

# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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SEPTEMBER 2014

## CHANGE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF JODO SHINSHU HONGWANJI-HA

The Hongwanji Sokyoku has announced the following changes to their Governing Board of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha effective on September 11, 2014.

Socho (Governor General)	Bishop Chiko Iwagami
Somu (Governor)	Rev. Takao Honda ... in charge of International Department
Somu (Governor)	Rev. Gyobun Fujino
Somu (Governor)	Rev. Kosei Nakao
Fuku Somu (Vice Governor)	Rev. Kosho Takeno ... in charge of International Department
Fuku Somu (Vice Governor)	Rev. Tokuhō Takahashi

## PEACE ON YOUR WINGS

OHANA ARTS will be presenting its original youth musical "Peace On Your Wings" which is written by Jennifer Taira and Laurie Rubin with music and lyrics by them as well and directed by Carolyn Lee. This Youth Musical is being presented throughout the State of Hawaii through a joint venture of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, on the occasion of our 125th Anniversary, and Ohana Arts.

"Peace On Your Wings" is a fictional story inspired by the life of Sadako Sasaki. Set in post-war 1950's Japan, it explores the lives of students at a middle school in Hiroshima as they face the terminal illness of their friend amidst their own adolescent drama. The musical score combines modern pop and Japanese influences to create a unique, uplifting, and inspiring show. This musical will be performed by Ohana Arts that includes some students from Hongwanji Mission School and Pacific Buddhist Academy.

### World Premiere (Oahu) Performances

November 20th-22nd, 2014 @ Leeward Community College Theatre.

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Tickets are available through [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)

Neighbor Island tour (January-February 2015) is currently being planned.

Please also check <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/78470842/peace-on-your-wings> to support this project.



## HHMH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

This leadership Development Workshop is presented to promote temple leadership that supports the effectiveness of our temples based on a partnership (collaborative-efforts) of lay leaders and ministers. The proposed leadership model (or system) is the foundation for a process to evaluate the effectiveness or performance of ministers. Participation is open to all current and potential temple leaders and all ministers

within Honolulu and Oahu districts. This workshop is for Sangha members and ministers who will determine the effectiveness of their respective temples and contribute to the enhancement of Hawaii Kyodan.

**Where: Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Main Social Hall**  
**When: Saturday, November 1, 2014 from 8:00am to 4:00pm**  
**Registration Deadline: October 20, 2014**

## COMMISSION ON BUDDHIST EDUCATION

New 2015 - 2019 theme and slogan for Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

- 2015 - Embrace Change - Awareness (Seek Opportunities)
- 2016 - Embrace Change - New Vision (Create Engagement)
- 2017 - Embrace Change - Action (Open Communication)
- 2018 - Embrace Change - Harmony (Accept Differences)
- 2019 - Embrace Change - Transformation (Walk in Peace)

## COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERN

Hawaii Kyodan Board of Directors approved the following disbursements at its meeting on August 23, 2013.

- \$5,000 Hawaii Island United Way for disaster relief on the Big Island
- \$500 Omimai for Hilo Hongwanji family affected by Hurricane Iselle
- \$500 Omimai for Honokaa Hongwanji family affected by Hurricane Iselle
- \$500 Pahala Hongwanji for damage sustained from Hurricane Iselle
- \$200 Sunrise Ministry Foundation Journeys to Wellness Seminar



*This picture was taken by Bishop Matsumoto when he visited the disaster-stricken area on Big Island.*

## 2014 SUMMER SESSION WITH REV. HARADA

Theme for this year's Summer Session was: *Resolving Life's Problems through Buddhism*. Rev. Marvin Harada subdivided the theme into four nightly topics:

- Resolving the matter of life and death
- Resolving relationship issues
- Resolving the three poisons: greed, anger and ignorance
- Resolving self-esteem issues



On the final night he wrapped up by presenting the life of Hisako Nakamura, the ultimate example of resolving life's problems through Buddhism. Although we were not able to work out the problems involved with streaming the lectures through Internet before the start of this year's session, we were able to address most of them, at its conclusion. So we plan to make the lectures widely available via Livestream next year. A total of 90 people registered either as full-time or part-time participants with an average of about 65 people attending per night. Despite the technical challenges and limited notification, participation via Livestream was 33 followers (registered for access) and there was an average of 11 viewers per night.

