



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



FEBRUARY 2018

HMMH 106TH GISEIKAI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The 106th Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii was held on February 9-10, 2018 at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. Delegates from the Hongwanji temples throughout Hawaii discussed and passed the following resolutions;

1. HMMH 2018 Budget
2. Resolution of Appreciation to Rose Nakamura
3. Resolution of Appreciation and Condolence to Mr. Theodore "Ted" Inouye
4. Resolution of Appreciation and Condolence to Reverend Tetsuun Ama
5. Resolution to establish a Honpa Hongwanji Social Media Program
6. Resolution of Appreciation and Condolence to Mr. Robert Yeiriyo "Bob" Asato
7. Resolution of Appreciation and Condolence to Mr. George Isao Otani
8. Resolution of Appreciation and Condolence to Mr. Yoshio Iwai
9. Resolution of Appreciation and Condolence to Mr. Alfred Paulino
10. Resolution of Appreciation and Condolence to Mr. Kiyoshi Miyashiro

GISEIKAI MESSAGE FROM THE JODO SHINSHU HONGWANJI-HA GOVERNOR GENERAL BISHOP CHIKO IWAGAMI

On the occasion of the 106th *Giseikai* of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, I humbly extend my appreciation to you the ministers, and sangha representatives from throughout the state of Hawaii, for gathering here to discuss the many concerns being faced today. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all for your continuing efforts in propagating Jodo Shinshu and maintaining the temples within your respective districts.

At Hongwanji this past May 31, we were able to duly conclude the Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition to the 25th Monshu Sennyō that was conducted over a ten-session period totaling 80 days. It enabled us to share this auspicious occasion with nearly four hundred fifty thousand people from both within as well as outside of our religious organization. This was made possible through the support, understanding, and cooperation of everyone, including all affiliate individuals and parties and for that I am truly thankful.

Sennyō Monshu shared his thought in the *Shosoku* message delivered on the last day of the services as follows, "... through encountering Amida Tathagata's compassionate working we come to recognize our true state, and see that the Buddha's Primal Vow embraces and never abandons us. The sense of security of being embraced in the Buddha's compassion becomes the support in our daily life and empowers us to become actively engaged in society." Thus, we are expected to not only receive the Buddha's working ourselves but also become actively involved in society and its activities to share our indebtedness with others, both as an individual and religious organization who appreciate the Nembutsu teaching, and also the sense of security that is accordingly brought to us.

The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha General Promotion Plan includes a clause that stipulates intensifying the framework of international propagation. In addition to reciprocal cooperation between the overseas districts, I eagerly anticipate each of the districts to build connections all the more closer with us at the Kyoto

headquarters in order to cope with a variety of social issues, and in so doing, contribute to realize a society in which everyone can live with peace of mind.

Although the Commemoration of Accession has successfully come to a close, additional commemoration events including Sennyō Monshū's visitation to the overseas districts and regional-districts will continue to be carried out. We sincerely hope his visitation will be a great opportunity for those who were not able to participate in the Commemoration services to meet him in person.

In closing, it is my hope that the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will continue to prosper and that many fruitful results will arise from this annual meeting.



The newly installed Officers, Advisors, Directors, Sanmu and Kanji Ministers of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.



2018 Living Treasures of Hawaii Honorees

(From Left) Mary Jo Freshly, Hailama Farden, Gordon "Umi" Kai, Takejiro Higa (representative), and Dr. Mitchell Eli.



The Resolution of Appreciation was presented to Mrs. Rose Nakamura.



Reverend/Bishop Eric Matsumoto was recognized for his 25 years of active ministry.



Reverend David Nakamoto was recognized for his retirement from active ministry.

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS

Donation presentation to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team Foundation

On Saturday, January 13th, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, represented by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and Dean Sakamoto, Committee on Social Concerns, presented a donation to Ms. Stacey Hayashi, representing the 442nd Regimental Combat Team Foundation. The donation will be used to sponsor three School Educational Packages of “Go For Broke – a 442 Origins Story”, which includes a Special Educational DVD, Books, and Guides. Using the film, History, Social Studies, and Ethnic Studies teachers will be able to cover the vital history, as well as intensify their curriculum to discuss Cultural Identity and Differences, Cultural and Ethnic Prejudice, Friendship, Courage, Integrity, Honor and Duty. The three schools that have been designated to receive the Educational Packages are the Pacific Buddhist Academy, Hongwanji Mission School, and Kamehameha Schools, Kapalama.



Donation presentation to Project Dana

On Friday, January 19th, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, represented by Reverend Toshiyuki Umitani, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, and Dean Sakamoto, Committee on Social Concerns, presented a donation to Project Dana to support their 2018 Leadership Retreat. With the theme “Building Relationships, Moving Ahead: Caring for Elders, Caring for Ourselves”, the event included participants of site leaders and volunteers. Dr. Michael Cheang of UH Manoa, Family and Consumer Sciences Department served as the Convener/Consultant for this event. The donation was presented to Cyndi Osajima, Project Dana Executive Director, and Rose Nakamura, Former Project Dana Administrator.



PBA TAIKO FESTIVAL

Tickets Are On Sale. Reserve Your Seat!

Hawaii's premier high school taiko program will celebrate a showcase of student, faculty and guest talent on Sunday, March 25, at 4 p.m. at the Pearl City Cultural Center. The theme of Pacific Buddhist Academy's 12th annual Taiko Festival is Koi-Koi - Let's Go!

In Hanafuda, playing cards of Japanese origin, "koi-koi" is said when a player wants to continue the hand. Hyaku Sen Ki Kai Taiko, PBA's premier taiko group, is no exception, renewing itself with vigor and high octane spirit year after year.

Individual tickets for the festival are \$25 for general admission, or \$20 for seniors, students, and PBA alumni. They may be purchased by calling 808-532-2649, in person at PBA's Main Office at 1754 Lusitana Street, or online at www.pacificbuddhistacademy.org. For reserved seating through sponsorship opportunities, [click here](#) or call Rüdiger (Rudy) Rückmann at 532-2649, ext. 412.