



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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CONGRATULATIONS

Reverend Satoshi Tomioka, an Associate Minister of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, has received an approval from the USCIS of his application to become a lawful permanent resident of the United States.

JODO SHINSHU CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

On August 13 & 14, the Buddhist Study Center held a Jodo Shinshu Career Development workshop entitled *Finding the Right Fit* with Janelle Sasaki, executive director of Diversity & Inclusion Services for Ernst & Young Advisory Co., Ltd. Japan. The 15 participants of the workshop, including three current Miss Jr. YBA winners, were given exposure on how to create elevator pitches, how to create better resumes, interview with confidence, as well as learning to network in today's society and having their resumes reviewed. In addition to the career training the participants were also exposed to a 3 minute meditation and a talk on how to better incorporate Jodo Shinshu teachings into their working lives.



Participant Kerrie Wong said, "I thought it was very helpful as prepping for an interview and what is helpful to put on a resume. I'm very glad that I had the opportunity to attend this workshop."

The participants were also treated to a career panel discussion entitled "I wish I'd known that earlier in my career" that featured Dwight Takamine, Ko Miyataki, Colbert Matsumoto, and Luanne Bongiorno. After the panel discussion the participants were then joined by eight more community leaders for a networking dinner. During the dinner each of the workshop participants were able to interact with some professionals in their field and ask them questions. At the end of the night each of the community leaders was introduced to the group and ask to share their thoughts for a few minutes.

Cathy Iwai from the Ito Healthcare Group said "Thank you for inviting me to be a part of this excellent workshop for the students. I hope I was able to contribute as much as I was able to receive from the students themselves and the panelists. I totally agree that these types of workshops are valuable for students who are pursuing careers in any field and helps them to prepare for successful outcomes."

Colbert Matsumoto, Chairman and President of Island Holding Inc., "It was my pleasure. I enjoyed the session and was glad to meet the students and the other participants. The Jodo Shinshu community faces big challenges and if I can help encourage more young people to foster their interest in Buddhism, I see that as a worthwhile endeavor."

JR. YESS CAMP 2016

On July 16 & 17, 2016 the Buddhist Study Center held an impromptu Jr. YESS Camp. The Camp included 10 participants, four of which came from non-Hongwanji related families. Participants were exposed to rituals, and various cultural activities throughout the two days. Some of the cultural activities included shodo as taught by Mrs. Minako Kamuro, Ikebana as taught by Mrs. Junko Hagio, bon dance as taught by Ms Lacy Tsutsuse, and Taiko as taught by Ms Chika Matsumoto.

The Opening and Closing services were led by Ministers' Lay Assistant Dexter Mar. Participants were asked to offer incense, recite the Golden Chain of Love, chant a sutra, and recite the Nembutsu. On the first day, participants were asked to help prepare a ramen lunch and recite the Words of Thanksgiving. After lunch the participants were able to do a little Pokemon Go hunting before Bon Dance lessons. Ms Lacy Tsutsuse, a BSC Fellowship Club member taught the participants Tanko Bushi, Fukushima Ondo, and Ashibina. That night they were able to use their skills at the Jikoen Bon Dance. They were also able to meet Mayor and Mrs. Caldwell at the bon dance that night. The majority of the participants slept over at the Buddhist Study Center.

The next day after morning service and cleaning up. The participants tackled the Makiki Valley Trail hike. Luckily, they were able to finish the hike before the rain came in. After a lunch prepared by Rev. Kevin & Mrs. Kuniyuki, the participants were taught Ikebana by Mrs. Junko Hagio. All the participants were able to make an Ikebana piece to take home. After Ikebana the participants had shodo lessons from Mrs. Minako Kamuro. The final cultural activity was Taiko taught by Ms Chika Matsumoto at the Hongwanji Mission School dojo. Ms Matsumoto was assisted by Ms Megan Sakata and Mr Korey Miyakawa.

Overall the participants really enjoyed the Jr. YESS Camp and were willing to participate in another one in the coming year.



KUMAMOTO EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND DRIVE

On behalf of the Committee on Social Concerns, I would like to thank our temple members and friends for your generous donations for the Kumamoto Earthquake Relief Fund drive.

We collected a total amount of \$46,403.50 (final amount reported at the September Board of Directors Meeting), of which \$25,000 was provided directly to Honzan (via International Center) for relief efforts of damaged Hongwanji temples and members impacted by the earthquake. The remaining balance was delivered to the Consulate General of Japan in Honolulu who will send the funds to the Government of Japan to be used for Kumamoto earthquake relief efforts.

With gratitude,
Dean Sakamoto, Chair, Committee on Special Concerns

2016-2017 SOCIAL CONCERNS FUND DRIVE

We celebrate gratitude in the month of November. The Thanksgiving holiday and the Eitaikyo observance are reminders of the countless blessings in our lives and how we live deeply connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive.

