

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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2015 Giseikai

The 2015 HHMH Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) will be held on February 13 & 14, 2015 at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. The Registration form and other documents that need to be submitted for Giseikai were already sent to the temples and organization leaders. Please submit all the necessary documents to HQ by the deadline described in the letter. The packet containing materials for Giseikai will be distributed to each temple at a later date. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

2015 Living Treasures of Hawaii recognition Luncheon

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.

Blossom Puanani Alama Tom

Dr. Bernice Kisako Hirai

Laura Ruby

S. Haunani Apoliona, MSW

Paulette Nohealani Kahalepuna (Posthumously)

Barry K. Taniguchi

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

***The reservation form is attached with this newsletter.**

IMOP Ministers' Internship in Hawaii

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii welcomed two ministers who were in the International Ministerial Orientation Program (IMOP) at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkley, CA. During the three-month program, the participating ministers take classes at the Institute of Buddhist Studies, receives lectures from the Kaikyoshi (Overseas Minister) and members, attends Sunday Services, and observes Kaikyoshi's duties and responsibilities to deepen his/her understanding and aspiration to become a Kaikyoshi Minister in Overseas districts. The Kaikyoshi aspirants from Japan must complete the IMOP in order to be officially considered for Oversead assignment by Honzan (Mother temple in Kyoto). Honzan will then dispatch the new minister to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Buddhist Churches of America, or Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada based on the needs from the district and the aspiration of the minister.



(From Left) Bishop Eric Matsumoto, Rev. Makoto Ichiwa, Rev. Joshin Kamuro, and Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

This year Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii once again supported this program by welcoming two

individuals for their 12 days internship in Hawaii. This year's IMOP participants, Rev. Joshin Kamuro and Rev. Makoto Ichiwa, went through the Internship in Hawaii from October 30 to November 10 under the supervision of Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani. They both showed their great interest in becoming a Kaikyoshi Minister in overseas districts.

Appreciation Gathering for the Retired Ministers and Spouses

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii annually invites all the retired ministers and their spouses to express our appreciation for their service and dedication to the Hawaii Kyodan. This year's gathering was held on November 15 at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. At the opening service, Bishop Eric Matsumoto and Kyodan President Mr. Pieper Toyama delivered a message of appreciation on behalf of the active ministers and members of HHMH.



Concert for Pacific Buddhist Academy Showcases a Tapestry of Traditions and Cultures

(HONOLULU) – Cultural diversity and traditions will be celebrated at a benefit concert for Pacific Buddhist Academy on Friday, December 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin's Main Hondo. Performances will include ancient music of the Japanese Imperial Court and traditional Indian dance.

Kinnara Gagaku is a musical ensemble which performs Gagaku music, introduced to Japan in the Nara period (697-794) from China along with Buddhism. Today, it is performed in Japan and the United States for audiences familiar and new to Gagaku, which literally means *elegant* or *refined music*. It is the oldest continually played court music in the world. Bugaku, ceremonial dances performed in colorful costume accompanied by Gagaku music, will be a highlight of the event. Gagaku and Bugaku has been incorporated into Buddhist Services and rituals.



Arpana means *offering* in Sanskrit. The Arpana Dance Company, founded in 1982, is representative of India's diversity. Its dancers' heritages cover all parts of the country, from Kashmir in the north to Tamil Nadu in the south, but all have grown up as citizens of the United States.

Tickets for the concert are \$20, \$10 for students, and may be purchased at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Business Office at 1727 Pali Highway, or by calling 808-536-7044. Proceeds from the event will support PBA's Capital Campaign to build a new classroom facility.

Donation for the Hiroshima Landslide victims

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Aki District Office launched a campaign to assist those who were seriously affected by nearly 50 heavy landslides that took place on August 20 in Asa-Minami and Asa-kita wards in Hiroshima city. These are the areas where historically many members of Honpa Hongwanji temples are living. Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Social Concern Committee, together with Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, sent a donation of \$8,795.00 (Social Concern \$2,000, Hawaii Betsuin \$5,795, Hawaii Betsuin BWA \$1,000) to Honpa Hongwanji-ha Aki District Office through Honzan International Center.