertainment schedules can be found on the HUOA website at huoa.org. Also, tune in to Radio KZOO during the “*Kariyushi Hour*” on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. for announcements and updates on the festival.

Last month, we celebrated a sister-state relationship that has been flourishing for the past 30 years. Numerous opportunities for officials, community members, families and students to meet and network both in Okinawa and Hawaii have allowed us to reinforce and establish new friendships and bonds which we hope will continue for generations. Therefore as we welcome our friends from Okinawa who will take part in this year’s festival, let us encourage one another and share our Spirit of Aloha to make our guests feel at home. Don’t let language be a barrier! That’s what our hands and arms are for...to gesture!

Continued on Page 3



2015 HUOA Bon Dance Towel

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President's Message

By Mark Higa



Sumiti - Making an Imprint for Our Future Generations

Our Voyage Together...

This year's personal journey for me is a very small part of an enormous Voyage for all of us! This voyage was started years ago with our *Issei*, to maintain a direction that would enrich each of us in multiple generations with our deep cultural heritage, providing each of us solid ground to stand on and allowing us to work together to reach for new heights.

This voyage has many "destinations" over time: events, efforts for sustainment, opportunities for learning. But, as we know, the journeys and experiences along the way are just as fruitful, sometimes just as or even more fulfilling than the destinations.

The Hawaii Okinawa Sister-State 30th Anniversary Celebration in July represents one large recent journey and destination. After months of discussion, working with various government agencies in Okinawa and Hawaii, collaborating with organizations, media, performers, and businesses—we realized this event was daunting because for many of us this event meant venturing into uncharted waters. However, everyone put their thinking "*hachimaki*" on, rolled up their sleeves, used our usual *Uchinanchu* creativity to inspire, our common-sense logic and ingenuity and, when it got down to it, all were ready for sweat and toil.

The result was a wonderful collection of events to pay homage to the past and present, and to take a few steps to forge a path for the future. There were events to pay respect, experience, observe, learn, share, collaborate, brainstorm and of course to celebrate. *Ippee Niffee Deebiru* to each and every one of you who spent time preparing, hosting, entertaining, coordinating, and contributing and volunteering and/or participating that day! We always plan and coordinate, but there was a time when some said "*makachooke*" or "let me do it...trust me." Things were done well and with Aloha, which resulted in an experience that not only left a great imprint on our visitor's minds and hearts, but on our members and community as well!

Around such large milestones are many other "destinations," or events, that are just as pivotal for our overall goal. As part of our desire to sustain for the future, we together turned the first soil at the Hawaii Okinawa Groundbreaking Ceremony at the Hawaii-Okinawa Sister State events. We also had a number of visitors join us from Okinawa: from Miyako Island, to 13 members of the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly, to numbers of other elected officials.

Through these events we all realize and believe in the importance of their purposes: looking for ways to sustain for the future, as well as finding increased ways to strengthen our ties with Okinawa. However, there are so many ways to achieve such large endeavors.... in fact, there are tons of different efforts to ensure these two things happen and are often at the crux of all that we do.

Knowing there are many different ways to approach things, it is important to fully understand the purposes and to provide and maintain a level of trust and respect for all the various people working hard to fulfill these goals. Our Hawaii *Uchinanchu* community is large in numbers, but the community is small enough where we can reap great results by working together. Luckily we have many mentors and advisors who have much knowledge of efforts and events over time that can help guide us!

This year also allows us to reflect on a journey from 25 years ago: the completion of the Hawaii Okinawa Center—a symbolic home for our Hawaii Okinawa community and a tribute to our *Issei*. The trailblazers who made the Center become a reality will help this generation understand their efforts as we seek to make similar steps toward the completion of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza. Through all of this, it is most important is for us to look for ways to assist, to encourage, and to advise all who have great and honest intentions. As demonstrated in all we do, the belief, support and contributions of many can make big things happen!

As we approach our favorite annual "destination" of the year, the 33rd Okinawan Festival will bring to us the exciting pageantry of our performers and the colorful artists of Okinawa, along with so many wonderful opportunities for learning, games, crafts, goods, the breathtaking bon dance, and the delicious food! Planning started months ago and now we will watch the pieces come together.... Again, planning, coordinating and a lot of trust!

A very big *Niffee Deebiru* in advance to the thousands of volunteers as we again embark on the festival together. Each year, we look at ways to refine our outreach to the community.... Our award of Hawaii's Best Cultural Festival by the Honolulu Star Advertiser is a testament to each of you who make an effort to help us shine! As in everything we do, let's take a second to remember how much of an impact we are able to make to the Hawaii community, our visitor industry, supporters and performers from Okinawa, volunteers, geinou performers, businesses and of course the HUOA and our 50 member clubs. For most of our clubs, this has been their sole fundraiser and means to keep their connections to Okinawa alive for many many years. As we always do through striving to give to our community and future generations, let's look after each other and continue to make this large Voyage meaningful and each of its destinations rewarding!

Chibariyo!

HUOA OFFICE CLOSED

We will be closed for the Okinawan Festival weekend.

Saturday, September 5

Sunday, September 6

Monday, September 7 (Labor Day)

Please join us at Kapiolani Park!



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

Uchinanchu Donors May 16 - July 31, 2015.

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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.

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss _____
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Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ Home Tel: _____

Please include this form with your donation and send to:
HUOA Newsletter Fund, 94-587 Ukee Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

UCHINANCHU

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ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

Tel: (808) 676-5400 - Email: huaa@huaa.org - www.huaa.org

The Okinawan Festival - continued from Page 1

Among our visitors from Okinawa is "Gosamaru," the proud mascot of Nakagusuku Son, whose character is based on the Ryukyuan Lord of Nakagusuku Castle. *Gosamaru* will be making appearances throughout the festival so make sure to take advantage of those "selfie" opportunities to pose with him. And, speaking of selfies, were you able to sneak a peek of the 33rd Okinawan Festival t-shirt designs on the Okinawan Festival Facebook page? Yes, those 'minion-like' andagi are back, and this time they're striking a pose for the "Andagi Selfie" t-shirt design. Preview the other t-shirt designs on <https://www.facebook.com/okinawanfestival>.



This year you'll also have a chance to get "up close and personal" by learning about the various performing arts through hands-on workshops and demonstrations by our local artists in our "Ryukyu Performing Arts Learning Tent (*Ruuchu Ji-no Nu Nare Dukuru*)."

Taiko, uta sanshin, koto, udui, eisa, and *shishimai* demonstrations will be conducted by members of various schools when they are not performing on stage. The ladies of Hui O Laulima will also be featuring the theme of "Udui," which will be located in the Cultural Tent. Learn and take part in the art of *Ryukyuan* dance movements, and discover the meaning behind the motions taught by the instructors of our local dance academies.

I hope you'll be in the dancing mood, because you don't want to miss out on our famous bon dance on Saturday evening from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Kapiolani Park field. After you have danced up an appetite you can enjoy Okinawa *soba, andagi, sushi,* drinks, and, introducing for the first time this year, *Andagi Ala Mode,* which will all be sold during the bon dance.

Our festival captures the interest of all generations with traditional cultural performances, demonstrations, and food. For our keiki we have fun games, inflatables and much more. A new attraction to our Children's Games this year is a refined dunking booth where "unlucky" volunteers will be submerged into a tank filled with water. I'm sure you're anxious to find out who's on the list of volunteer dunkees. Well, I guess you'll have to be there to find out!

As you visit our festival, take note of some of the logistical changes that have occurred this year. In accordance with the City and County of Honolulu's ban on the distribution of plastic bags, our non-food vendors will be implementing the policy of using reusable or biodegradable bags. At the same time we encourage all of you to "GO GREEN" by bringing your own

Make sure to purchase your \$5 festival pin and receive a coupon for a FREE shuttle ride, and much more!

eco-friendly bags to store and carry your purchases. This will help reduce the amount of trash that we produce and cut down on the cost of biodegradable and reusable bags. Also, the round trip shuttle service from Kapiolani Community College to the festival will be provided once again, however the rate of the fare has increased to \$3. So, make sure to purchase your \$5 festival pin and receive a coupon for a FREE shuttle ride, and much more!

In our final weeks of preparation for this year's festival, let's take a moment to reflect on the many imprints that we have made within our community over the past three decades that have helped us to preserve what is known as the "largest Okinawan cultural event in Hawaii." As we look to the future, let's uphold this legacy and make an even bigger "imprint" or impression in Hawaii by continuing to spread the *Uchinanchu Aloha* with the tens of thousands who attend the festival annually. *Ippei Nifeei Debiru!*

Okinawan Festival Pin only \$5

PURCHASE OUR 2015 COMMEMORATIVE 33RD ANNIVERSARY PIN



Receive coupons for:

- ~ Free round trip Bus Shuttle, between KCC & Festival grounds
- ~ \$2 off a Festival t-shirt purchased at Festival
- ~ One free Children's game
- ~ Free azuki beans for your purchased shave ice
- ~ A Little Bit of Everything
- ~ Sunrise Restaurant
- ~ Tamashiro Market ~ Zippy's

Available for sale at the Hawaii Okinawa Center and at the Okinawan Festival - Information Booth during Festival hours.

Certain restrictions may apply.

A PROUD SUPPORTER OF THE HAWAII OKINAWA PLAZA



Hawaii Okinawa Plaza



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!"

CAMPAIGN 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 DECEMBER 31, 2015.

