



Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

DECEMBER 2024

E Komo Mai !

The shrine welcomed the annual visit of the Hawaii Peace Mission - - a Japanese organization of interfaith leaders that participates in the annual Pearl Harbor ceremony.

83 years ago, Japan launched an attack on the U.S. Naval base of Pearl Harbor killing more than 2,400 service members and accelerating U.S. involvement in World War II.

Every year, thousands gather at Pearl Harbor to remember the events of December 7, 1941 to reflect on the "Day of Infamy" and to honor the members of the Greatest Generation for their sacrifice and courage.

The Hawaii Peace Mission was formed in 1983 by religious leaders in Japan to make the annual pilgrimage to Hawaii to participate in the U.S. Navy and National Park Service's Remembrance ceremony.

DONATIONS

42nd Hawaii Peace Mission
Carol Boisvert
Bill & Keiko Doughty
Art Isa
Arthur & Becky Isa
Rodney & Sharon Isa
Reico Imamura
Michiko Ishizawa
Iwashimizu Hachimangu
David & Masako Jimenez
Jinja Honcho
Nenpo Shinkyo Kongoji

James & Melba Kurashige
Kent Matsuzaki
Meghan McNamara
Yae Miko
Steve Miwa
Esther Miyashita
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Craig & Diane Nishida
Akiko Sanai
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Robert Stallings
Naomi Teramoto

Taylor Tsuchiya
Jasmine Umeno

RICE

Peggy Oshiro
Irene Takizawa

SAKE • SPIRITS

Art Isa
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Craig & Diane Nishida
Gary & Linda Shinsato
Irene Takizawa

MAHALO NUI LOA for your most generous donations to the shrine in 2024. You can deduct contributions to Nonprofit churches only if you itemize on Schedule A of Form 1040. The shrine is a qualified Nonprofit church.

Our Tax ID: 600-7158

Generally, you can deduct monetary contributions or property you make to a qualified organization.

VOLUNTEERS - You can deduct as a charitable contribution, any unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses, such as the cost of gas and oil, related to the use of your car in giving services to a church. You can also deduct parking fees. You must keep written records of your car expenses.

Since January 1, 2018, the standard mileage rate for the use of a car or van, pickup or panel truck is 14 cents per mile driving in service of any charitable organization. The rate is scheduled to be increased in 2025.



The 2025 Year of the Wood Snake T shirts will be available from 12/26

It is \$15 and comes in the adult sizes of S, M, L, XL, 2XL and 3XL.

OSECHI RYORI

The holiday season is a time of family rituals and traditions.

Families gather for meals, religious observances, gift sharing and other special events that are eagerly anticipated all year around.

Rituals and traditions strengthen families and can give family members a sense of roots and history that lasts for generations.

To the Japanese, the first day of the new year is the most important and auspicious day of the year.

Since it symbolizes the start of a new year, the day should be full of joy and void of any stress, conflict or anger.

In times past, no work was to be done by anyone - this includes cleaning, washing dishes and other household tasks.

So, in order for wives to enjoy the festivities, *osechi ryori* or special New Years cuisine was developed.

Most items are prepared in such a way that they can be stored without refrigeration for up to 5 days.

While each household used to prepare its own *osechi ryori*, nowadays many restaurants and supermarkets offer a wide variety of *osechi ryori* to make it a truly work-free New Year.



Kuromame (Black beans) is eaten for health and to work diligently

Konbu maki or **Kobu maki** is said to be an auspicious dish because it sounds like *yorokobu* or happiness

Nishime or **umani** is eaten for harmony within the household

The *daikon* in **Namasu** signifies a pure and unblemished life

Kazunoko or seasoned herring roe signifies fertility

Kuri Kinton (mashed sweet potato with chestnuts) signifies fortune and wealth

Offerings such as *mochi* were offered to the *Toshigami* or the *kami* of the New Year on the eve. The *mochi* was then used in the traditional *Ozoni mochi* soup

Mahalo for all your cans and plastic bottles !

Cans and plastic bottles collected this quarter was redeemed for cash at the neighborhood Recycling Center - CM Recycling.

If you aren't already recycling, please bring empty cans and plastic bottles to the shrine:

- remove all caps from the bottles
- empty out all liquids
- be sure the HI-5 mark in on the cans and plastic bottles

Plenty Mahalo for your donations !



GOKITO - Private Blessings



The last Tsukinamisai of 2024 was conducted in the presence of our Officers and Directors.

We look forward to a 2025 with good health, good fortune and much laughter.



An annual long distance blessing was performed for a family on the mainland to express gratitude for the goodness that surrounded them during 2024.

PRIVATE BLESSINGS

The shrine will be taking a hiatus from Gokito Private Blessings from 12/26 ~ 1/4/2025.

Gokito Private Blessings will be available again from January 5 (Sun).

Please contact the shrine at (808) 841-4755 or kotohira@hawaiiintel.net to make a reservation.

Mahalo Nui Loa



The 2025 Year of the Snake reusable bags will be available from Thursday, December 26

The bags are \$3 or free with any \$100 purchase.