Through the generous contributions of Sangha members, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is able to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to continue their work in our community. Your support also allows us to provide compassionate action during times of disaster and the ability to respond to social issues affecting our community.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving kindness, we are able to lend our support to such organizations as Project Dana, The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii, Family Promise of Hawaii and the various food banks on each island. We also held a separate fund drive to raise over \$44,000 to help support relief efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Kumamoto, Japan.

The Golden Chain Grant program was established to promote compassionate action through innovative community service projects. Your generosity directly helps those in need and promotes a more humane world.

Envelopes have been provided to temples wishing to use them. If your temple did not request envelopes but would like to use them, please feel free to ask as there are extra envelopes available in limited supply. Please make all checks payable to **YOUR TEMPLE**. Your temple treasurer will then make one combined check to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. The suggested donation is the cost of just one meal per person.

Your kokua is greatly appreciated. Please encourage your members to continue supporting the Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive. Mahalo!

Eric T. Matsumoto
Bishop

Dean Sakamoto
Chair, Committee on Social Concerns

HHMH MINISTER'S LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT

Place: Buddhist Study Center & Moiliili Hongwanji, Oahu

Date: November 4-6, 2016

Target Attendees: Anyone who is interested and recommended by their mentoring Hawaii Kyodan minister is welcome to apply.

Purpose: To review and enrich the knowledge of the participants in the rituals and traditions of the Nishi Hongwanji, General Buddhism and Shin Buddhism. A participant who successfully completes this retreat will be given a certificate of completion by the BSC. The certificate of completion although it qualifies them to assist their minister in specified areas, it does not obligate or entitle them to do so. Upon request of the mentoring minister, the Bishop can designate a certificate recipient as a Certified Minister's Lay Assistant (CMLA). The CMLA can provide volunteer assistance under the supervision of the temple minister working within the guidelines specified in the document: *Shin Buddhist Ministry in Hawaii*.

For more detailed information, please see the <<attached file>>.

PBA LIGHTING OUR WAY BANQUET

Dr. Mary Bitterman, Craig “Bo” Kahui, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Ministers Association, and the HHMH Ministers Spouses Association to be Honored by Pacific Buddhist Academy on November 18, 2016

Honolulu, Hawaii – Pacific Buddhist Academy (PBA) will pay tribute to four community leaders and organizations at its annual “Lighting Our Way” Banquet on Friday evening, November 18, 2016, at the Waiialae Country Club. Proceeds from the dinner will support the accredited, college preparatory, inclusive high school located near downtown Honolulu that welcomes families of all spiritual traditions.

The four honorees are:

Dr. Mary G.F. Bitterman, President of the Bernard Osher Foundation, a philanthropic organization headquartered in San Francisco that supports higher education and the arts. She served as Director of the Hawaii Public Broadcasting Authority, the Voice of America, the Hawaii State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and the East-West Center’s Institute of Culture and Communication. Throughout her long and distinguished career, she has been a special friend to the Japanese community in Hawaii.

Craig “Bo” Kahui, President/Executive Director, La’i’Opua 2020, a Kona-based non-profit organization developing 26 acres to house medical, social, educational, recreational, and cultural services and programs for residents of the Hawaiian Homestead and surrounding West Hawaiian communities. He was instrumental in securing \$22.5 million for the West Hawaii Community Health Center whose mission is to make quality, comprehensive, and integrated health services accessible to all, regardless of income.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Ministers Association, formed by Jodo Shinshu Buddhist ministers in temples established in Hawaii as a result of the immigration of Japanese people to work on the sugarcane plantations. Today, the Ministers Association forms partnerships with many organizations in Hawaii to strengthen community ties and programs throughout the state.

HHMH Spouses Association, formed by spouses of Jodo Shinshu Buddhist ministers in Hawaii. Members of the Spouses Association play a central role in building, maintaining and engaging with the numerous temple communities they serve throughout Hawaii.

“Each year, we honor leaders and organizations who have paved the way for generations of young practitioners of peace,” said Josh Hernandez Morse, PBA Head of School. “These individuals and organizations are role models for our students. We will begin an exciting chapter in our school’s history by opening a new classroom facility next summer. We could not have achieved our goals without the strong support of the temple communities throughout Hawaii and individuals like Dr. Bitterman and Bo Kahui who are invested in lifelong education.”

Individual tickets and tables of 10 are available for purchase. The event includes student tributes and performances, a silent auction and a dinner. **For more information, please call Rüdiger Rückmann at (808) 532-2649** or write him at rudiger.ruckmann@pbahi.org.