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

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SHARING UCHINANCHU ALOHA OKINAWAN FESTIVAL PHOTO CONTEST

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association wishes to reward you for helping to document our festival by holding a photography contest. Our goal is to gather and archive photos from this event to document its activities and preserve the rich history of Okinawan culture in Hawaii. Feel free to submit photos for any or all of our main themes. Maximum 4 entries (2 photos per theme).

PRIZES

A total of 3 prizes will be awarded. A winner for each theme, and a best overall photo grand prize winner. Winners will be contacted and winning photo will be published in the Uchinanchu and posted online at www.okinawanfestival.com.

GRAND PRIZE - \$150

THEME WINNER - \$50 (1 prize for each theme)

THEME: Ohana

Like many of the other immigrant groups to Hawaii, the Okinawan community has survived through strong ties to Ohana (family) both within and with the other immigrant communities throughout Hawaii's history. It is the people that make us who we are. Through this theme, we wish to capture the spirit of Ohana.

Examples include but are not limited to:

- people enjoying the festival individually or in groups
- volunteers or guests participating in our activities
- people working together to make this festival a success
- any kind of scene that embodies the Aloha spirit or coming together as Ohana

THEME: Culture

The Uchinanchu tradition in Hawaii can be traced back many years. It is our hope that you can capture the spirit and essence of the Okinawan culture as it is expressed through the festival.

Examples include but are not limited to:

- cultural booths, activities, events, etc.
- people interacting with those booths, activities, events, etc.
- cultural displays



CRITERIA

Photos will be judged on originality, composition, style, and the ability to embody our listed themes as well as the overall festival theme of "Sharing Uchinanchu Aloha".

CONTEST RULES

1. Photos must be taken during the days of the festival
2. Photographer must be the sole owner of the photo
3. Photo does not infringe on any copyright, statutory, common law or other rights of any person, entity, firm or corporation
4. Photos must be an original, no computer alterations
5. Prints and media will not be returned
6. HUOA has the right to use and publish the photos
7. A maximum of two photos can be submitted for each theme for a maximum of six photos total
8. To qualify, photo resolution must be at least 2,500 pixels in length or width, print at 300 dpi (dots per inch).

Okinawan Festival Photo Contest Entry Form

EMAIL ENTRIES ONLY:

photocontest@huoa.org

When emailing entries, provide the below information in the body of the email and match the file name of each photo to the photo title. Send 1 entry per email. Submitted photo resolution must be at least 2,500 pixels in length or width, and print at 300 dpi.

All entries must be received by HUOA by 9/15/2015.

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TEL NUMBER: _____

CONTEST THEME (circle one): CULTURE OHANA

PHOTO TITLE: _____

PHOTO DESCRIPTION: _____

By submitting your entries to HUOA, you have agreed to and will abide by the contest rules.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



MINI CULTURAL WORKSHOPS AT THE... Okinawan Festival

RUUCHU JI-NO NU NARE DUKURU (Ryukyu Performing Arts Learning Tent)

In our effort to promote and perpetuate our culture through performing arts, this year's HUOA 33rd Okinawan Festival will feature mini-workshops in eisa, odori (dance), uta sanshin, koto, taiko and shishimai. These workshops will vary from demonstrations to hands-on or interactive-type sessions.

This is a unique opportunity in that spectators at the festival are rarely given the opportunity to learn about an Okinawan art form directly from a performer or sensei.

All workshops will be 30-minutes long, and will be held in the "Ruuchu Ji-no Nu Nare Dukuru" tent throughout the duration of the festival from September 5 and 6. Refer to the Uchinanchu Newsletter for scheduled workshop times.

LOCATION: RYUKYU PERFORMING ARTS TENT
(SEE OKINAWAN FESTIVAL MAP)



Congratulations on the 33rd Annual Okinawan Festival

Aloha from Schmidt, Shimokawa & Associates



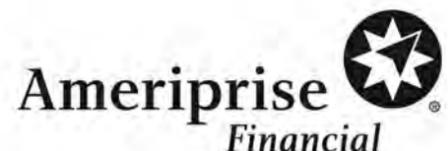
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OKINAWAN FESTIVAL FAVORITES

Special Item:
Andagi Ala Mode!
 During Bon Dance Only!
 Sold at the Andagi booth
 5:30-8:00 pm

Champuru...Andamisu...Oki Dog...Tumiakuru...Andagi...Ashitibichi...
 Be sure you try everything at this year's 33rd Okinawan Festival!
Good Ol' Favorites!

PIG'S FEET SOUP: In Uchinaaguchi (Okinawan language), it's called ashitibichi. Pig's feet are cooked in a soup stock and garnished with konbu (seaweed), daikon (turnip), togan (squash) and mustard cabbage – served with hot rice.

YAKI SOBA: Okinawa-style soba noodles stir-fried with vegetables and luncheon meat and seasoned with a special chef's sauce.



OKINAWA SOBA: Okinawan-style soba noodles served in hot soup and garnished with kamaboko (fishcake), shoyu pork, green onions and red ginger.

CHAMPURU PLATE: If you love Okinawan food, you'll love this plate: delicious shoyu pork, rice and champuru – a mixture of stir-fried vegetables, tuna and agedofu (deep-fried tofu) – served with andamisu (pork and miso mixture) and choice of brown or white rice.

OKI DOG: A hot dog and chili are wrapped in a soft tortilla with shredded shoyu pork and lettuce.

CHILI & RICE: Chili and rice in a bowl. Sold at Oki Dog/Chili booth.

CHILI FRANK PLATE: Chili and rice plate served with a hot dog. Sold at Oki Dog /Chili booth.

CHICKEN PLATE: BBQ chicken thigh & drumstick served with choice of brown or white rice and corn or ½ chicken in a carry-out bag.

CHICKEN NISHIME: A healthy dish of chicken, mushroom, daikon

(turnip), carrots and konbu (seaweed) slowly braised and simmered in dashi, served with brown or white rice. Sold at Chicken Booth.

ANDAGI: The andagi, or Okinawan doughnut, is an all-around Festival favorite. Basic doughnut ingredients, such as sugar, flour, milk and eggs, are mixed into a batter and deep-fried. The hand "dropping" of evenly rounded balls of batter into the hot oil is a show in itself. Three andagi per package.

ANDADOG: The Okinawan version of the corndog. The andadog is a whole hot dog on a stick that is dipped into the andagi batter and deep fried.

YAKITORI STICK: Skewered chicken grilled to perfection with a touch of teriyaki sauce.

MAKI SUSHI: Sushi rice rolled in nori (seaweed) and sliced for easy eating. Sold at Yakitori booth, Okinawa Soba and Chicken plate booths and at our Country Store.

SHAVE ICE: The perfect way to refresh yourself on a hot summer day.

COFFEE: Andagi and coffee, a perfect match! Too hot a day for coffee? *Special for you....Canned Iced Coffee will also be sold in the Andagi booth.*



FOOD BOOTH HOURS
Saturday 9 am – 6 pm
 Booths open during Bon Dance until 8 p.m.
 Andagi, Andadog, Yakitori/sushi, Okinawa Soba, Shave Ice
Sunday 9 am – 5 pm



FESTIVAL FOOD BOOTH VOLUNTEERS SCHEDULE

Andagi:

Saturday Crew (Mixing): Oroku Aza Jin Kai (morning shift)
 Sunday Crew (Mixing): Ginowan Shijin Kai (morning shift)

Saturday Crew (Cooking): Ige's

Saturday Crew (Cooking): Ginowan Shijin Kai

Saturday Crew (Cooking): Urasoe Shijin Kai

Sunday Crew (Cooking): Oroku Azajin Kai

Sunday Crew (Cooking): Wahiawa Okinawa Kyoyu Kai (morning shift)

Sunday Crew (Cooking): Ginowan Shijin Kai (afternoon shift)

Saturday Crew (Sales): Osato Doshi Kai (morning shift)

Saturday Crew (Sales): Club Motobu (afternoon shift)

Sunday Crew (Sales): Haeburu Club (morning shift)

Sunday Crew (Sales): Mid Pacific Institute Globetrotters (afternoon shift)

Andadog:

Saturday Crew: Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai

Sunday Crew: Kin Chojin Kai

Champuru Plate:

Saturday Crew: Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club

Sunday Crew: Awase Doshi Kai (morning shift)

Sunday Crew: Hawaii Katsuren Chojin Kai (morning/afternoon shifts)

Chicken Plate/Chicken Nishime

Saturday Crew: Bito Doshi Kai

Sunday Crew: Hawaii Sashiki Chinen Doshi Kai

Hospitality (Food/drink for volunteers):

Saturday Crew: Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce

Sunday Crew: Yonabaru Chojin Kai

Oki Dog, Chili & Rice and Chili Frank Plate:

Saturday Crew: Okinawa City-Goeku Son (morning shift)

Saturday Crew: Yagaji Doshi Kai (afternoon shift)

Sunday Crew: Hui Makaala

Okinawa Soba:

Saturday Crew: Tomigusuku Sonjin Kai

Sunday Crew: Gushikawa Shijin Kai

Pig's Feet Soup:

Saturday Crew: Kochinda Chojin Kai (morning shift)

Saturday Crew: Tamagusuku Club (afternoon shift)

Sunday Crew: Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai (all day)

Rice Cooking/Kitchen Preparation:

Saturday Crew: Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai

Sunday Crew: Nishihara Chojin Kai

Shave Ice:

Saturday Crew: Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai

Sunday Crew: Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai

Yakisoba:

Saturday Crew: Guy Shimabukuro's Gang (am to 1pm), Shinka (1pm-closing)

Sunday Crew: Ishikawa Shijin Kai

Sunday Crew: Onna Sonjin Kai

Yakitori Sticks:

Saturday Crew: Brian Ikehara's gang (morning)

Saturday Crew: Haneji Club (afternoon)

Sunday Crew: Ginoza Sonjin Kai (all day)

OKINAWAN FESTIVAL T-SHIRTS

Available in men's, men's tank top, women's, and youth sizes.