## CONDOLENCES

**Mr. Charles Kazuo Nishioka**, a member of Mililani Hongwanji Mission, passed away on August 19, 2014. Mr. Nishioka has been a generous contributor to Mililani Hongwanji throughout his years as a member. Mr. Nishioka guided the kyodan board of directors to function more efficiently through his examples from business. At the temple, he was generous with his time in all temple projects and always recruited people to join in the activities. The Ingo of AI-GYO-IN was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and presented at the funeral service. "AI-GYO" means "the one who shared his love and respect for others."

## JINJI – MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENTS

**Rev. Shinji Kawagoe**, the Associate Minister of Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin, has been assigned to Papaikou Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister effective August 1, 2014. He has also been assigned to Honohina Hongwanji Mission, Honomu Hongwanji Mission, and Papaalooa Hongwanji Mission as their Overseer Minister.

## HQ BOOKSTORE UPDATE

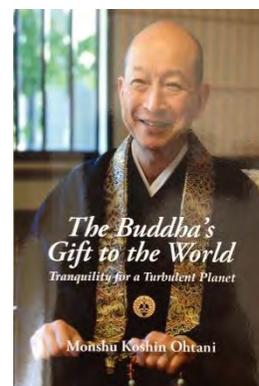
### **"The Buddha's Gift to the World: Tranquility for a Turbulent Planet"**

**by Former Monshu Koshin Ohtani**

Paperback, \$10.00 is now available at HQ Bookstore.

The 24<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Leader of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha His Eminence Koshin Ohtani had retired from the Monshu's position on June 5 of this year. This is his third book in English translation. This Book begins with an outline by the Gomonshu on Buddhism and society and a talk he presented to college students at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan. The Buddha's Gift to the World reaffirms that the Buddha-Dharma teachings are as relevant today as ever for addressing the very real and complex problems of our modern society and global community. This book's foreword was written by Bishop Eric Matsumoto.

HQ Bookstore offer 10% discount to the orders from the Hongwanji Temples. Please call 522-9202 or e-mail to [hqbooks@honpahi.org](mailto:hqbooks@honpahi.org)



## 2014-2015 SOCIAL CONCERNS FUND DRIVE

In November we celebrate Thanksgiving and Eitaikyo. Both observances remind us to be mindful of the countless blessings in our lives and how we live connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive.

The generous contributions from Sangha members provides the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii the ability to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to continue their work in our community and to provide compassionate action during times of disaster. Your contributions also allow the Committee on Social Concerns to plan for future programs related to social issues affecting our community.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving-kindness we were able to continue lending our support to such organizations as Project Dana, The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, Family Promise of Hawaii and the various food banks across the state. Your generosity allowed Hawaii Kyodan to lead the fundraising effort to build the Sadako Sasaki Peace Crane exhibit at Pearl Harbor that was dedicated in 2013.

Because of your kokua over the years, we have also been able to help with recovery efforts after natural disasters and assist members of our Sangha affected by misfortune and other emergency situations. This year

we were able to support relief efforts on the Big Island after Hurricane Iselle. We have also been able to establish the Golden Chain Grant program that promotes compassionate action through service to others in our community. Your generosity directly helps those in need and promotes a more humane world. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Please make all checks payable to your local temple. The suggested donation is the cost of just one meal per person. Any donation you are able to give will make a difference in the lives of others. Your help is needed to continue our mission of sharing the Dharma through compassionate action. Mahalo!

In Gassho,  
Rev. Blayne Higa  
Committee on Social Concerns, Chair

## CHORALFEST MUSIC SERVICE AT HAWAII BETSUIN

The special Music Service for Choralfest 2014 will be held at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin on Sunday, September 28, 2014, at 10:00 AM. One hundred sixty singers from near and far will raise their voices in song in praise of the Buddha-Dharma. In addition to 120 singers from temples statewide, a group of 40 singers from Japan will give this choralfest a distinct international flair.

The festival choir will be conducted by Hongwanji Living Treasure Nola Nahulu and accompanied by Francis Okano. Please come early for seats to this unique Hongwanji musical offering.

## NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL NAMED AT PACIFIC BUDDHIST ACADEMY

(HONOLULU) – The Board of Trustees at Pacific Buddhist Academy is pleased to announce that Joshua Hernandez Morse will be its new Head of School.

“As a founding member of the school, Josh brings a comprehensive understanding of how Pacific Buddhist Academy began, where it is at present, and its tremendous potential for growth and expansion,” said Leigh-Ann Miyasato, Chair of the Head of School Search Committee. “Josh has been a tremendous asset to our community and we are impressed by his commitment to leading the school.”



