

# Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha • Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

March 2022

A vibrant blue sky with a bright sunburst effect and a view of the Earth's horizon. The sun is positioned behind the horizon, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the clouds. The Earth's surface is visible in the lower half of the frame, showing blue oceans and green landmasses.

May peace prevail

# MAHALO for your generous Donations

Kaoru Banuilos  
Bill & Keiko Doughty  
Bryson & Reiko Goda  
In Memory of Emily Ebina  
Mitsuru & Pam Igarashi  
Rodney & Sharon Isa  
Kumi Iseki  
Lorraine Kadota  
James & Melba Kurashige  
Mike Lee  
Carol Matsuwaki  
Bobbie Mendes  
Yae Miko  
Steve Miwa  
Gail Miyamoto  
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh  
Ken & Janel Nakama  
Craig & Diane Nishida  
Ken & Sumera Romaniszyn  
Akiko Sanai  
Rudy & Sherrie Santiago  
Aaron Shimoda

Shawna Shimoda  
Gary & Linda Shinsato  
Robert Stallings  
Sharon Tanigawa  
Naomi Teramoto  
Blake & Jenny Uramoto  
Richard Yanagi

## MAHALO for your donations of Sake

Bryson & Reiko Goda  
Hanayagi Dancing Academy  
Mitsuru & Pam Igarashi  
Art Isa  
Islander Sake Brewery  
Kokusai Sake Kai  
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh  
Craig & Diane Nishida  
Gary & Linda Shinsato  
Takenoko Sushi - Hilo  
Naomi Teramoto

The shrine's annual Sake Appreciation Festival was initiated to acknowledge the gift that alcoholic beverages made from rice like sake are to the world and our lives. Due to Covid-19, the event was observed internally with only our Board members.



# GOKITO Private Blessings



A baby blessing was performed for a family from Las Vegas



Good health blessings were performed for shrine friends



A car blessing was performed on 3/6



A long distance blessing was performed for a furry friend



Yakudoshi and Kanreki blessings were performed on 3/6 for a family that has lived near the shrine for three generations.

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

# GOKITO Private Blessings

The *Sanju* Pagoda is a columbarium complex built in 1966, within the Honolulu Memorial Park.



The 116-foot Pagoda was designed by local architect Robert Katsuyoshi



and was modeled after the 3-storey pagoda of *Minami Hokkeji* Temple in *Nara*.

The Pagoda fell into disrepair when a complicated lawsuit froze assets which were to allow for regular ground maintenance and

major repairs.

The Pagoda was purchased by a local business a few years ago and repairs of the roof will begin this month.

A ceremony was conducted on March 9 for the safety of the volunteers, smooth completion and removal of any negative energies.



An interment ceremony was performed for a shrine friend at Nuuanu Memorial Park on March 9.

After a short ceremony, the urn holding the earthly remains of the deceased was placed in a

grave with her husband.

Rituals such as interments unite people in a common, shared experience and help us to remember that our loved one is always with us in our hearts.



View shrine photos: [www.flickr.com/kotohira-dazaifu](http://www.flickr.com/kotohira-dazaifu)

# Board of Directors • Officers

The shrine is pleased to announce the election of **Bryson Goda** as the incoming Chair of the shrine's board of directors.

Bryson succeeds **Dr. Shinken Naitoh**, the former president and chair who served the board since 2001.

Dr. Naitoh was responsible for establishing policy and guiding the shrine's efforts into the 21st century with events like Sake Appreciation Festival and the initiating and naming of our website, e-shrine.org.

He will continue to serve as a member of the board.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Naitoh for his hard work, dedication and for

being a judicious steward in building and growing the shrine.

He leaves the shrine a better organization and on a strong footing for those who follow him.

We look forward to his ongoing involvement as a board member.

Bryson is a Master Instructor and principal of Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Foundation.

Upon receiving his MBA at Hawaii Pacific University, he joined an accounting firm and is presently and a personal banker at First Hawaii Bank. Bryson joined the shrine board in 2015.

Bryson has demonstrated a deep commitment to the shrine and has been an invaluable asset in the preservation and perpetuation of

cultural activities and events.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bryson Goda	Linda Shinsato
Marilyn Naitoh	Irene Takizawa
Shinken Naitoh	Masa Takizawa
Diane Nishida	

## OFFICERS

President - Bryson Goda
Vice President - Diane Nishida
Secretary - Linda Shinsato
Treasurer - Irene Takizawa

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

# Shunbun no Hi

*Shunbun no Hi* or the Spring (Vernal) Equinox heralds the first day of Spring.

During the Spring equinox, the amounts of daylight and darkness are about the same in length.

The Japanese observe this day to remember the deceased by offering foodstuff or visiting the graves.

The most popular food offering to the deceased is *Botamochi* or *Ohagi*.

On *Shunbun no Hi* or Spring Equinox, *Botamochi* is offered. *Botamochi* is made from *koshi-an* or smooth bean paste.

The name comes from *Botan* or peony and the shape of the *mochi* is smooth and round.

On the Autumn Equinox or *Shubun no Hi* - *Ohagi* is used as offerings.

*Ohagi* uses *Tsubu-an* or coarse bean paste and is shaped in an oval - like barrels of rice.

The name *ohagi* comes from *hagi* or Japanese clovers which grow abundantly in Autumn.

This year, *Shunbun no Hi* falls on March 21.

# CALENDAR

## APRIL

- 24 2 pm (INTERNAL)**  
Spring Thanksgiving Festival  
Scholarship Awards

## MAY

- 1 2 pm (INTERNAL)**  
Tsukinamisai Monthly Service
- 29 8 am (INTERNAL)**  
Memorial Day Service  
(Punchbowl, Makiki & Moiliili  
Cemeteries)

## JUNE

- 5 10 am - 2 pm (CANCELED)**  
Chinowa for People & Pets



Botamochi



Ohagi



# MAINTENANCE

Spring is a time for pruning for health plant and beauty.

Pruning removes dead or dying branches that can affect the overall health of plants. More importantly, it encourages the plant to serve its intended purpose in the landscape.

Empowering the plants to put its energy into producing the growth you want will yield beautiful, healthy leaves and flowers or tasty vegetables and fruits.



An annual inspection of the roof was performed after *Shichigosan* in late November. Dust and debris was removed from the roofs and the neighboring tree on the H-1 side of the shrine was trimmed to reduce seeds and leaves from dropping on the roof.

Due to the heavy rains during December and January - vegetation was discovered this February on the shrine roof.

As the root system of plants and trees will quickly destroy a roof membrane - deep cleaning of the roof was done and all vegetation removed.

The debris was segregated from the dirt and is being used as compost.



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