Official 2015 Festival T-Shirt



Uchinaa Umui Kugariti T-Shirt



Bingata Side Shisa T-Shirt



Uchinaa Umui Kugariti T-Shirt

Women's Style



INFORMATION & MANPOWER BOOTH

Please visit the Information & Manpower Booth where you can:

- * Pick up your complimentary copy of the *Uchinanchu* newsletter, containing a festival site map, entertainment schedule, booth information, and much more.
- * Purchase an Okinawan Festival Pin for \$5 and receive a coupon for a FREE shuttle ride, \$3 off on one festival t-shirt, and much more!
- * Purchase your \$3 round-trip Shuttle Bus ticket (Ride free from KCC, Pay for the bus on your return trip to KCC).
- * Purchase an original 2015 HUOA Bon Dance Towel for \$5 each.
- * Buy copies of the 2014 HUOA Uchinanchu Annual Pictorial Book for \$10.
- * Buy Hawaii Okinawa Today (HOT) DVDs shown on Olelo at the special festival price of \$10, second one for \$5.



Andagi Selfie T-Shirt



Ryukyu/Shurei no Kuni T-Shirt



OKINAWAN CULTURE, SPECIALTY ITEMS & ACTIVITIES



CULTURAL TENT

Want to up your Uchinaanchu quotient? Need to know when your Ojii-san immigrated to Hawaii? Have a desire to wear a hanagasa? Want to learn about the Okinawan culture, language, foods, dance and more? If so, then you should definitely visit the Cultural Tent at the Okinawan Festival. The women of Hui O Laulima will be again hosting the Cultural Tent, which will be featuring Udui (odori), Okinawan dance. Local cultural practitioners will be demonstrating the art of udui at scheduled times. Visitors can learn the different dance movements and their meanings.

Festival-goers can also get dressed in traditional kimono and paranku costumes to have a studio quality photograph taken. This has become a yearly tradition of many families. Other organizations will have exhibition booths and will be glad to share their knowledge and skills to interested visitors. (There may be related fees for some activities.)



Mensooree!

The Cultural Tent will be open Saturday 9 am – 6 pm
Sunday 9 am – 4 pm.
Come and immerse yourself in Okinawan culture. It will make you proud to be Uchinaanchu or Uchinaanchu-at-heart.

HUOA Shimakutuba/Uchinaaguchi

- novelty items with Okinawan language phrases
- information on Uchinaaguchi class at Hawaii Okinawan Center

Hawaii Bonsai Association

- display/sale of bonsai plants
- plant care advice

Hui O Laulima

- kimono and paranku dressing for photo shoots
- cultural artifacts display – udui accessories and implements
- sales of Chimugukuru – cultural cookbook

HEIWA DOORI: Experience Hawaii's version of Naha, Okinawa's famous Heiwa Doori. Speciality foods from Okinawa such as: konbu, goya cha, Okinawa soba, andagi mix, Shikwasa, kokuto (black sugar candy) and more.



MACHIYA-GWA (COUNTRY STORE):

You can find fresh vegetables such as: goya, Okinawa sweet potatoes, Japanese cucumbers, daikon, eggplant, Kamiya Papayas and assorted desserts – baked manju, banana/taro bread, cookies, taro/sweet potato chips, pretzels and their famous Anda miso. Look for Aloha Tofu specialties: assorted flavors of Tofu Mousse and Yushi Dofu. Quench your thirst with their ono Plantation Ice Tea! Bargain priced – previous Festival t-shirts!

HANAGI MACHIYA GWA (PLANTS): Discover a wonderful selection of potted plants and flowers.

TI JUKUISHINA-MUSHIMUN (ARTS & CRAFTS

GALLERY): Explore the array of wonderful original arts and crafts by local artisans and crafters.

FESTIVAL T-SHIRTS: 33rd Okinawan Festival T-Shirts available in men's, men's tank top, women's and youth sizes. (see page 7, or visit the Okinawan Festival website for designs)

CHILDREN'S GAMES: Fun games and prizes – try your luck at Andagi Dunk...who knows, you may get to dunk our HUOA President Mark Higa! Inflatables and some new games will be introduced this year. 🌐

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AND HISTORY TENT

Look for our orange "Yuimaaru" banners to spot the Capitol Campaign Tent!

- Learn about exciting developments on the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza, which broke ground last month.
- Culture is not limited to food, music and the arts, it also includes history. Marking the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII, we will have an exhibit on the Battle of Okinawa, as well as guest speakers.
- Special classes on "How fo be mo Okinawan." Learn how to talk like an Okinawan with Uchinaaguchi lessons, how to whistle like an Okinawan, how to dance like an Okinawan, and how to sing like an Okinawan! Check schedule on our FB page (facebook.com/okinawanfestival)
- Social Media/Photo Op Spot. Stop by this happening tent to take photos with our popular "Polaroid" frames. Look for additional special props and guests as well! 🌐

HELP NEEDED AT OKINAWAN FESTIVAL

The First Aid Booth is looking for people with current medical experience (doctors, nurses, EMTs) to help treat minor injuries at the festival. Medical and nursing students are also welcomed. If you are able to help, please contact Lisa Wong-Yamamoto, RN, via email at yama@lava.net or via phone 220-4075.

Setting up and breaking down: Tuesday-Friday, Sept. 1-4. We need help to set up the stage, booths and platforms. On Tuesday, September 1, at 8:30 a.m., we need to unload two large containers and could really use a lot of strong guys to assist.

Monday, September 7, is when we break everything down and store them until next year. We also need to clean up the entire festival grounds. Please call HUOA at 676-5400 if you can help.

Gambarimashoo!

FESTIVAL BOOTH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Cultural Exhibition:

Saturday & Sunday Crew: Hui O Laulima, Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii, HUOA Uchinaaguchi Class, Center for Okinawan Studies, Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii

Children's Games:

Saturday & Sunday Crew: Itoman Shijin Kai

Hanagi Machiya Gwa, Plants:

Saturday & Sunday Crew: Yonashiro Chojin Kai

Heiwa Dori:

Saturday: Nago Club, Kitanakagusuku Sonjin Kai, Kuba Rosei Kai

Sunday: Gushichan Sonjin Kai

Festival T-Shirts:

Saturday & Sunday Crew: Urasoe Shijin Kai

Machiya-Gwa, Country Store:

Saturday & Saturday Crew: Yomitan Club, Aza Yogi Doshi Kai 🌐

PARKING ALERT! LIMITED PARKING AT KAPIOLANI PARK

The newly refurbished parking lot at Kapiolani Park looks great, but it has fewer parking stalls than in previous years after it was re-configured. We are faced with the challenge of dealing with fewer parking stalls.

Please remember: alternate parking is available at Kapiolani Community College. Shuttle bus is FREE for all volunteers, so please be sure you obtain your bus ticket from your booth captain.

Everyone rides the bus for free from KCC to the park, but must present a bus ticket on the ride back to KCC. To all our festival attendees: you may purchase your bus ticket for \$3 at the Information & Manpower Booth or at the Ticket Booth located very close to the shuttle bus stop.



OKINAWAN FESTIVAL ENTERTAINMENT

Guest Performers from Okinawa - A Blend of Hawaii Premieres and Returning Favorites

(Please refer to the entertainment schedule on the back page of this issue of Uchinanchu.)

The HUOA is pleased to announce the participation of special guest artists from Okinawa who will join our local Okinawan performing groups to fill the stage and enliven our 2015 Okinawan Festival. Please join us in extending our Uchinanchu Aloha to them.

Nakagusuku Gosamaru Drums

Thunderous rhythms from eisa drums will fill the air at the 33rd Okinawan Festival. The award-winning Nakagusuku Gosamaru Drums will



give an invigorating performance by their 41-member group that ranges in age from 5 to 55. The group is named after the location and famous castle site and the legendary lord who once resided there. The eisa entourage led by Mayor Hamada also includes families and supporters from Nakagusuku.

This Shishi mai will be part of the Nakagusuku Gosamaru Drums performance.



Aloha Party For Our Friends From Okinawa

Join us on Monday, September 7, at 6:30 p.m. at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Each of the performing arts groups from Okinawa will do a short presentation:

- *Nakagusuku Gosamaru Drums*
- *Ritsuko Shibahiki, Radio Okinawa's Grand Prix winner of their Miuta Taisho*
- *Famed vocalist Yoko Hizuki accompanied by Takahiro Nakajima on guitar and Reki on sanshin*
- *Okinawa Yui Buyo - contemporary Okinawa line dance*

Dinner cost for Hawaii attendees: \$25

Please call HUOA at 676-5400 to make your reservation.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 29, 2015.



Ritsuko Shibahiki

Ritsuko Shibahiki: Radio Okinawa's 2015 Miuta Taisho Winner

You are sure to applaud Ritsuko Shibahiki, Radio Okinawa's 2015 Miuta Taisho winner. Her ensemble includes members of her Okinawan dance academy who will add color and grace to her superb vocal renditions.

Ryukyu Soul Project

Yoko Hizuki, a Festival favorite and highly acclaimed artist, makes her 2015 Okinawan Festival appearance as part of the Ryukyu Soul Project with other musicians and dancers from Japan. Yoko has several CD releases, including with Mamoru Miyagi. If you happen to travel via Kobe Airport in Japan, it's Yoko's bright and lilting voice you'll hear over the PA—but we're so lucky to hear her live in Hawaii with the Ryukyu Soul Project.