A native of Oregon, Hernandez Morse graduated from the University of Oregon where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. A former Fulbright Scholar, Hernandez Morse was an instructor at Parker School in Waimea, Hawaii. Pieper Toyama, Pacific Buddhist Academy’s founding Head of School and former Headmaster at Parker, hired Hernandez Morse for his first year as an English teacher.

“The next five years are critical for PBA,” said Hernandez Morse. “We have so much momentum to build on – increasing enrollment, a major grant to our Capital Campaign. I am deeply honored and humbled to have been chosen to lead PBA, which has been a second home to me. I want to tell our story to as many people as possible so we can realize our dream of a new classroom building to grow into the future.”

Hernandez Morse has served a number of roles at PBA, including Assistant Head of School, Academic Dean, Athletic Director, Registrar, and, most recently, founder and Director of the school’s PeaceBridge Project™, a program created to assist students make successful transitions to college, the work force, and as engaged citizens and ambassadors of peace in their communities.

“It’s important for all of us to guide the school,” said Hernandez Morse. “Students, parents, alumni, Trustees, teaching- and non-teaching faculty – we all participate in the practice of our community, just as we work together to create opportunities for growth. For us, it’s about making our community a more peaceful place.”

## LIGHTING OUR WAY

Pacific Buddhist Academy is pleased to announce its 9th Annual Lighting Our Way Awards Dinner to be held on Friday, October 10, 2014, at the Waialae Country Club, 5:30 p.m. cocktails, 6:30 p.m. dinner. The event will feature a silent auction and creative participatory activities led by PBA students, and teaching and non-teaching staff.

Lighting Our Way recognizes inspirational individuals and organizations who exemplify leadership principles and values taught at PBA. Foremost among these principles are compassion and an awareness of the interdependence of all things. This year our honorees include:

- ***Dr. Margaret Y. Oda, Former Deputy Superintendent for the State of Hawaii Department of Education, Former Honolulu District Superintendent***
- ***James Yagi, Former Basketball Coach of University of Hawaii at Hilo, Retired President of Kulana Foods***
- ***Loretta Yajima, Founder, Former President & CEO, and Current Chair, Hawaii Children's Discovery Center***
- ***Hawaii Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association***

Individual seats are \$175. Table sponsorships (table of 10) are at the following levels: \$2,500 Illumination, \$5,000 Brilliance, and \$10,000 Enlightenment.

All proceeds from the event go to support Pacific Buddhist Academy's Annual Operating Fund, which makes it possible for the school to continue developing the next generation of ambassadors of peace for Hawaii and beyond.

RSVP deadline is Thursday, September 25, 2014.

To register, you may do one of the following:

- Contact us at 532-2649 or at [debbie.martin@pbahi.org](mailto:debbie.martin@pbahi.org) to purchase a seat, sponsor a table or to contribute an item for the silent auction.
- Online: <http://www.pacificbuddhistacademy.org/content/9th-annual-lighting-our-way-awards-dinner>
- Mail in the RSVP card from an invitation you receive in the mail.

## HAWAII FEDERATION OF BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM TO JAPAN

Who: Women, Ages 17 – 23 years old

What: Be one of two exchange students from Hawaii to Japan

When: 14 days (late July to early August 2015)

Why: Be exposed to Buddhist and Asian culture, Be a missionary of good will

- Obtain applications from temple offices or [www.hawaiiibwa.org/Student\\_Exchange/student\\_exchange.htm](http://www.hawaiiibwa.org/Student_Exchange/student_exchange.htm)
- Submit completed applications to:  
Student Exchange Committee Chairperson  
Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations  
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813  
\*Applications must be received at the address above by October 31, 2014.

For more information, please contact your temple BWA members or email [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

## SHARING PEACE THROUGH THE ARTS

In a recent ceremony at the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Myrna Nishihara, president of the Honolulu United Buddhist Women's Association, presented checks to Vince Hazen, Director of the Honolulu Museum of Art School and to Cari Lee, a co-founder of Ohana Arts.

The Honolulu United Buddhist Women's Association's annual education workshop featured experiential art workshops with the theme, "Sharing Peace through the Arts." Members also donated over \$600 to support those two organizations which work with youth in our community to promote peace through art.

The Honolulu Museum of Art's "Art to Go" program offers art experiences to students in schools throughout Oahu. The program develops creativity, self-reflection, and cultural understanding.

Ohana Arts engages youth in musical and performing arts programs which promote the mission, "promoting peace and world friendship through the universal language of the arts." Composer Jenny Taira and lyricist Laurie Rubin, Ohana Arts co-founders, are currently working on an original musical, "Peace on Your Wings." This performance, inspired by the life of Sadako Sasaki, a victim of the after-effects of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, will premiere in November at Leeward Community College Theater and will tour statewide in January and February.



