

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha • Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

January 2023

Happy New Year!!!

The dawn of a new year over flows with hope that invites us to reflect and to recreate ourselves anew.

This year, may we all find a connection to spirit that can guide and nurture us in our growth as a nation and as individuals.

Open your mind to new possibilities, discover the divine within yourself and empower yourself to achieving your goals and purpose in life



MAHALO for your generous Donations

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Heartfelt MAHALO to our Volunteers

EARLY SELECTION

12/26 - 12/30

Renee Carlyle
Kathy Hamada-Kwock
Milton Kwock
Stacie Hata
Lorraine Kadota
Diane Nishida
Linda Shinsato
Sharon Toma

HATSUMODE SETUP

12/30

Jeff Fujioka
Bryson Goda
Kai Igarashi
Brenna Imada
Art Isa
Arthur Isa
Calvin Mai
Marilyn Naitoh
Shinken Naitoh
Craig Nishida
Diane Nishida
Rory Onishi
Stuart Pang
Gary Shinsato
Linda Shinsato

HATSUMODE PREP

12/26 - 12/30

Art Isa
Milton Kwock
Gary Shinsato



Heartfelt MAHALO to our volunteers

HATSUMODE

12/31 - 1/1

Karmen Hang Arcio
Nate Chee
Keiko Doughty
Lizyl Failano
Elden Foronda
Jeff Fujioka
Bryson Goda
Kathy Hamada-Kwock
Stacie Hata

Kai Igarashi
Mitsuru Igarashi
Pam Igarashi
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Becky Isa
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Rory Onishi
Stuart Pang
Gary Shinsato
Linda Shinsato
Robert Stallings
Donny Sun

Jeffie Sun
Yuko Takahashi
Ross Takemoto
Gail Tamashiro
Nelson Tamashiro
Naomi Teramoto
Eileen Uchima
Kia Werkmeister



HATSUMODE

CLEANUP

1/2

Nate Chee
Jeff Fujioka
Bryson Goda
Kai Igarashi
Mitsuru Igarashi
Pam Igarashi
Brenna Imada
Art Isa
Arthur Isa
Becky Isa
Lorraine Kadota
Mike Lee

Anon Matsunami
Marilyn Naitoh
Craig Nishida
Diane Nishida
Rory Onishi
Stuart Pang
Gary Shinsato
Linda Shinsato
Robert Stallings
Naomi Teramoto

HATSUMODE

1/3 - 1/5

Diane Nishida
Linda Shinsato



Year of the Water Rabbit



In 2023, the Water element dominates the energy of the year and symbolizes spontaneity, critical changes, struggles, conflicts, upheavals, extremes and surprising developments. This year will also question our relationship with escape and sobriety, avoidance and accountability. Beware of kidney, bladder and sleep issues.

RAT - Avoid confrontations, lawsuits and major decisions. Avoid distractions that are not related to your goals. Implement better self care.

OX - A calm year where things will flow with fewer obstacles than 2022. Good financial luck, however not a year for speculation or games of chance.

TIGER - Goals may be difficult to attain this year. Optimize your finances and develop relationships.

RABBIT - Many opportunities appear and much is accomplished, however it's a frustrating year as you will not obtain the recognition you deserve.

DRAGON - Take care of medical and dental issues or it will plague you in 2024. Overall, a year of good fortune and happy social interactions.

SNAKE - A year that will present significant life decisions. Avoid unnecessary spending and never get involved in workplace drama.

HORSE - Year to rid yourself of what didn't work for you in 2022. Work and social activities flourish. Beware of back stabbers - - keep ideas and plans to yourself.

SHEEP - Beware of your surroundings, look for ways to reduce hazards and accidents. Focus on restoring your health.

MONKEY - Rather demanding year with challenges. Avoid impulse spending as there will be financial issues. Take measures to safeguard your wealth.

ROOSTER - Challenging year in all aspects of your life. Stay low-keyed as its a year of miscommunications and misunderstandings.

DOG - Excellent year for marriage, move to a new home or having a child. Lots of growth and recognition.