Okinawa Yuibuyo Suishin Kyogikai

The repertoire of Okinawa Yuibuyo Suishin Kyogikai can be likened to our own line-dancing that's gained quite a momentum in Okinawa. It's a good form of exercise and coordination and friendships might even entice you join in on their fun!

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33RD 2015 OKINAWAN FESTIVAL KAPIOLANI PARK • SEPTEMBER 5 & 6



OKINAWAN FESTIVAL SHUTTLE BUS – \$3 ROUNDTrip PURCHASE RETURN TICKET AT SHUTTLE TICKET BOOTH OR INFORMATION/MANPOWER BOOTH.

The HUOA's Okinawan Festival Shuttle Bus will run continuously during the Festival. Park free at Kapiolani Community College and ride roundtrip for \$3 in a cool air-conditioned bus to Kapiolani Park. There is a storage compartment on the side of the bus for baby strollers and large bags. Still a great deal! Relieve those weary legs and enjoy a cool ride with friendly bus drivers who will happily assist passengers in getting on and off the bus.

Before you go to the shuttle stop for your return trip to KCC, purchase your ticket at the Shuttle Ticket Booth. Tickets will be collected by shuttle stop attendant.

Shuttle Drop Off & Pick Up Locations

Kapiolani Community College: at City Bus Stop on Diamond Head Road

Kapiolani Park: Monsarrat Avenue

Saturday, September 5: 7:00 am – 10:30 pm

Last departure from Kapiolani Park at 10:30 pm

Sunday, September 6: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Last departure from Kapiolani Park at 6:00 pm

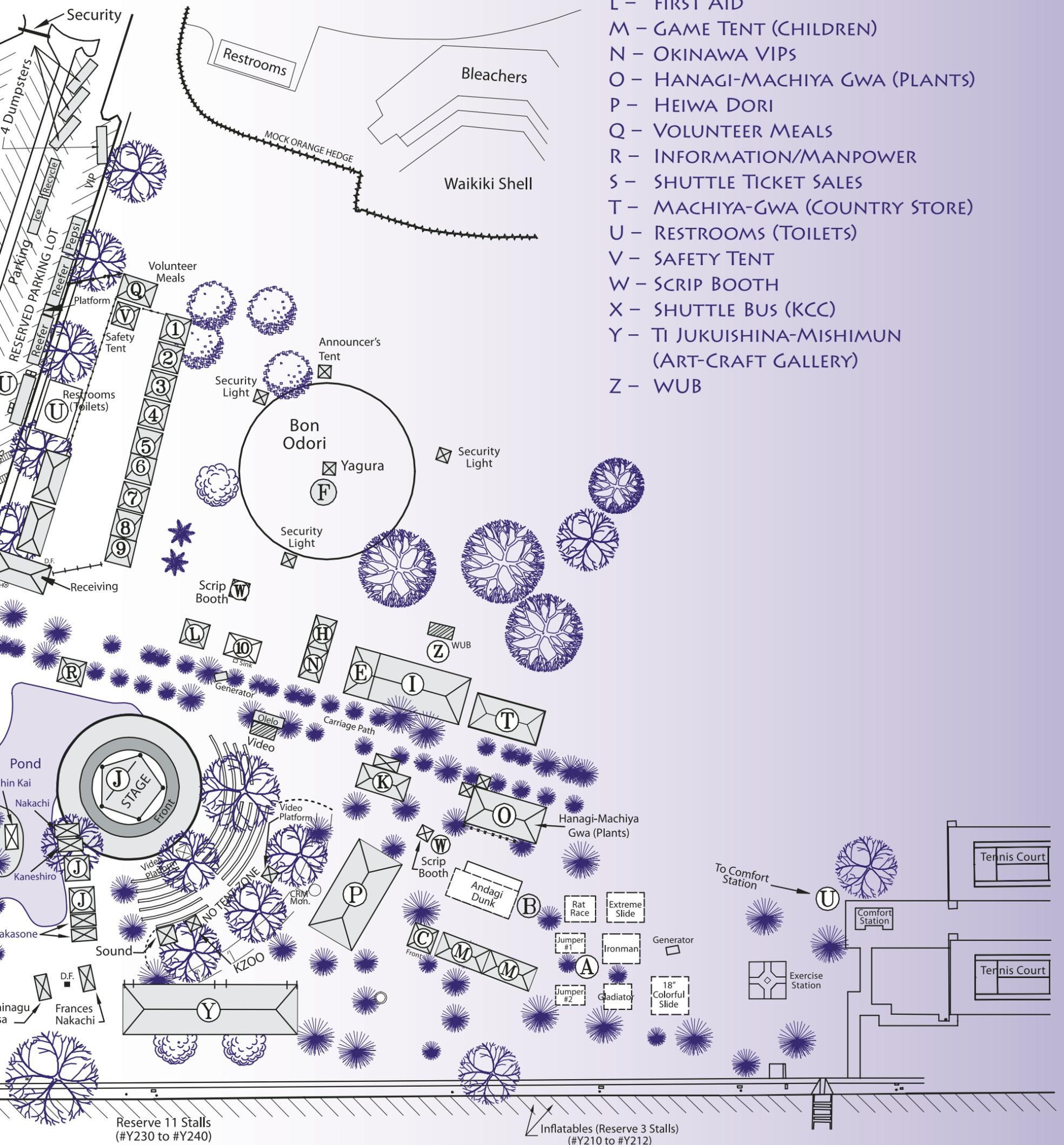


FOOD BOOTHS

- 1 – CHICKEN
- 2 – CHAMPURU
- 3 – PIG'S FEET SOUP
- 4 – YAKISOBA
- 5 – CHILI/OKI DOG
- 6 – OKINAWA SOBA
- 7 – ANDAGI
- 8 – ANDADOG
- 9 – YAKITORI
- 10 – SHAVE ICE

ATTRACTIONS & OTHER BOOTHS

- A – AIR GAMES (INFLATABLES)
- B – ANDAGI DUNK
- C – BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING
- D – BOH ATM MACHINE
- E – BONSAI EXHIBITION
- F – BON ODORI
- H – CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LOUNGE
- I – CULTURAL EXHIBITION
- J – DRESSING ROOMS (ENTERTAINERS)
- K – FESTIVAL T-SHIRTS
- L – FIRST AID
- M – GAME TENT (CHILDREN)
- N – OKINAWA VIPs
- O – HANAGI-MACHIYA GWA (PLANTS)
- P – HEIWA DORI
- Q – VOLUNTEER MEALS
- R – INFORMATION/MANPOWER
- S – SHUTTLE TICKET SALES
- T – MACHIYA-GWA (COUNTRY STORE)
- U – RESTROOMS (TOILETS)
- V – SAFETY TENT
- W – SCRIP BOOTH
- X – SHUTTLE BUS (KCC)
- Y – TI JUKUISHINA-MISHIMUN (ART-CRAFT GALLERY)
- Z – WUB



Kalakaua Avenue

Bridging from Generation to Generation - For Our Children!

Ikuuyu Madin

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

Our Supporters



Ikuuyu 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.)

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 KENNETH AND HELEN YANAMURA
 BOB YONAHARA
 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 \$56,388.57 in gifts or pledges for the building of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza.

Our 200 FOR 2M CAMPAIGN continues to grow, we would like to welcome the family of Richard and Kiyoko Kuba, Christine and Stanley Higa, and Guy Miyashiro and to our 45-member family. The HUOA is truly grateful for your support and the confidence you have displayed through your generous donations and humbly ask for your continued support.

Magukuru Kara Ippee Niffee Deebiru - from our hearts, thank you very much.

Donations listed below were received from May 16, 2015 to July 31, 2015.

Aloha Tofu Inc.	Mildred Sachiko Nakama	Tsuneo Yamashiro
George & Eleanor Arakaki	Mitsuko Toguchi Nakasone	In Memory of Shinsuke Goya
Stanley T. Arakaki (2)	Mrs. Yoko Sakiyama	In Memory of Betty Michiko Higa by Ginowan Club
Arashiro Ohana	Takeo & Betty Y. Shimabukuro (2)	In Memory of Shuichi, Kama, Masanobu & Fumiko Higa by James H. & Richard Higa
Nancy Akamine Arizumi, Claire Matsumoto & Wilma Ogimi	George Y. Tengan	In Memory of Joann Imada
Dr. Kyoko Hijirida	The Benevity Community Impact Fund, Matching Gift for Hisashi Matsumoto	In Memory of Kaoru Matsumura by Ginowan Club
Val Kato	The Benevity Community Impact Fund, Matching Gift for Jason Tokuda	In Memory of William Nakamatsu by Leila Nakamatsu 
MC Group Hawaii	Charles T. Toguchi	
Wilbert S. Miyasato	Shigeru & Doris Yamaguchi	
Pat & Nona Miyashiro		

2014 TO 2015-ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM

Preserving Our Legacy 

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association is extremely grateful to the over 734 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 July 31, 2015 we collected \$100,582. *Ippee Nifee Deebiru!*

Our list of donors reflects contributions from May 16, 2015 to July 31, 2015.

