

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209

Web: www.hongwanjihawaii.com Email: hqs@honpahi.org

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HHMH 2014 SLOGAN AND THEME "PATH OF ENTRUSTING: SHARE PEACE"

This year Theme is: *Path of Entrusting: Share Peace!* And as we enter the one hundred twenty five year of the Hawaii Kyodan it is very appropriate that our aspiration is to share peace. You will notice that words were chosen carefully avoiding using phrases like "Promote Peace" and "Spread Peace." This is because in Buddhism peace begins with the individual finding peace within and then sharing that peace with others. Please keep in mind that everyone is responsible for his or her own spiritual path and personal actions. But at the same time if the great Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha have transformed one's heart and mind, then one will aspire to share peace in many different ways, great and small. So let us, according to our circumstances and abilities share peace by our actions and words starting with our families and communities.

"Signs of long years of saying the Nembutsu and aspiring for birth (in the Pure Land) can be seen in the change in the heart that had been bad and in the deep warmth for friends and fellow-practicers;" ... Shinran Shonin, page 551, Collected Works of Shinran.

Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki, Director, Office of Buddhist Education

HHMH 125th ANNIVERSARY

HHMH will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2014. The Planning Committee members are currently planning a district-centered event which will be observed at each district during the year 2014. **The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, in the state level, will observe the 125th Celebration Inaugural Service in conjunction with the Giseikai Opening Service on Friday, February 7, 2014 at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. The service will start at 8:30am and it is open to the public.**

Projects for 125th Celebration:

- Update the Ministers Biographies
- Collect Temple History
- Religious Observance at each district
- Hawaii Kyodan-BSC and UH Numata Symposium on Violence, Non-Violence and Japanese Religions in March 2014
- Buddhist Musical based on the Sadako Sasaki's story being organized by the Hongwanji Mission School Drama Department and the PBA
- TV Program featuring interviews with members who have has a positive impact on the community. The topic will be how Buddhism has played a role in their lives.
- Membership Drive by the Membership and Proration Committee
- A Project recognizing Mary Foster and her contributions in support of Buddhism and HHMH
- Anniversary T-shirt

MINISTERS WALK IN SUPPORT OF PBA

Ministers of the Honolulu and Oahu Districts together with PBA students and other supporters walked 6 miles from PBA to Kapiolani Park on December 9, 2013 to raise awareness of PBA in the community and to support its Capital Campaign toward the construction of the new school building. Ministers and students had a short service at Hawaii Betsuin at 6:30am and proceeded to Moiliili Hongwanji Mission where they took a brief rest stop and continued to Kapiolani Park. In 2011, Hongwanji Ministers and members of the PBA Ohana walked 5.7 miles and raised over \$20,000 for the Capital Campaign. The goal for this year is to raise \$25,000 and the ministers took the lead to collect pledges.

Rev. David Nakamoto said, "I enjoyed the fellowship that the walk provided. Getting to talk story with the ministers was truly meaningful as these opportunities to spend a block of time sharing experiences was invaluable. We are appreciative of all that was involved in the planning and implementation of the walk. Also to our temple members, we are grateful for their providing moral as well as monetary support for PBA. Let's do it again!"

PBA's Head of School Mr. Robert Cody mentioned, "It is clear to us all that the Ministers and Temples love and support Pacific Buddhist Academy and our students. The Ministers Walk is just another example of how our Spiritual Leaders continue to take the leadership role in developing the next generation of leaders. Having the students involved with such great role models made it all worthwhile."

One PBA student who participated in the walk said, "I enjoyed the walk because it is a really good opportunity to interact with people that I normally wouldn't. I really appreciate all the support the temple gives us. A lot of the work you do is unrecognized and I just wanted to say thank you." Other students said, "It was cool to see the ministers in their robes and shoes walking in the morning."

You can still show your support for PBA. For more information, please contact PBA at 808-532-2649 or go to their website for donation information. If you donate online, in the section where it says "Class Year(s)" type in "Ministers Walk 2014". Thank you.



Photo courtesy of Alan Kubota



YOUTH FORUM: THE FUTURE OF ...

