

# Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha • Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

FEBRUARY 2026



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MAHALO for you Sake  
Donations

Craig & Diane Nishida

In Japan, sake has been shared by family and friends for centuries to celebrate the most important moments in life.

Sake's association with Shinto is so fundamental that it's impossible to think of one without the other

Most Shinto rituals are fueled by sake, so it was devastating to have to cease serving sake to the public at new years.

We are also unable to serve sake to the public at our Sake Appreciation Festival in March due to terms dictated by our new insurance provider.

Insurance companies have specific policies regarding alcohol consumption but they can't deny coverage based on religious practices.

However, in order to serve sake at

events, the shrine must obtain a Liquor License from the State.

Servers would have to be trained in responsible alcohol service and pass the test to obtain a Liquor Card.

Age verification must be enforced and time restrictions set during each event.

Liquor liability insurance premiums also increase significantly.

# SAGICHO - burning of the old omamori and ofuda

The annual *Sagicho* was performed on Sunday, January 18.

*Sagicho* is an ancient ceremony originating in China to express appreciation to and purify by burning old **Juyohin** which includes *ofuda*, *omamori*, *kumade*, *hamaya*, porcelain decorations and *hamayumi* that were blessed at a shrine or temple.

Renewal is central to Japanese tradition and as such, we renew *Juyohin* such as omamori and ofuda



at the beginning of the year.

When you visit the shrine at *Hatsumode*, we would appreciate your depositing old *omamori* and other *juyohin* in the hut by **January 7** of each year.

Mahalo Nui to all that participated in *Sagicho* for their kokua in prepping and burning the items.

With the overwhelming number of

## MAHALO VOLUNTEERS

Arden Isa

Arthur Isa

Becky Isa

Charlotte Isa

Tom Jannuzzio

David Jimenez

Masako Jimenez

Serena Jimenez

Craig Nishida

Diane Nishida

items that are turned in, we are no longer able to accept items that were not blessed at a shrine or temple.



# GOKITO Private Blessings



Annual *Kanai Anzen* Family blessings were performed for shrine friends for a bright, healthy and peaceful year.

Family is one of the building blocks of society. *Kanai Anzen* is performed for family wellness, harmony and happiness and is usually performed at the beginning of the new year.



# GOKITO Private Blessings

The shrine's president and staunch supporter celebrated the purchase of a new vehicle and her Milestone Birthday.

May 2026 shower you with divine blessings.

Wishing you the very best in health and life!



A blessing via Facetime was performed for a shrine friend for abundant joy, health and success in all endeavors.



Yakudoshi Blessings were performed for 3 tourists from Japan and a shrine friend.

Yakudoshi years are said to hold many physical and emotional challenges, especially *Dai-Yaku* (Major Yaku) which is 42 for men and 33 for women.

May your Yakudoshi Year wrap you in warmth, kindness and the sweetest of memories.





An 18-year Remembrance Ceremony was performed for a dear friend to pay respects and reflect on the impact she had on our lives.

Karen, we miss your humor, your loyalty and the comfort of knowing we could always count on you. We're grateful for the time we had, memories we made and the bond we built.

Remember our departed friends with laughter and tears, for both honor the life they lived.



*Setsubun* literally means "the changing of the seasons. "

When seasons change, people are at their most vulnerable physical state and often catch colds and other illnesses.

*Setsubun* is meant to purge the home of negativity and to keep disease and misfortunes away.

Setsubun was observed on Sunday, February 1.



The Nagauta Association reached a major milestone in 2025 - - it's 100th anniversary.

To conclude its commemorative events, the association held an epic concert on January 25 at the NHK Hall in Tokyo.

Instructors and students of Master Instructor Kineya Sakio (Bryson Goda) performed the opening piece "Tsurukame" - along with over 380 performers from various Nagauta schools.

# JCCH PET EVENT

The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii initiated a new Pet event for the community! The first JCCH Collectibles and Pet Fair was held on February 14 with Pet Blessings

MAHALO Volunteers

Tom Jannuzzio

Marilyn Naitoh

Jensen Yasui

by the shrine, the Oahu SPCA and numerous vendors.



# CALENDAR

## MARCH

1 2 pm

Tsukinamisai Monthly Service

## APRIL

4 10 am

Cleanup and preparations

5 2 pm

Spring Thanksgiving Festival

Scholarship Awards

Volunteer Awards

## MAY

3 2 pm

Tsukinamisai Monthly Service

31 Internal

Memorial Day Service

Punchbowl, Makiki and Moiliili

Cemeteries

# E Komo Mai



Hawaii was under a slew of weather advisories during the Superbowl weekend, packing heavy rain and strong winds statewide.

Heavy winds and storms can be incredibly damaging to various structures.

The shrine's Kama Lane gate distorted and arched due to strong winds, requiring it to be anchored with heavy chains to stabilize the gate.



E Komo Mai Fukuoka Prefectural Assembly Members !!

13 members of the Assembly were in Hawaii as part of the Hawaii-Fukuoka sister-state relationship established in 1981.

On September 25, 1981, Governor George Ariyoshi and Governor

Hikaru Kamei of Fukuoka signed the document establishing a sister-state relationship.

Representatives from Fukuoka's Prefectural Assembly has been traveling annually since 1981 to attend the Opening Day of the State Legislature.