SILVER (\$500 TO \$999)

In Memory of Seitoku & Haruko Yonamine by Maurice & Nancy Yonamine

BRONZE (\$250 TO \$499)

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Keiko Nakata

In Memory of Kameju & Hatsue Akamine by Annie Chang

In Memory of Shinyu & Rachel Ige by Charlene Nekomoto

In Memory of Giuei, Kane, Thomas, Susan & Kimie Kamiya by Tom Dobiesz & Jan Kamiya Dobiesz

In Memory of Margaret Oshiro Tsuma by Walter Tsuma

In Honor of Matsuei & Hatsuko Kaneshiro by Paul & Shirley Kaneshiro

FRIENDS (DONATIONS UP TO \$99)

Mr. & Mrs. James Honma

Helen T. Kaneshiro

Mr. & Mrs. Melvin K. Murakami

Thomas Nakamatsu

Betty A. Taira 

HUOA DONATIONS

May 16 - July 31, 2015

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



Chris Higa

In Memory of Parents Jiro & Kamei Nakasone, brothers Seiki & Junichi and sister Shi-Chan by Thomas & Sueno N. Murakami

The Koaniani Fund, an advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Robyn McKnight

In Memory of Aiko Sekiguchi by Dale Senaga

Bonnie Miyashiro

Okinawa Tourist Service

In Memory of Seiko Shiroma by Doris S. Shiroma & Family

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In Memory of Ted & Jane Uesato by Rachael T. Sakuma

In Memory of Agnes Kameko Higa by Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai

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David Ige
Governor, State of Hawaii

Introducing "Okinawa BON!!"
Fridays at 8:30 PM Sponsored by Orion

In conjunction with the 30th anniversary of sister state relationship between Okinawa and Hawaii, "Okinawa BON!!" from RBC (Ryukyu Hoso), will be featured in the Sister State TV lineup with a special introduction by Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga. "Okinawa BON!!" is a fun, family-friendly program and a great way to learn more about Okinawa's fashionable stores, popular restaurants, and latest trends.



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25th Anniversary of the Hawaii-Okinawa High School Student Exchange



Okinawa and Hawaii students and adults celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Hawaii-Okinawa High School Student Exchange program in Okinawa.

Two Weeks in Okinawa

By Kassie Odo



Going to Okinawa, a beautiful island with an amazing culture and many friendly people, was definitely an unforgettable experience. Going into this student exchange trip, I thought, “Wow, two weeks is a long time,” but in the end when it was time to say goodbye, with tear-filled eyes, I thought, “Two weeks was too short.” During my stay in Okinawa, I have gained a new family, made new friends, and learned through new experiences.

On this student exchange trip, I not only made new friends from Okinawa, but I also made friends with the students from Hawaii. On the first night in Okinawa, we stayed at the *Seinenkaikan*, a youth

hall. We all became friends that first night and the following morning all 15 of us were circled up in one room playing a game of “Heads Up.”

Throughout the remainder of the trip during the four field trips—to Shuri Castle, Churaumi Aquarium, the Peace Memorial Museum, Himeyuri, and the *kencho*—the students from Hawaii became closer as we shared stories of our host families and school experiences as we experienced the Okinawan culture together.

Going to school, wearing the school uniform with my host student, Nao Tanahara, was an experience that I will always remember and cherish. Everyone at Shuri High School was so welcoming; everyone that I met was willing to take care of me. During class they would ask me if I could understand, they would lend me their book for me to look at and follow along, and they would explain to me, in English, what they were doing. I became closest with my host student’s homeroom class. They included me in everything: their class party at a ramen shop, their senior pictures, and in every class that I was with them. On the last day of school, Nao’s homeroom sang and gave me a card that they had all signed and a new backpack; I couldn’t help but cry because I knew I was really going to miss them. I still keep in touch with them through LINE. Another experience that I will never forget was the soccer game with some of Nao’s classmates, some of Erina’s, the other student that I hosted, classmates, and a few girls from the Shuri High School soccer team. I was so happy to play soccer with all of them; I can’t recall a time when I wasn’t smiling.

The Tanahara family, my host family, was also very welcoming and a very fun family. When I first met them at the Welcome Party, I was greeted with, “Hi! I’m Shoko Tanahara, please call me, Okaasan,” and it was the same with Nao’s dad; I instantly felt like part of the family. My host parents were great cooks; I ate so much good food! My host mom would wake up early to make breakfast and a bento lunch for Nao, her sister, her brother, and me; that was amazing because I knew how much work that took.

Another unforgettable experience with Nao’s family was when we went to a waterfall in Yanbaru called Makiya Falls. Nao’s dad showed me the “Tarzan rope” that hung from a tree, above the water. Nao’s little brother, Kanto, had a blast swinging from the rope. Nao’s parents had playful, outgoing personalities. One time, laughing, they told me stories about their family and Nao got so embarrassed. On my last night in Okinawa, we had a sleepover at Nao’s house with Erina, the other student that I hosted. The following morning, we went to karaoke with Nao’s younger sister, Rino. We sang Taylor Swift, One Direction, Japanese and Okinawan songs together. The last song we sang was the song that all of the students sang at the Aloha Party in both Hawaii and Okinawa, bringing tears to my eyes. I had an amazing stay with Okaasan, Otoosan, Nao, Rino, and Kanto. I am so thankful for everything that they have done for me.

I would like to thank the Okinawa Board of Education and the Hawaii United Okinawa Association for the opportunity to go to Okinawa. I have gained a new family, lots of new friends, and had so many unforgettable experiences. I now understand why people say that Okinawa is a home away from home because Okinawa is very similar to Hawaii but it shows its character in a different way. It was difficult to say goodbye, so I said “see you later,” in hopes that I will get to see my family and friends again.

Building Peace

By Sean Oshiro

After being able to stay in Okinawa for two weeks and learning about the Battle of Okinawa has helped me understand the trauma that occurred to the victims during that time period. Prior to this, I had learned a little about what happened during the Battle of Okinawa. But, having the opportunity to learn about it in person has opened my eyes to things I wouldn’t have learned in school. Reading letters left behind and hearing stories from victims really broke my heart. Knowing that Okinawa was once a big battlefield really makes me appreciate the slowly increasing peace our world is trying to create.

Although it is sad to reminisce about the many stories of the battle, it is also a great experience for many people to understand the history and life lessons provided by the artifacts and memories left behind. I’m really glad I was able to gain more knowledge about the Battle of Okinawa. It has opened up my heart and mind to the importance of building peace between our countries.



Reflections of Sumiti Itsimadin: Imprints Made by Everyone for the Hawaii Okinawa Sister-State 30th Anniversary!

Did you all catch a piece of the magical ride of the Hawaii Okinawa Sister-State 30th Anniversary events? The events we have all been talking about for months approached us like a freight train and then blazed by at the blink of an eye! Left in its tracks were tons of memories, experiences, new friendships, commitment to goals for collaboration and much *Uchinanchu Aloha* for everyone! Here are a collection of a few thoughts and memories that were shared from Hawaii and Okinawa government and business and our dedicated members:

Thoughts On Our Visitors from Okinawa:

Governor Onaga and the Okinawa guests were so happy at the warm reception they received at the airport at their arrival and their departure, and the hospitality that was given to them throughout their stay here!

There were so many different groups from businesses, government and performers coming out from different flights (about 100 in total), but the roaring applause that Governor Onaga received, with welcome signs, and lei were very special. Even past Counsel General Toyoei Shigeeda spent his last day in Hawaii welcoming Governor Onaga and his entourage and helped him with his luggage. What a classy welcome!

Dinners and gatherings with our friends, allow us to talk story and engage in a more personable, less formal setting... everyone has a chance to meet someone new, get to know each other better – adding singing, sanshin, ukulele and hula to these gatherings make it all the more memorable.

Thoughts On Friday's Forum at the State Capitol & Opening Reception at Washington Place



Governors David Ige, George Ariyoshi and Takeshi Onaga at Washington Place.

Meeting in the State of Hawaii House of Representatives Chambers, and to watch Hawaii and Okinawa pursue lofty endeavors to lead the world in renewable energy... history in the making!

Two *Uchinanchu* Governors, from places so far apart geographically, but (they have) such close roots, roles and goals for their communities.

So great that businesses, our friends, businesses and groups from Okinawa can experience this (Renewable Energy Initiatives Forum)

Nice to have Governor Ariyoshi, First Lady Jean Ariyoshi and past legislators join current government at this event. [Governor Ariyoshi, Representatives: Ken Kiyabu, Dennis Arakaki, Marshall Ige, Dennis Nakasato, Robert Nakata, Dwight Yoshito Takamine and Senator Charles Toguchi all played instrumental roles in the creation of the Hawaii-Okinawa Sister State Agreement creation and signing in 1985.]

We need to warn both Governor's before the Call to Celebration and Eisa start in the future – they both jumped at the opening drums!

Awamori, Orion Beer and food from Zippy's/A Catering Experience... now that is Hawaii-Okinawan!

Governor Ige's new *Kariyushi* shirt and Governor Onaga's new Aloha shirt are both the same blue... they said it represents the ocean that connects us.

Thoughts On Saturday's Extravaganza: Hawaii Okinawa Center Silver Anniversary Celebration, Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Ground Breaking, Sumiti Itsimadin Roundtable, Geinou Performing Arts Workshop:

The coming storm made it feel like Okinawa in Hawaii – how fitting is that!?



染 **Sumiti Itsimadin: Imprints on Eternal G**
 Hawaii-Okinawa Sister-State
 ハワイ沖縄姉妹都市
 The Hawaii United Okinawa Association & The RyukyuShimpo presents 主催: ハワイ沖縄連合会、琉球

A collaborative performance by Okinawa's Performing Arts University (Geidai) and Hawaii's Geidai scholarship alumni and supported by several Hawaii musicians celebrating Hawaii's special anniversaries this year.