With the theme and slogan for 2014 being “Path of Entrusting: Share Peace”, the Hongwanji Youth will talk about internal peace relating to their daily lives. These representatives have been involved in several youth activities the HHMH has to offer. These include, but not limited to, Jr. YBA, PBA, BSCFC, YESS Camp and Young Adult Retreat. The Forum will begin at 10am on January 11, 2014 at the Buddhist Study Center. Each member of the panel will share a quick reflection on peace, and then they will entertain questions from the public. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

YESS CAMP 2014

The Young Enthusiastic Shinshu Seekers' Camp (YESS Camp) is an annual camp devoted to educating young and enthusiastic Buddhists about Jodo Shinshu traditions. In the 30 year history, many enthusiastic young Buddhists that came to learn about Buddhism also learned a lot about themselves in the process. Through the course of the camp there are also many bonding activities with fellow campers that can create strong friendships that could last a lifetime. Many of the former YESS Camp participants are still involved within the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii as lay leaders or even ministers.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the dates for this year’s camp will be a little earlier than usual. It will be on February 15-17, at Camp Timberline located on Oahu. Please be aware that it is the Great Aloha Run that weekend so flights may go quick.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jacob Chang by e-mail at youth@honpahi.org or by phone at 937-6555. The application form can be found at www.tinyurl.com/yesscampxxxiform. Below is an article about the BWA participation in the Martin Luther King parade on January 20th:

FEDERATION OF BWA PARTICIPATES IN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARADE

The Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations will be participating in the **Martin Luther King, Jr. parade on Monday, January 20, 2014**. They will have a marching unit of BWA members, friends, and family with the possibility of a trolley for members who are unable to walk the 2 mile distance.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition Hawaii promotes this as a “day of national and community service, time to reflect on principles of interracial cooperation, equality and social change through nonviolent resolution of conflict, dedication to global peace, and social justice.....” This is a message of interdependence that is also a foundation of Shin Buddhism.

Those who would like to participate in the parade should let their temple BWA president know by January 10th. The BWA is encouraging members, prospective members and family members to participate in what they hope will be a fun event.

Participants should meet at Magic Island at 7:30 and wear purple or BWA t-shirts. The parade will start at 9:00 and go from Magic Island, through Waikiki, to Kapiolani Park. Following the parade, members will gather at Kapiolani Park for fellowship and light refreshments.

Let's get out to support the BWA by marching or cheering them on along the parade route.

Headquarters Office will be closed on the following dates.

December 25, 2013 for Christmas Day

January 1, 2014 for New Year’s Day

Headquarters Bookstore is open from Tuesday (8:30am-4:00pm) to Saturday (8:30am-12:00pm).

The store is also open on the first Sunday of the month (8:30am-12:00pm).

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERN

The Committee of Social Concern made the following recommendations for disbursement of funds and it was approved at the Hawaii Kyodan Board of Director's Meeting on December 7, 2013.

- \$5,000 American Red Cross Hawaii Chapter for Typhoon Haiyan Relief
- \$5,000 Filipino Community Center/Consuelo Foundation for Typhoon Haiyan Relief
- \$5,000 Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation for Typhoon Haiyan Relief
- \$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
- \$1,000 Hawaii Conference of Religions for peace: A-bombs Exhibit for Peace in Honolulu
- \$5,000 University of Hawaii Religion department/Buddhist Study Center Numata Conference in Buddhist Studies
- \$2,000 100th/442nd/MIS Documentary in Okinawa
- \$250 Sunrise Ministry Foundation-Journeys to Wellness Seminar

MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Hawaii Kyodan Music Committee (Translation Subcommittee) recently sent out the scores of seven English gathas that have been rendered from the Japanese in the past three years. The gathas are:

- Awakening (Nyushin)
- Happily Together (Minna Nakayoku)
- How Happy I am! (Go On Ureshiya)
- Lullaby for Children of the World (Nonnosama)
- Other Shore (Higan)
- Son of O-Bon (Bon-E No Uta)
- Touched by Kindness (Shiawase Ni Deattara)

The Translation Subcommittee were comprised of Mitsuyo Saito (chair), Shigeaki Fujitani, Osamu Kawabata, Ruby Nagao, Francis Okano, Florence Wasai, and Wendie Yumori. The scores of those gathas were sent to the temple ministers and the presidents.

MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENT (JINJI)

Rev. Mary David, the Resident Minister of Mililani Hongwanji Mission, will be relieved of her responsibilities as Resident Minister of Mililani Hongwanji Mission and Oversee Minister of Waialua Hongwanji Mission as of December 31, 2013, and will be assigned to Headquarters as HQ Staff in the Office of Buddhist Education as of January 1, 2014. She will retire from HHMH as of March 1, 2014. Rev. Janet Youth, a Retired Minister, will provide religious services for Mililani Hongwanji Mission until the new assignment will be made to Mililani Hongwanji Mission. Rev. Kojun Hashimoto, the Resident Minister of Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission, will oversee Waialua Hongwanji Mission.

DONATION TO HONPA HONGWANJI

You can now make a donation to Honpa Hongwanji through online with your Credit Card. Please visit our website at www.hongwanjihawaii.com and click "Donation to Honpa Hongwanji" on the main page. Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowable by law.