*Photo caption:*

*At a recent ceremony at the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Myrna Nishihara, president of the Honolulu United Buddhist Women's Association, presented donations to representatives of the Honolulu Museum of Art and Ohana Arts in support of their work to share peace through the arts with the youth of our community.*

*From left to right: Lois Toyama, BWA member; Yvonne Toma, Vice-President of the Board of Directors of Ohana Arts; Cari Lee, a co-founder of Ohana Arts; Myrna Nishihara, President, Honolulu United Buddhist Women's Association; Vince Hagen, Director of Honolulu Museum of Art School; Gail Taira, President, Board of Directors of Ohana Arts; Bishop Eric Matsumoto of HHMH.*

## FAMILY PROMISE OF HAWAII: PRACTICING DANA (SELFLESS GIVING)

In August 2011, members of the Honolulu Hongwanji Council (composed of members from Hawaii Betsuin, Kailua Hongwanji, Jikoen Hongwanji and Moiliili Hongwanji) decided to engage in the efforts of Family Promise of Hawaii as another expression of "Dana". Family Promise's mission and what it does are consistent with the Dharma (teachings) and our commitment to contribute to a better community.

FAMILY PROMISE OF HAWAII – "Our mission is to mobilize existing community resources to aid families with children experiencing homelessness and help them transition to sustainable independence." "We do this by developing, training, and supporting a network of interfaith congregations whom host families quarterly. Each host site provides a safe place to sleep, good food, and generous hospitality. Guests stay at a host site for a week, then move on to the next host site."

Family Promise of Hawaii has developed a network of 56 host and supporting faith organizations that assist guest families. Once a quarter, Honolulu Hongwanji Council members engage with Family Promise guests for one week (Sunday to Sunday). With each engagement, the efforts of about 60 volunteers are coordinated among the four temples. Hawaii Betsuin, Jikoen and Moiliili provide safe havens for families to sleep. Volunteers from these temples, Kailua Hongwanji Sangha and Oahu Jewish Ohana prepare and serve breakfast,

dinner and provide nightly sleep-over (toban) volunteer(s) during our guests' stay. In addition, volunteers usually furnish books, games, and activities for the guest children.

Family Promise volunteers engage with guest family members in a face-to-face manner. They have an opportunity to directly assist families in need of housing for a brief moment. They provide personal committed effort (energy and time) to families going through a period of transition. They choose to directly demonstrate compassion and loving-kindness. They do more than simply make monetary donations to help people in need. Volunteers are grateful for the opportunity to help and guest families wholeheartedly express their sincere gratitude for the help received. And we celebrate when guest families find homes and leave the program.

Each temple's Sangha develops and maintains a Family Promise volunteer group and furnishes monetary and in-kind resources. At Hawaii Betsuin, Board members, Buddhist Women Association (BWA) members, Dharma School parents and students, Boy and Girl Scouts and Hongwanji Mission School parents and students prepare and serve meals. By participating in Family Promise, volunteers experience service to our community with our hands, minds, and hearts.

Our engagement with Family Promise has given us the opportunity to practice Dana, to become truly aware of the interdependent nature of life, and to be directly engaged in our community. In a small, but significant way, we demonstrate the living teachings of Jodo Shin Buddhism.

## FOODLAND GIVE ALOHA PROGRAM



Once again, Hawaii Kyodan will participate in the **Foodland Give Aloha Program** as a means to grow the **Ministerial Training Fund**. We humbly ask that you make a donation to the Ministerial Training Fund, which we hope to grow and be able to support local aspirants without drawing from our operating budget.

Here's how you can participate:

1. Between Sep 1 and 30, go to any Foodland or Sack 'n Save store with your Maika'i Card.
2. Tell the cashier you would like to make a **Give Aloha** donation.
3. Give the cashier our **Organization Code 78644** or they can look up Honpa Hongwanji.
4. You can make a donation of any amount. (Only donations up to \$249 per person will be eligible for matching.)
5. Once the transaction is complete you will be given a receipt for your tax purposes. If you would like to have your donation acknowledged by Hawaii Kyodan, please bring or send your receipt to the Kyodan office and we will send you an acknowledgement letter.

## AMAZON SMILE



Do you know about Amazon Smile? If you shop thru smile.amazon.com and designate Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii as your charity and we will receive .5% of eligible purchases.

You can start shopping by clicking on <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/99-0073500> or designate HHMH as your charity by searching for the **EIN 99-0073500**.

Pass this along to your family!