Blessed by Hawaii's mixture of sunshine and rain and Kumu Sam Ohu Gon, HUAO and Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai leaders turn the soil with their o'o, signifying the beginning of our long-awaited Hawaii Okinawa Plaza.

It was really special to recognize those who made such contributions to the creation of the Hawaii Okinawa Center 25 years ago. Some were able to join us, some were not able to attend and others who have passed joined us in spirit. I don't think Okinawa was expecting to be recognized as well – so it was very nice for them.

The video was a flashback - so interesting to see footage from construction and the opening... and why do we have to show these touching things that make everyone cry...? I saw the Governors wiping tears away.

The Kenpi (Ryugagkusei) and Geidai have such a good relationship... I hope they can continue to find ways to collaborate – it shows how meaningful all of their experiences were.



Round Table discussions involved Okinawa and Hawaii participants together at each table.

I'm glad to see Hawaii people and Okinawa guests proudly hold our member club flags... even though it's so hot, muggy and rainy!

Kumu Sam Ohu Gon welcomes Chanter Daiichi Hirata and the Hawaii-Okinawa contingent to the Plaza site with an Oli... Chicken Skin!

Turning the dirt (at the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Site) is the start of a new beginning... We've been waiting a long time for this.

So nice to see the mix of people on each round table... Government people, heads of business, kenjin kai members, performers, youth... all able to share equally. Discussion like this is difficult in Okinawa. We should find ways to do this more.

We can have interaction with technology now too, we don't have to do in person... skype, webinars – let's find ways to interact, learn from each other and find solutions!

It took us a while to get started... people got to know each other, were afraid to



Okinawa's Daiichi Hirata leads Governors Ige and Onaga along with many HUAO members and Okinawa participants to the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza grounds.

talk... half way through, we didn't have enough time and everyone wanted to keep talking and stay on the subjects!

People came up with such different and diverse ideas. I guess because there were so many different kinds of people on the table. All good ideas... just different approaches. Opened my eyes for sure...

Continued on Page 17



Okinawa Prefectural Assembly Members Visit

Led by Speaker Masaharu Kina, members of the Okinawa Prefecture Assembly spent a whirlwind day on August 4, beginning with a meaningful and informative exchange with members of Hawaii's legislators and City Prosecutor.

Introducing them to some of Hawaii's Okinawa businesses, they engaged in a tour of Aloha Tofu Town hosted by Paul and Misa Uyehara, WCIT Architecture hosted by HUOA President Mark Higa, and Zippy's A Catered Experience hosted by Jason Higa. Instead of their Last Stop being at Zippy's, the entourage headed down the road to our Hawaii Okinawa Center for an evening of ono food and terrific entertainment by Okinawa assemblymen and HUOA's officers.

A special mahalo goes out to David Arakawa, Mark Higa and Cyrus Tamashiro, who worked collaboratively to arrange their meetings and tours for the day.

Seated (L-R): Representative Ryan Yamane, Senator Jill Tokuda, Okinawa Prefectural Assembly Speaker Masaharu Kina, Vice Speaker of House of Representatives Rep. John Mizuno, Representative Marcus Oshiro, and City Prosecutor Keith Kaneshiro (missing from photo: Representative Linda Ichiyama).

Back row: Assembly members from Okinawa Prefectural Government.



Kapolei-Kin Sister Schools

Celebrating their 10th Anniversary of their sister school relationship, students from Kapolei Middle School and Kin Junior High School, Okinawa, paid their respects to Kyuzo Toyama, who hailed from Kin Town and brought the first Okinawa immigrants to Hawaii. As they always do, their next stop was the gravesite of Kyuzo Toyama at Mililani Cemetery. Kapolei Middle School students are excitedly looking forward to their trip to Kin Town in Okinawa in early November.



Nago City Students Visit

Energetic students from Nago City's Study Abroad Program spent 17 exciting days in Hilo and were hosted by Hui Okinawa. Of course, a visit to our Hawaii Okinawa Center was a must prior to going to Magic Island to picnic with members from Nago Club and Haneji Club.

Autumn Okinawa

Dance Matsuri

September 19th, 2015
Saturday - 5pm/9:30pm

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CLUB NEWS

our clubs, our future

45th Annual Hawaii Okinawan Invitational Golf Tournament Results

On May 23 and 24, golfers competed for two full days at the majestic Pali Golf Course in Kaneohe. The tournament culminated with a fun-filled Awards Banquet at the Jikoen Hongwanji Hall, where prizes galore were distributed to our golfers. Mahalo to Tournament Chair Neal Takara and Assistant Chair Joey Itagaki for coordinating this successful two-day tournament.



Ryan Unten captured "A" Flight honors with net score of 123.



(L-R): HUAOA President Mark Higa presents the Grand Champion Trophy and Governor's Bowl to Nick Matsushima; John Pritchard holds the Inamine Cup for Haneji Club; Jacob Pritchard wins the Mayor's Bowl for Overall Low Net of 122; Melvin Kaneshiro wins the Senior Flight with a net of 145; Kristine Lindstrom wins the Women's Flight with a net score of 134; Golf Chair Neal Takara.



Mahalo to Bob Tanaka, who annually donates those sharp-looking golf bags for closest to the hole winners. As usual, jan ken po tie breakers were needed to determine who would receive the coveted golf bag or a dozen Titleist golf balls.

Continued from Page 15

Reflections of Sumiti Itsimadin

It was nice because we don't even have the opportunity to talk to some of our Hawaii people in this setting too often either.

So interesting to see how long it takes our performers to get ready! (make up and hair) we take for granted because we only watch the performances!

I don't dance or perform, but I just wanted to come and watch. It is fascinating and amazing to see their preparation... like an art in itself. Izumi Sensei is amazing!

Thoughts On Sunday's Drums of Hope & Okinawa Guest Send Off

I wanted to cry as soon as we saw the power of the opening number and the entire cast there!

The performance had no climax really, it just opened - blew you away and continued to excite everyone with every chapter.

I think Governor Onaga was tearing. The only thing that can move you more than Daiichi Hirata and Kazu(fumi) Miyazawa was the emotional solo and Soya Miyagi-inspirational!

I hope we will be able to give Hawaii equal or even better warm hospitality and impressive events!

Thirty years marked a great milestone for us to celebrate, reflect and look ahead. We were able to do this with both communities who enjoy the fruits of this strong relationship, as well as our contributors who originally forged these bonds. These individuals continue to give, are still active and are able to see the fruits of their work in the many collaborative efforts and exchanges that were inspired through this Sister-State agreement. This event also took time to plant new seeds with goals of helping our relationship flourish. We will always look to the past for guidance, but also create new bonds with people, using current technology and exploring current issues that impact both states. Let's continue to let these efforts nourish as many in our community as possible. *Ippee Niffee Deebiru* to everyone who made their lasting imprints on this event!

Ginowan News

By Jane Nakamura

Ginowan board members got to host Nanami Yara of Ginowan City, Okinawa, at a dinner party at Fook Yuen Seafood Restaurant. Nanami was in town to help prepare dance sequences for the "Drums of Hope" production by Daiichi Hirata, which was presented on July 12 as part of the Sister State 30-year anniversary and 25th anniversary of the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Ginowan held its annual picnic at Ala Moana Beach Park on August 3, 2015. As always, it was a great way to end summer. The picnic provided an excellent opportunity to meet both old and new friends in a fun-filled day. Young and old alike had fun in the warm sun vying for the blue ribbons in activities planned by Aza Aragusuku and Aza Ganeku members... along with lots of shaved ice, of course!

Ginowan members will be involved in many aspects of the upcoming Okinawan Festival—*paranku*, *andagi* mixing and cooking, safety, health, and more. Wear your club shirts and caps and greet your fellow members. Mainly, have fun!



Ginowan members enjoy dinner with Nanami. Sitting: Fran and Francis Toyama; Honoree Nanami Yara; Jane Sakima; and Ellen Higa. Standing: Chris and Stan Higa; Robbie Umeno; Sandy Nishimoto, Pat Miyashiro; Rodney and Carole Kohagura. Photo by Robbie Umeno

Oroku Azajin Holds Annual Picnic

The Oroku Azajin Club held its annual picnic on Sunday, July 19, at Ala Moana Beach Park. The weather was hot and humid—perfect for summer time races and shave ice. Participants had so much fun celebrating the club's college graduates, talented artists in the art contest, the fastest Oroku boy and girl, and the brave egg tossers.

Thanks goes out to the many volunteers who helped to organize, plan, setup and take down the picnic. Many mahalos to those who helped pass out prizes, the gong "cheerleader gang," the hardworking Oroku board members, and the shave ice makers. Also, thanks to all the families that came out to enjoy the fantastic day!

Be sure to visit the Oroku Azajin Club's brand new Facebook page and we'll see everyone soon for *andagi* mixing, dropping and cooking at the Okinawan Festival!



Kita-Nakagusuku Cleanup HOC

Led by President Stan Higa, members of Kita Nakagusuku arrived at the Hawaii Okinawa Center early on a Sunday morning to tackle the tasks of cleaning and scrubbing bathrooms, stage and backstage dressing rooms, the Center's huge glass windows, mezzanine area, and much more.

Ippee Niffee Deebiru to (L-R): Chase Higa, Milton Higa, Nelson Higa, Brianne Higa, Stan Higa, Brenda Pereira, Ron Oshiro, Gariss Pereira, Yoshimori Oshiro, and Roy Higa



Cyrus Tamashiro Installed as UJSH President



About 500 people packed the Manoa Grand Ballroom at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii on June 27 to attend the United Japanese Society of Hawaii's (UJSH) 57th Annual Installation and Recognition Banquet. Many HUOA families and friends gathered in force to support our very own Cyrus Tamashiro as he was installed as the 2015-2016 UJSH President.

