

# Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha • Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

JUNE 2020



A House Blessing was performed for a condo in Makiki on June 20

# MAHALO

## for your donations

Hitomi Foronda

Bill & Keiko Doughty

Blake Harano

James & Christine Ho

Rodney & Sharon Isa

Miho Ishimoto

Ken Koseki

James & Melba Kurashige

Mike Lee

Steve Miwa

Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh

Craig & Diane Nishida

Candice Puga

Akiko Sanai

Rudy & Sherrie Santiago

Gary & Linda Shinsato

Kellen & Mai Sumida



The shrine has been open for public worship since May 30. The shrine is cleaned and sanitized with both Clorox and a UV Light daily.

We are open 7 days a week from 8:30 am - 4 pm.

Please wear a mask. *Temizusha* wash basin has been covered and the *Suzu* bell and ropes have been removed until further notice.

**Omamori** and **Ofuda** have been available in the shrine since June 15.

All omamori is now packaged individually in clear bags to prevent cross contamination.



Mahalo Nui to **Diane Nishida** and **Linda Shinsato** for packaging all omamori for your safety.

All omamori were sanitized first with UV-C light and packaged. The packages are sanitized with a UV-C light every morning.



The shrine's Dragon fruit or Pittaya plant that was planted in 2018 as a barrier plant to deter burglars has finally bloomed!

Dragon fruit flowers will bloom for only one night each year.

After the flowering occurs, fruit will begin to form.

# Private Blessings



Congratulations to the proud parents and grandparents!

Baby Blessings are meant to express appreciation for the miracle of a new life and for protection of the child



Yakudoshi Blessings are meant to reconnect your spirit within to help you through the physical and emotional challenges. Happy Birthday!



Anzan Kigan or Safe Birth Blessing is meant to bring strength and blessings on the expectant mother's journey to birth and motherhood.

One of our 7 shrines - Suitengu is renown for centuries as the Kami of fertility, safe birth and children.

# CALENDAR



**Congratulations to Cassie Carlyle** on her graduation from Iolani School.

Cassie, a student of Hanayagi Dancing Academy and shrine's scholarship recipient will be heading to New York University this summer.

**Congratulations to Rayce Manriki** on his graduation from Kalani High School.

Rayce was named Male Athlete of the year 2019 - 2020, Most Valuable Player and Most Athletic 2020!!!

Rayce will be going to Pacific University.



## July

7 1 pm **(Internal)**  
**Tsukinamisai Monthly Service**

Writing and hanging of the *Tanabata tanzaku* tags on bamboo will not be offered this year.



## August

4 10 am - 2 pm **(Canceled)**  
**Back-To-School Blessing**

3 pm **(Internal)**  
**Tsukinamisai Monthly Service**

## September

1 8:30 am - 4 pm  
**Accepting reservations for Shichigosan**  
[www.jinja.us/shichigosan.html](http://www.jinja.us/shichigosan.html)

29 3 pm **(Internal)**  
**Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha**

# Maintenance

Though concrete is meant to be a durable, long lasting material, it can eventually succumb to wear and tear over time.

Small cracks have started popping up in the shrine entrance area. Loose concrete was chiseled away and an epoxy compound was used to patch the cracks.

Mahalo to **Rudy & Christian Santiago** for starting repairs to the project that will continue through the summer.



The shrine's June event - Chinowa for People & Pets was canceled and a Tsukinamisai was performed instead.

The Tsukinamisai was performed internally without any participants on Sunday, June 7.

# Tanabata - Star Festival

From ancient times, the Japanese have embraced the awes of nature by celebrating the changing of the seasons.

Among them is *Tanabata* - celebrated on July 7. Popular customs relating to *Tanabata* varies by region but all involves the writing of wishes.

**Due to COVID-19, the shrine's Tanabata will not be celebrated this year. There will also be no Tanabta wish tags this year.**

Mahalo nui to **Diane Nishida** creating the Tanzaku tags which we'll be saving for Tanabata 2021.

The future is unknown and fluid. May we all emerge from COVID-19 stronger and wiser.



Visit our website: [www.jinja.us](http://www.jinja.us)

# Ama-bie the supernatural monster

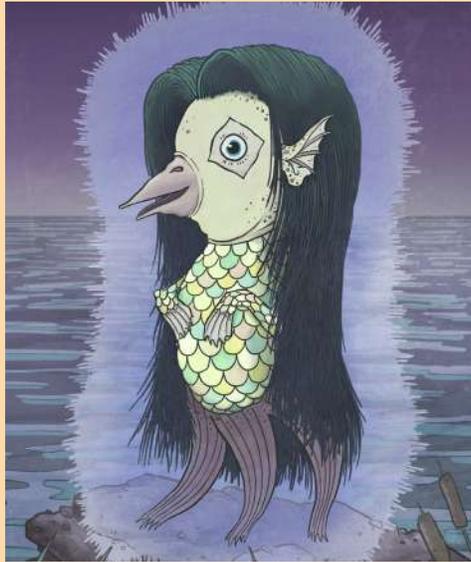
Folk beliefs which is thought to bring good luck can be found in cultures around the world.

Since March, the Japanese have been sharing images online of *Ama-bie* a mythical, fish-like creature believed to ward off plagues.

In the early-1800s, government officials were investigating a mysterious green light in the waters off *Higo* (present day *Kumamoto* prefecture).

The officials saw a glowing green creature with fish scales, long hair, three fin-like legs and a beak emerge from the ocean.

The creature introduced itself as *Ama-bie* and predicted two things: a rich harvest that would bless Japan for the next six years and a



horrific pandemic that would ravage the country.

It also instructed the officers to draw a picture of *Ama-bie* and share it with as many people as possible. *Ama-bie* then returned to

the ocean.

The popularity of *Yokai* or monsters originated in the 1700s and was quite common for *kawaraban* newspapers to report *yokai* sightings. The incident was published in the newspapers the next day along with an image of *Ama-bie*, the prediction and instructions to spread the illustration throughout Japan.

*Ama-bie* illustrations recently re-emerged on social media hoping to spread good health to those who share it.

Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare has also adopted the *Ama-bie* craze in their announcements encouraging people to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

View event pics at: [www.flickr.com/kotohira-dazaifu](http://www.flickr.com/kotohira-dazaifu)