Glenn, you were an amazing person with a remarkable life! A Memorial service was conducted for a shrine friend on 11/26.

CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2024

26 - 30 8:30 am - 4 pm

Saisaki-Mode Early Hatsumode
Personal Worship & Early Omamori
Selection (Open to the public)

31 8:30 am - 4 pm (Closed 4 pm - 8:30 pm)
8:30 pm - 2 am (1/1)

Saisaki-Mode Hatsumode Worship &
Omamori available in hall

11:30 pm (INTERNAL)
Toshikoshi no O-harai

Saisaki-mode, literally means "praying for happiness early" and offers an opportunity prior to January 1 to express our gratitude and to pray for a new 2025 full of hope, health and abundance.

Saisaki-mode is offered "Japan-style" where you pray on your own. For those who prefer not to come together en masse for Hatsumode, visit the shrine for Saisaki-mode for a safe alternative.

Omamori mail orders will be taken from **12/10 - 12/20**. It will resume again on **1/6/2025**. Place your mail orders at: kotohira@hawaiiantel.net

JANUARY 2025

1 Midnight - 2 am
(Closed 2 am ~ 8:30 am)
8:30 am - 4 pm
Hatsumode Personal Worship
Omamori available

2 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Hatsumode Personal Worship
Omamori available

3 pm
Breaking down tents

3 ~5 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Hatsumode Personal Worship
Omamori available in the Hall

6 ~ 31 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Hatsumode Personal Worship
Omamori available in the Shrine

11 10 am - 4 pm
JCCH Ohana Festival

19 12:00 pm Sagicho Preparations
1:00 pm Sagicho
2:00 pm Tsukinamisai



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

12/31 Tuesday ~ 1/5 Sunday

Please consider some of the ways below to help the shrine during the Hatsumode season. Any length of time will be deeply appreciated.

Like Hatsumode 2024, we will have masks, face shields and

gloves available. The hall will be ventilated with all windows open.

The shrine will be running a reduced scope of services and hours of operation during our annual Hatsumode event.

However, we will still need help in sharing the traditions of Hatsumode with the community.

Feel free to reach us to us at anytime. These are the ways you can help !!

TRAFFIC CONTROL (direct traffic and pass out flyers for offsite parking at Farrington High School)

12/31 10:00 pm - 2 am

1/1 8:30 am - 4 pm

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

(pack catered food for volunteer lunches, deliver lunch to bus driver and HPD officers, clean up after lunch)

1/1 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

OMAMORI BOOTH

(cashiers, baggers)

12/31 8:30 am - 4 pm

8:30 pm - 2 am (1/1)

1/1 8:30 am - 4 pm

1/2 8:30 am - 4 pm

1/3 8:30 am - 4 pm

1/4 8:30 am - 4 pm

1/5 8:30 am - 4 pm

OMIKUJI BOOTH (Give change, replenish supply)

12/31 8:30 pm - 2 am (1/1)

1/1 8:30 am - 4 pm

1/2 8:30 am - 4 pm

1/3 8:30 am - 4 pm

LOGISTICS CREW (assist Rev. Takizawa in a multitude of tasks)

12/31 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

10 pm - 2 am (1/1)

1/1 8:30 am - 4 pm

1/2 8:30 am - 4 pm



MAINTENANCE



In late November the two *suzu* bells were cleaned, polished and new skirts attached to them in preparation of the new year.

The bells were once again attached and anchored to the eaves of the roofs on 12/4/2024.



Congratulations to Hanayagi Mitsuakemi (Stacie Hata) of HDAHF for being conferred the title of *Shihan*. Stacie made a miraculous recovery from a traumatic foot injury last December. Your perseverance is an inspiration to all!



The annual application of a highly textured, high performance non-skid paint was done on 12/2.

The old paint was stripped and the stairs pressure washed prior to application.

This polymer acrylic blend ensures a safe, slip resistant surface even in wet conditions - - helping to meet and exceed safety standards for staircases.

MAINTENANCE

On the morning of 11/27, a truck with a rolloff entered the shrine's parking lot, scraping the underside of the metal gate. A vertical metal support bar popped off as a result of the impact.

The metal gate looks like a *torii* gate with the name of the shrine at the top and sits at the entrance of the parking lot.

The extent of the damage is not known until a qualified welder conducts a structural inspection of the gate to ascertain the extent of the damages.

The truck was attempting to deliver the rolloff to an address on Olomea, a few doors down from the shrine. Instead, it entered the shrine parking lot, despite the street number "1239" posted on the gate.

HPD was called so that a police report could be filed.

At first, the officer was reluctant to file a report, stating all sorts of reasons why incidents such as this should be settled among the property owner and perpetrator without intervention by the police or insurance companies.

Upon insistence, a police report was finally filed under "traffic incident."

MAHALO NUI to Mike Lee and Wayne Takenaka for spending the whole day on 12/19 rehangng the stall doors in both bathrooms, repairing the patio french doors to open fully and smoothly and numerous other repairs in prep for the new year.

The old paper towel



dispensers in the bathrooms were removed, relocated and the walls plugged with caulk.

Your tireless dedication and hard work is an inspiration to us all.