Founded just prior to Statehood, the mission of the organization is to promote the welfare of the Japanese people in Hawaii, foster a positive relationship among members and with other ethnic groups, and promote friendship between the people of Japan and the United States. UJSH serves as an umbrella organization to the various Kenjinkai, including HUOA.

Cy follows outgoing President Rika Hirata and a list of past HUOA Presidents who also served as UJSH Presidents. Some of them include: David Arakawa, Richard Zukemura, Dr. Albert Miyasato, and Shinsuke Nakamine. Joining Cyrus as one of his officers is Vice-President Frances Nakachi Kuba Sensei. Cyrus has also welcomed Karen Kuba Hori, David Jones, and Mark Higa onto his board as directors. 2014 HUOA President Chris Shimabukuro was also recognized as Kenjinkai Member of the Year!

Of course we know Cy is no newbie to leadership. Serving as our 2012 HUOA President, he nourished all of our spirits that year with learning, experiences and exposure to our *Uchinanchu* culture. Cy showed his *Uchinanchu* colors to those in attendance by showcasing performances by Nakasone Dance Academy, Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts, Chinagu Eisa Hawaii, Ryukyu Koten Afuso-ryu Ongaku Kenkyuu Choichi Kai and of course Cy graced us with his powerful and moving rendition of *BEGIN's Shimanchu nu Takara!*

Omedetou Cyrus-san! We know that you will serve the UJSH well and will make the entire community proud. We will be here to support your role as UJSH President, and we know you will continue to be here to give your heart and soul to HUOA as you have always done!

Monday Crafters Share Their Aloha

HUOA Monday Crafters share their *Uchinanchu Aloha* with seniors at the Pearl City Nursing Home by presenting attractive lap blankets they made with loving hands.



Front row: 88-year-old Robert Arakaki from Kita Nakagusuku, 100-year-old Rose Nakama, 85-year-old Kiyoshi Sakai, and Karen Miyasato. Back row: Administrator Denise Bilodeau, HR Director Ryan Okunaga, Jane Tateyama, Kat Kichin, Mrs. Arakaki, Eiko Sakai, Beverly Yamashiro, Jane Nakama, Recreation Coordinator Denby Nakamoto, June Tamashiro, and Molly Nakahara.

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The year at a glance!

- Sept. 5 & 6 Okinawan Festival at Kapiolani Park
- Sept. 7 Aloha Party at HOC for Guests from Okinawa
- Sept. 12 Chinagu Eisa Hawaii's "Kansha II" at Mamiya Theatre
- Sept. 19 Autumn Okinawan Dance Matsuri – HOC
- Oct. 7-18 HUOA Study Tour with President Mark Higa
- Nov. 1 Legacy Awards Banquet – Sheraton Waikiki Hotel
- Nov. 28, 29 Winter Craft Fair - HOC
- Dec. 10 "Evening in Waipio" Craft Fair – HOC
- Jan. 26, 2016 HUOA Installation Banquet & Recognition of Uchinanchu of the Year Honorees

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

Uchinaa-guchi (Okinawan language)

Word of the Month

July

fii-fu-chi, *n.* [hifuki] A bamboo pipe about 25 cm (10 in.) long used for blowing on a charcoal or wood fire; a bamboo blow pipe. Also hiifuchi, hiifuchaa, hiifukaa.

August

wa-goo, *n.* [wagoo] Harmony; concord; unity; friendly relations. See also wadan.

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

Okinawan Proverb

Selected by the Uchinaaguchi Class Members with Hijirida Sensei

Proverb of the Month:

Tushui ya Takara

とうしゅい や たから

English: Elders are treasured.

(The wisdom gained from years of experience makes our elders treasures.)

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Discount fees for military veterans and seniors are available.

Please contact Andrew J. Sato at: (808) 983-1151 or (808)554-5508 cell
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HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar!

HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

September

- 5-6 33rd Okinawan Festival-Kapiolani Park
- 7 LABOR DAY: HOC OFFICE CLOSED
- 7 Aloha Party for Okinawan Performers & Visitors, 6:30 pm, HOC
- 9 Administration Committee meeting, 7 pm, HOC
Executive Council meeting, 8 pm, HOC
- 19 Autumn Okinawa Dance Matsuri, 5:30 - 9:30 pm, HOC
- 21 Okinawan Festival Food Evaluation Committee, 7 pm, HOC
- 23 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, HOC
- 28 Okinawan Festival General Evaluation meeting, 7 pm, HOC

October

- 7-18 HUOA Okinawa Study Tour
- 21 Administration Committee meeting, 7 pm, HOC
Executive Council meeting, 8 pm, HOC

Classes · Other Meetings at Hawaii Okinawa Center:

- HUOA Sanshin: every Thursday, 7 pm*
- Ichigo Ichi E: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7 pm*
- Ikebana: 3rd Wednesday, 7 pm*
- Karaoke nite: 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 pm*
- Kobudo Taiko: every Monday, 7pm, contact Calvin Nakama 224-7374
- Monday Crafters: every Monday, 9 am*
- Okinawan Genealogical Society meeting: 3rd Saturday, 9 am*
- Uchinaaguchi: every 2nd Tuesday, 1 pm*; every 4th Thursday, 7 pm*

*for more information, please call 676-5400
Subject to Change (entries as of 6/28/15)

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.

Sep 5, Sat., 7 pm & Sep 10, Thurs., 5 pm - Part Three of "Teeku-Tu Udu Yabira" (Dancing with the Taiko), a performance by Hawaii Taiko Kai with Chi-Hiro Kai Ryubu Renjo at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on May 29, 1993.

Sep 12, Sat., 7 pm & Sep 17, Thurs., 5 pm - Part One of "Uchinanchu - Live!", a gift of aloha to the island community from Hawaii's Okinawans at the Neal Blaisdell Center Arena on July 28, 1990.

Sep 19, Sat., 7 pm & Sep 24, Thurs., 5 pm - Part One of "Warabi Ashibi" - Children at Play, the HUOA's Okinawan Cultural Summer Day Camp Program for Kids conducted in June 2015 on Oahu.

Sep 26, Sat., 7 pm & Oct 1, Thurs., 5 pm - Part One of Natsumero Festival - Nostalgic Memories, singers from Okinawa and Hawaii performing at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on July 20, 2008.

Oct 3, Sat., 7 pm & Oct 8, Thurs., 5 pm - "Buduri Ashiba", music and dance of the Yaeyama Islands presented by the students of the University of the Ryukyus on October 1, 1995 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Oct 10, Sat., 7 pm & Oct 15, Thurs., 5 pm - Part Two of "Uchinanchu - Live!", a gift of aloha to the island community from Hawaii's Okinawans at the Neal Blaisdell Center Arena on July 28, 1990.

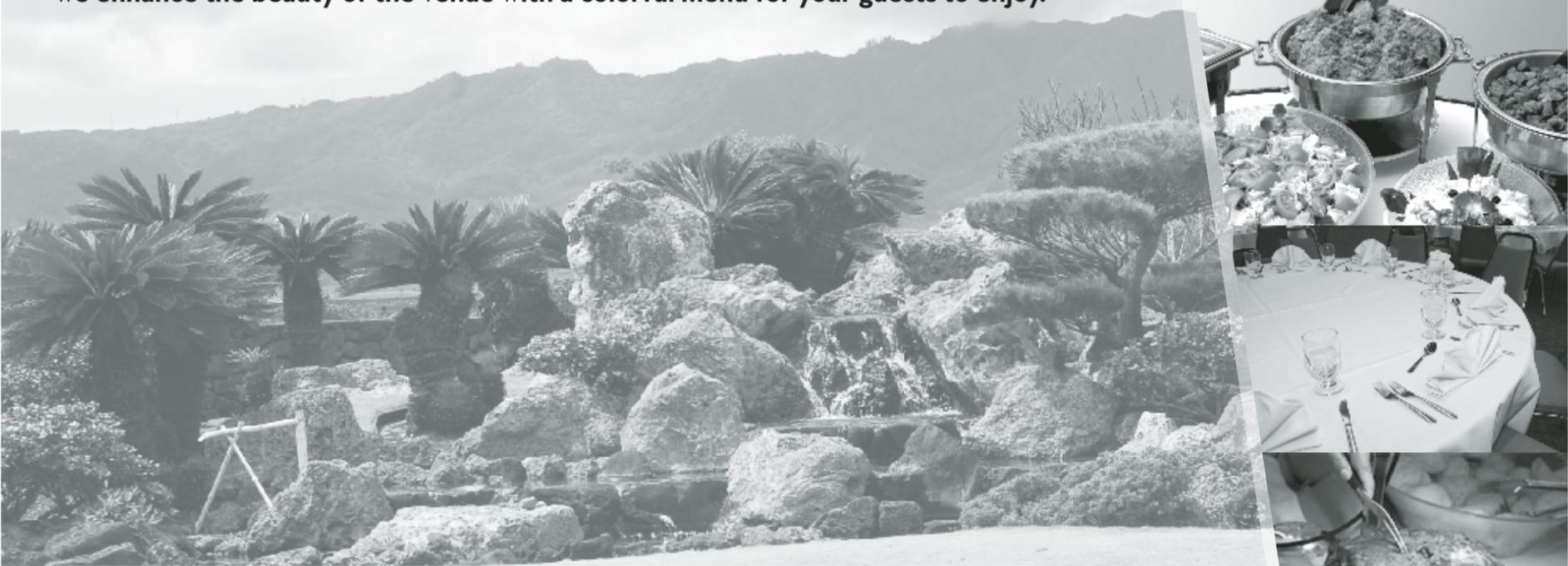
Oct 17, Sat., 7 pm & Oct 22, Thurs., 5 pm - Part Two of "Warabi Ashibi" - Children at Play, the HUOA's Okinawan Cultural Summer Day Camp Program for Kids conducted in June 2015 on Oahu.

