

# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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DECEMBER 2014

### HHMH 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY (1889-2014)

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the year 2014. The Inaugural Service was held on February 7, 2014 in conjunction with the 102<sup>nd</sup> Giseikai's Opening Service. To celebrate this wonderful milestone with Hongwanji members, friends, and many other people in the community, the Commemorative Services were held in the five districts as follows;

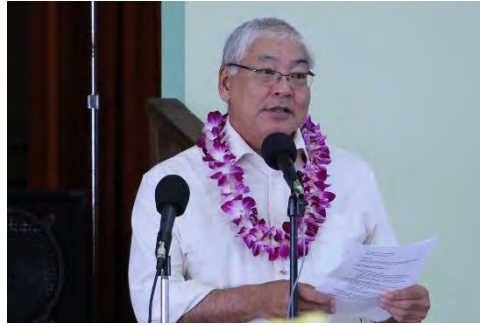
March 2, 2014	Oahu District at Waipahu Hongwanji Mission
April 27, 2014	Honolulu District at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
November 1, 2014	Maui District at Wailuku Hongwanji Mission
November 16, 2014	Kauai District at Kapaa Hongwanji Mission
November 23, 2014	Hawaii District at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin

In November, there was also world premiere performances of the original musical **"Peace On Your Wings"**. This is a fictional story inspired by the life of Sadako Sasaki and was created by Ohana Arts as one of the Hawaii Kyodan's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Projects. This will also be performed on the neighbor islands as follows;

Kauai	January 25, 2015, 2:00pm at Kauai Community Collage Performing Arts Center Tickets: <a href="http://KauaiPeaceOnYourWings.BrownPaperTickets.com">http://KauaiPeaceOnYourWings.BrownPaperTickets.com</a>
Maui	February 8, 2015, 2:00pm at Kamehameha Schools Maui Keopuolani Hale Tickets: <a href="http://MauiPeaceOnYourWings.BrownPaperTickets.com">http://MauiPeaceOnYourWings.BrownPaperTickets.com</a>
Hawaii	February 22, 2015, 2:00pm at Kahilu Theatre, Waimea Tickets: <a href="http://BigIslandPeaceOnYourWings.BrownPaperTickets.com">http://BigIslandPeaceOnYourWings.BrownPaperTickets.com</a>

For more information of the events and Ohana Arts, please check [www.ohanaarts.org](http://www.ohanaarts.org).





## 2015 LIVING TREASURES OF HAWAII RECOGNITION

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will honor the following individuals as the 2015 Living Treasures of Hawai'i™ in recognition of their personal and professional achievements and their contributions to the community. We welcome you to celebrate this honor with them.

Date: Saturday, February 14, 2015

Place: Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom

Time: 11:00 AM Registration, 12:00 PM Lunch and Program

Cost: Early registration - \$70.00 for payments received by January 31, 2015

Late registration - \$85.00 for payments between February 1 - February 7, 2015

(Reservations will NOT be accepted after February 8, 2015)

Sponsor Tables are available: Gold - \$5,000; Silver - \$3,000; Bronze - \$1,500

### 2015 LIVING TREASURES OF HAWAII'I™

**BLOSSOM PUANANI ALAMA TOM** is an icon of hula, known throughout the world as an outstanding hula teacher and dancer. For 75 years, Blossom has perpetuated the Hawaiian culture by sharing the beauty and grace of hula with generations of those who appreciate the art, from Waikiki to Washington, D.C. Besides dancing, Blossom has served as a judge for many hula events, including the Merry Monarch Hula Festival, and is the only surviving judge from its first festival. She hold the honorable title of the oldest active Kumu Hula (hula master) alive today.

**HAUNANI S. APOLIONA** has dedicated her life to helping the native Hawaiian community. Through her contributions in the field of social work with Alu Like, she helped to improve the lives of Native Hawaiians. As the longest serving Board chairperson in the history of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) trustee, she provided leadership in the pursuit of Federal Recognition for native Hawaiians, and the formation of a native Hawaiian governing entity. Haunani continues to bolster the Hawaiian culture through music, as a composer and award-winning master slack-key guitarist.