BOAR - Beware of overspending as you'll be kept busy with numerous activities. Possible problems with musculoskeletal system and reduced mobility.

Those born in the years of the Tiger, Snake and Monkey should carry a Rabbit year omamori or wear our 2023 Rabbit T-shirt to alleviate some of the negative energies of the Water Rabbit year. You can also display the 12 Zodiac figurines or *Shichifukujin* figurines in the East corner of your living room to pave the way for a safe and peaceful year of positive opportunities.

HATSUMODE 2023

Here are some of the protocols from Hatsumode 2023, implemented again this year to keep you safe.

- Encouraged Japan-style worship without a priest assistant waving a paper wand over one's head, to prevent virus spread.
- Bell and ropes at the shrine were removed in February 2020 to prevent cross contamination.
- We offered *Saisaki-mode* and Early Selection of *omamori* which began on December 26 for those who preferred not to gather en masse.
- *Ozoni* service was once again canceled to minimize any possibility of virus-borne illnesses
- Hand sanitizers were placed throughout the property
- Enhanced and frequent cleaning with UV lights and hospital-grade disinfectants.

- All *omamoris* were packaged and sanitized with UV lights throughout the day.
- Floors of the *omamori* area were swept and mopped frequently as were all high-touch surfaces.
- Check out and *omikuji* booths were placed in well ventilated areas.
- Tap-and-go credit cards, ApplePay, GooglePay were accepted for contact-free transactions. All terminals were disinfected after each use.

For the third year, we hope our commitment for strengthening safety and sanitizing measures to prevent the spread of viruses in welcoming all of you have provided everyone with a safe, sanitary and inviting environment and your continued trust and loyalty.

CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 22 12 pm** Sagicho Prep
- 1 pm** Sagicho Ceremony
- 2 pm** Tsukinamisai

FEBRUARY

- 6 2 pm**
Tsukinamisai & Setsubun

MARCH

- 6 2 pm**
Sake Appreciation Festival

APRIL

- 16 2 pm**
Spring Thanksgiving Festival
Scholarship Awards



View event photos at: www.flickr.com/kotohira-dazaifu

GOKITO Private Blessings



Our first Gokito Private Blessing for 2023 was a Kanai Anzen Family Blessing. May you be blessed in every phase of your life!



Annual family blessings with their service dogs who assist their owners to ensure that they can go on with their activities without incidents.



Koki 70 year old Blessings are conducted for a new focus in life - to see the value, quality and meaning of our lives as we begin to experience declining physical or cognitive capacity.

Koki originated from a Chinese poem by the famous poet Tu Fu, which expresses how rare it was to live until the age of 70.

Red is the auspicious color for Kanreki (60 years old). For Koki, gifts of purple - - traditional caps, vests, articles of clothing, etc. are given in honor of this propitious milestone.



The shrine was featured in the January 9 edition of the Star Advertiser.

Visiting the shrine was Jaxen Buenafe and his parents Joseph and Shemie.

Mahalo Buenafe ohana for observing and perpetuating the traditions of Hatsumode!

Visit our website www.jinja.us

GOKITO Private Blessings

MAINTENANCE



Many Shinto shrines hold O-charae or purification rituals twice a year. These rituals are said to have originate around 701 CE

The Toshikoshi no O-charae or yearend purification rituals on New Year's eve to disperse negative energies accumulated over the second half of the year and to pray for good health and to revitalize one's energy in the coming 6 months.



The Nagoshi no O-charae or summer purification ritual is held in June by passing through the Chinowa ring made of leaves. Here at the shrine, we welcome pets - dogs, cats, birds, etc. to our summer event to join us in walking through the Ti leaf ring.

The yearend ritual was held on December 31 in the presence of Bryson Goda (President) , Diane Nishida (VP) and Linda Shinsato (Secretary).



We're finally reviving the summer Chinowa event! Mark your calendars:

Chinowa for People & Pets

June 4 9:30 am - 1 pm



Mike to the rescue - - 3 times in the same week.

Exterior electricity was down and a lock was jammed. Mahalo Nui Loa