Oct 24, Sat., 7 pm & Oct 29, Thurs., 5 pm - Part One of Sadao China Anniversary Recital on March 29, 2015 in Okinawa.

Oct 31, Sat., 7 pm & Nov 5, Thurs., 5 pm - Part Two of Natsumero Festival - Nostalgic Memories, singers from Okinawa and Hawaii performing at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on July 20, 2008.

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2015 OKINAWAN FESTIVAL PROGRAM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2015 SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- 9:00 am RYUKYU SOKYOKU KOYO KAI HAWAII SHIBU
Jane Kaneshiro & Bonnie Miyashiro, Co-chairs
Jane Kaneshiro Sozan Kai
Bonnie Miyashiro Soho Kai
Toma Toyoko Sokyoku Kai
Kaya Hatsuko Sokyoku Kai
Yamashiro Yoneko Sokyoku Kenkyu Kai
Yasuko Arakawa Aki no Kai
Sunny Tominaga Sokyoku Sanyuukai
Chieko Miyasato Sokyoku Kai
- 9:30am RYUKYU KOTEN ONGAKU NOMURA RYU ONGAKU
KYOKAI HAWAII SHIBU
Seiichi Yagi, Chapter President
- 10:00am HAWAII TAIKO KAI
Terry Higa, Instructor
- 10:20am OPENING PROCESSION HUOA Banners, Shishimai,
Chondara, Paranku Clubs of Hawaii
- 10:50am FORMAL OPENING CEREMONY
- 11:30am HOOGE RYU HANA NUUZI NO KAI NAKASONE
DANCE ACADEMY
Lynne Yoshiko Nakasone, Grand Master and Director
- Noon RYUKYUKOKU MATSURI DAIKO HAWAII
Akemi Martin, Regional Director
- 12:30pm JIMPU KAI USA KIN RYOSHO RYUKYU GEINO
KENKYUSHO HAWAII SHIBU
Cheryl Yoshie Nakasone, Artistic Director
- 1:00pm RYUSEI HONRYU RYUKO KAI
Mitsuko Toguchi Nakasone, Kaishu
- 1:30pm RADIO OKINAWA'S 2015 MIUTA TAISHO WINNER-
RITSUKO SHIBAHIKI
- 2:10pm NAKAGUSUKU GOSAMARU DRUMS
Hiromi Arakaki, Kaicho
- 2:50pm SHORIN RYU HAWAII SEIBUKAN
Masakazu Teruya, Kancho
- 3:20pm RYUKYU KOTEN AFUSO RYU ONGAKU KENKYUU
CHOICHI KAI HAWAII
Grant "Sandaa" Murata, Chapter President
- 4:10pm RYUKYU SOUL PROJECT with lead vocalist,
Yoko Hizuki
- 4:50pm KACHASHI

OKINAWAN FESTIVAL BON DANCE

- 5:30pm Opening/Welcome - Emcee David Arakawa
- 5:45pm Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai, Melissa Uyeunten, President
- 6:45pm Aiea Taiheiji Yagura Gumi, Todd Imamura, President
- 7:20pm Hawaii Shin Kobukai, Betty Dela cuesta, Head Instructor
- 7:55pm Iwakuni Odori Aiko Kai, Marion Kanemori, Vice-President & Dance Committee Chair
- 8:30pm Young Okinawans of Hawaii, David Jones, President
- 9:20pm KACHASHI

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2015 SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- 9:00am KILAEUA OKINAWA DANCE CLUB
Toshiko Neumann, Leader
- 9:20am NUUANU SHORIN-RYU / SHINDEN-RYU KARATE
ASSOCIATION
Mitchell Shimamura Sensei
- 9:50am HAWAII OKINAWA CREATIVE ARTS
Jon Itomura, President & Eric Nitta, Vice-President
- 10:20am HUI OKINAWA KOBUDO TAIKO
Troy Sakihara, Leader
- 10:50am SHINSATO SHOSEI KAI
Katsumi Shinsato Sensei
- 11:20am CHINAGU EISA HAWAII with NAHA DAIKO &
NANKURU EISA
Lisa Tamashiro, President (Chinagu Eisa Hawaii),
Jin Yonaha (Naha Daiko), Koh Sakiyama (Nankuru Eisa-)
- Noon OKINAWA YUIBUYO SUISHIN KYOGIKAI
Kiyoshi Miyagi, President
- 12:40pm KANESHIRO DANCE STUDIO & HUI O LAULIMA
CHURAKAAGI ANGWATAA
Alfred Yama Kina, Representative
- 1:10pm TAMAGUSUKU RYU SENJU KAI FRANCES NAKACHI
RYUBU DOJO
Frances Nakachi, Shihan, Master Instructor, Director
- 1:40pm RYUKYU SOKYOKU HOZON KAI HAWAII SHIBU,
SARINA SOKYOKU KENKYUSHO
Sarina Udd, Chapter President & Shihan
- 2:10pm NIDAIME TEISHIN KAI HAWAII SHIBU & HUOA
SANSHIN CLASS
Ryosei Oshiro, Director
- 2:50pm RYUKYU SOUL PROJECT with lead vocalist,
Yoko Hizuki
- 3:30pm NAKAGUSUKU GOSAMARU DRUMS
Hiromi Arakaki, Kaicho
- 4:10pm OKINAWA MINYO KYOKAI HAWAII & URIZUN MINYO
GROUP
Derek Ichiro Shiroma Sensei
- 4:50pm KACHASHI

Got Parking? For more detailed information see page 10.

Park at Kapiolani Community College Parking Lots A, B and C and take the air conditioned Okinawan Festival Shuttle
Cost: \$3 Round trip – buy return ticket at Shuttle Ticket Booth or Information/Manpower booth

Tickets will be collected by Shuttle-Stop Attendant at the park.

SHUTTLE HOURS: Sat, 9/5 7:00 am - 10:30 pm
Sun, 9/6 7:00 am - 6:00 pm

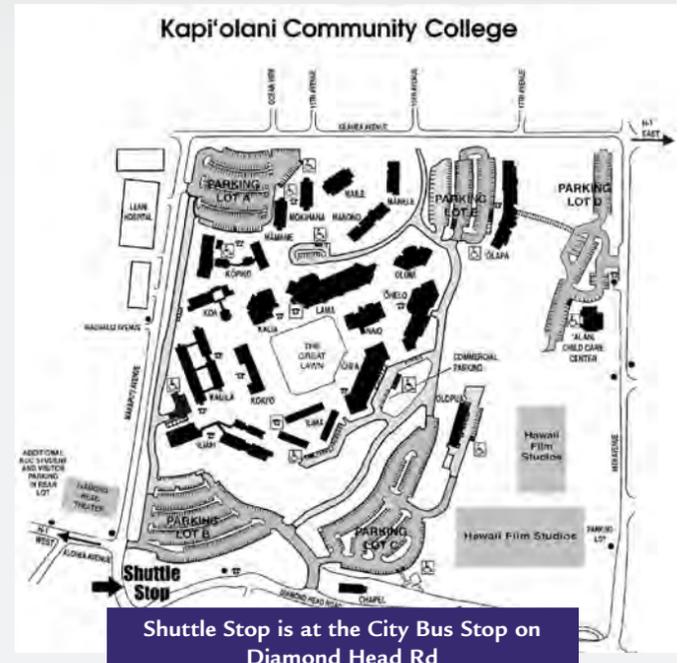
SHUTTLE STOP: At the City Bus Stop on Diamond Head Rd

Directions - East Bound (H1 East):

Take 6th Ave Exit,
Go makai on 6th Ave (0.5 mi),
Continue on
Alohea Ave (0.6 mi),
Turn left onto
Makapuu Ave,
Turn right into the
KCC parking lot.

West Bound (H1 West):

Take Waialae Ave Exit
Go Ewa on
Waialae Ave (0.4 mi),
Turn left on
16th Ave (0.6 mi),
Turn right on
Kilauea Ave (0.1 mi),
Turn left on
Makapuu
Ave (0.3 mi),
Turn left into
the KCC
parking lot.



Shuttle Stop is at the City Bus Stop on Diamond Head Rd



2015 OKINAWAN FESTIVAL HOURS

Saturday, September 5: 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Continuous live entertainment
- 5:30 pm – 9:30 p.m. Bon Dance
- Closing 5:00 p.m. Children's Games/tents
- Closing 6:00 p.m. Most food booths
- Open until 8:00 p.m. Andagi, Andadog, Okinawan Soba, Shave Ice, Sushi/Yakitori
- 7:00 a.m. – 10:30 p.m. Okinawan Festival Shuttle/Kapiolani Community College & Kapiolani Park
- Last departure from Kapiolani Park 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 6: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Continuous live entertainment & food booths
- Closing 4:30 p.m. Arts & Craft Gallery and Children's Games
- 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Okinawan Festival Shuttle/Kapiolani Community College & Kapiolani Park
- Last departure from Kapiolani Park 6:00 p.m.