Through tutelage and talent, **DR. BERNICE KUSAKO HIRAI** continues to grow an appreciation of the Japanese culture. As a professor at the University of Hawai'i College of Education, Dr. Hirai has shared her love of the Japanese language with students and was instrumental in the development of instructional materials for secondary schools. She is also a sought after performer in koto, being the first person outside of Japan to be awarded the *Shihan* (Master Instructor) rank by Sawai Sokyoku-In, Tokyo. At age 89, she is writing a book about the history of *koto* in Hawaii, a clear demonstration of a continuous passion for growth and learning.

**PAULETTE NOHEALANI KAHALEPUNA** A love of the feather lei was passed down to Paulette Nohealani Kahalepuna from her mother. For over thirty years, she has been preserving the ancient Hawaiian art of featherwork through her award-winning, internationally recognized lei. Paulette has led feather lei making and kahili (feather standards) workshops around the world and has helped in the restoration and creation of numerous kahili ku (large kahili) for Kamehameha Schools and the Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center. Today, the tradition continues with mother, daughter, and granddaughter being involved, assuring the beautiful art form will continue and grow.

**LAURA RUBY'S** numerous and exceptional contributions to Hawaii are not only read, but seen. As a teacher at the University of Hawai'i Art Department and author of two books, Laura has helped to foster an appreciation and interest in art history in Honolulu. Through her work with the Landscape Advisory Committee for the UH Manoa, she has helped to beautify the campus. She was also key in initiating the process of giving the Moiliili entrance to the University an official name, Moiliili Gate. She continues to have a hand in bringing beauty and art to the campus, helping to draft a comprehensive Campus Artwork Policy, which is forthcoming.

**BARRY TANIGUCHI** is widely known as a successful businessman, yet his contributions to the community are just as broad and equally significant. As Chairman and CEO of Puna Plantation Hawaii Ltd. (dba KTA Super Stores) and President and CEO of K. Taniguchi Ltd., Barry leads by example, having served on several boards including the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Hawaii Health Systems Corp, the Hawaii Employees Council, University of Hawaii Mauna Kea Management Board, Hawaii Employers Council, the Queen's Health Systems and American Savings Bank. Altruism and philanthropy are hallmarks of this respected businessman and family man, who continuously demonstrates his commitment to the State by donating generously of his time.

## **SOCIAL CONCERNS FUND DRIVE AND DISBURSEMENTS**

The generous contributions of Sangha members provides the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii the ability to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to support their work in our community and to provide compassionate action during times of disaster. **The 2013-2014 Social Concerns Fund Drive raised a total of \$25,200.**

With a commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving-kindness, we were able to lend our support to the listed organizations. We were also able to assist those affected by natural disaster and other emergency situations.

### **Disbursements for calendar year 2014:**

#### Community Support (\$25,200)

\$5,000

Counseling and Spiritual Care Center of Hawaii

\$1,000	The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii
\$1,000	Family Promise of Hawaii
\$1,500	Japanese American Citizens League-Hawaii Chapter
\$1,000	Hawaii People's Fund
\$10,000	Project Dana in recognition of its 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
\$500	All Believers' Network International Interfaith Conference in August 2014
\$200	Sunrise Ministry Foundation Journeys to Wellness Seminar
\$2,000	Hawaii Food Bank
\$1,000	Hawaii Food Bank –Kauai Branch
\$1,000	Food Basket (Hawaii Island Food Bank)
\$1,000	Maui Food Bank

Emergency Relief (\$29,000)

\$10,000	International Red Cross to support disaster relief efforts across the Pacific region
\$5,000	Hawaii Island United Way for Hurricane Iselle relief efforts
\$2,000	Hiroshima Hongwanji District Office for landslide relief efforts
\$500	Pahala Hongwanji for damage sustained from Hurricane Iselle
\$500	Omimai for Puna Hongwanji Family for damage from Hurricane Iselle
\$500	Omimai for Hilo Hongwanji family affected by Hurricane Iselle
\$500	Omimai for Honokaa Hongwanji family affected by Hurricane Iselle
\$10,000	Allocated for Puna lava flow relief efforts

The Committee on Social Concerns thanks the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Ohana for your continued support of our efforts to share the Dharma through advocacy and compassionate action.

**PBA – KINNARA & ARPANA CONCERT**

Hongwanji Headquarters, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, and Pacific Buddhist Academy together hosted a benefit concert for Pacific Buddhist Academy, proceeds from which have been designated toward our Capital Campaign to build a new classroom facility. Among the nearly 170 attendees were guests from the Japanese Consulate-General in Honolulu, and members of the staff of Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard from whom a congratulatory message was read.



Special thanks to the following for making our Concert a success:

- Kinnara Gagaku for performing Gagaku music, the oldest continually played court music in the world, and Bugaku, ceremonial dances in colorful costume accompanied by Gagaku music.
- The Arpana Dance Company for performing traditional dance.
- Stacy Bradshaw, Colleen Kunishige, and the Betsuin staff for handling event logistics.
- Kano Hashimoto, Chika Matsumoto, Megan Sakata, Lauren Tsai, Andie Uyehara, Maya Vilorio, and Liane Vilorio for their support during the event.
- Kena Hefernan, Alan Kubota, Elmer Cagaoan, and PBA students for creating the stage.
- Jennifer and Nathan Stierli, Van Velasco, and Liane Vilorio for taking down the stage.
- Planning Committee: Stacy Bradshaw, Bishop Eric Matsumoto, Reverend Tatsuo Muneto, Joshua Hernandez Morse, Rüdiger Rückmann, and Reverend Toshiyuki Umitani.

## YESS CAMP 32 “Ichigo Ichie”

Date: April 3-5, 2015 (Good Friday Weekend)

Location: Camp Kokokahi, Oahu

The application form is available online: [www.tinyurl.com/yesscamp32form](http://www.tinyurl.com/yesscamp32form)

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE

The Federation BWA invites you to join our marching unit in the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade on January 19th. Our Hongwanji slogan for the year is “Embrace Change: Awareness.” We welcome all temple members and friends, Dharma School students, YBA members, PBA students and families to march with us as we honor Dr. King, a man who brought awareness and change to our society.

This year we will participate in two events. We’d love to see you at one or both of them!

### **Bell Ringing Ceremony – Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM at Nagasaki Peace Bell, Honolulu Hale Grounds**

Bishop Matsumoto attends the Bell Ringing Ceremony. He suggested that this might be a good way for those who cannot walk the parade route to participate. Attire: BWA shirts or purple.

### **MLK Parade – Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM (meet at 8:00 am), Magic Island to Kapiolani Park**

Meet at Magic Island at 8:00 am. Please wear BWA shirts or purple shirts. Sign up for these events with your temple BWA president or representative.

## CONDOLENCES

**Mr. Tadao Matsuzaki**, a member of **Papaikou Hongwanji Mission**, passed away on October 27, 2014. Mr. Matsuzaki had served as Vice President and Gojikai Treasurer of Papaikou Hongwanji Mission. The Posthumous Title (Ingo) of **I-Toku-In 威徳院** was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and presented to the family at the funeral service. “I-Toku” means “the one who possesses magnificent virtues.”

**Mrs. Lillian Tsutami Hasegawa**, a member of **Waianae Hongwanji Mission**, passed away on December 1, 2014. Mrs. Hasegawa had served as President (2002-2003), Vice President (2000-2001), Chair of Waianae Hongwanji Centennial Anniversary, and Fujinkai President for Waianae Hongwanji Mission. The Posthumous Title (Ingo) of **E-Gen-In 慧眼院** was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and presented to the family at the funeral service. “E-Gen” means “Wisdom-Eyes” in recognition of her wise guidance and effective leadership.

**Mrs. Esther Chiyeko Fujioka**, a member of **Kailua Hongwanji Mission**, passed away on November 26, 2014. Mrs. Fujioka had involved in leadership positions on various levels including Honolulu United BWA President and an officer in the Federation of BWA level from 1996 through 2006. The Posthumous Title (Ingo) of **Hou-Ju-In 宝珠院** was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and presented to the family at the funeral service. “Hou-Ju” means “One who is like a Rare and Exquisite Jewel” in recognition of her being a shining example of an exemplary nembutsu follower and leader of our temple community.

## DONATION ONLINE

We wish to acknowledge the donations received at Headquarters and the Buddhist Study Center. We thank you for your generous contribution and support of Hawaii Kyodan’s programs. We are pleasantly surprised that many of the donations (\$1,900.00 in December) have been coming in through our website. As many of you know, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is able to receive donations online and has been doing so for nearly two years. The online method provides a convenient way to make a tax-deductible donation and have instant confirmation of the donation. If you would like to use our website to make a donation, go to [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) and click on “Donation to the Hongwanji” on the left side of the page. In Gassho,