

HAWAII KOTOHIRA JINSHA HAWAII DAZAIFU TENMANGU

April 2016



Sake Appreciation Festival

The annual Sake Appreciation Festival was held on Sunday, March 6 at the shrine.

Sake, a byproduct of rice has long been a vital part of Japanese culture. Sake's strongest connection with Japanese culture lays in its traditional indispensability at social gatherings.

Sake has an important place at festivals, ceremonies and rituals. Whether imbibed during Sansankudo at a Shinto wedding ceremony or at a festival, sake has symbolized the miracle of nature.

The shrine's Sake Appreciation Festival was

initiated to acknowledge the gift that alcoholic beverages made from rice like sake and shochu are to the world and our lives.

Mahalo to Dance Master Mitsujyuro Hanayagi for performing the auspicious Sanbaso, which celebrates the five grains treasured throughout time by the Japanese.

Mahalo also goes out to The Sake Shop, the many donors of sake and the officers and friends of the shrine for their kokua.

Our next Sake Appreciation Festival will be held on Sunday, March 5, 2017.

MAHALO FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

Tom & Linda Agawa
Dean & Natsuko Fujimoto
Aya Furumaki
Bryson Goda
Hanayagi Dancing Academy HF
Bob Harada
Abby Ichino
Kyoko Isa
Rodney & Sharon Isa
Kyle Kawabata
James & Melba Kurashige
Milton & Kathy Kwock

Mike Lee
Shinken & Marilyn Naitoh
Craig & Diane Nishida
Diane Ogasawara
Tatiana Omokawa
Akiko Sanai
Gary & Linda Shinsato
The Sake Shop
Lena Takasawa
Wayne Takenaka
Allan Takeshita
Masa & Irene Takizawa



HONOLULU FESTIVAL



The shrine participated in the Honolulu Festival with a booth at the Hawaii Convention Center on March 12 & 13.

There were dynamic cultural performances and over 100 booths all echoing this year's theme - Cultural Harmony, Journey to Peace.

MAHALO Volunteers

Bob Harada
Tom Jannuzzio
Marilyn Naitoh
Shinken Naitoh
Mitsunobu Ohashi
Linda Shinsato



MAHALO

Sake Appreciation Festival Volunteers

Kaitlyn Fujihara
Bryson Goda
Bob Harada
Mike Lee

Marilyn Naitoh
Shinken Naitoh
Craig Nishida
Diane Nishida

Gary Shinsato
Linda Shinsato
Wayne Takenaka
Gavin Tsutsumi

Val Tsutsumi





Congratulations !!!

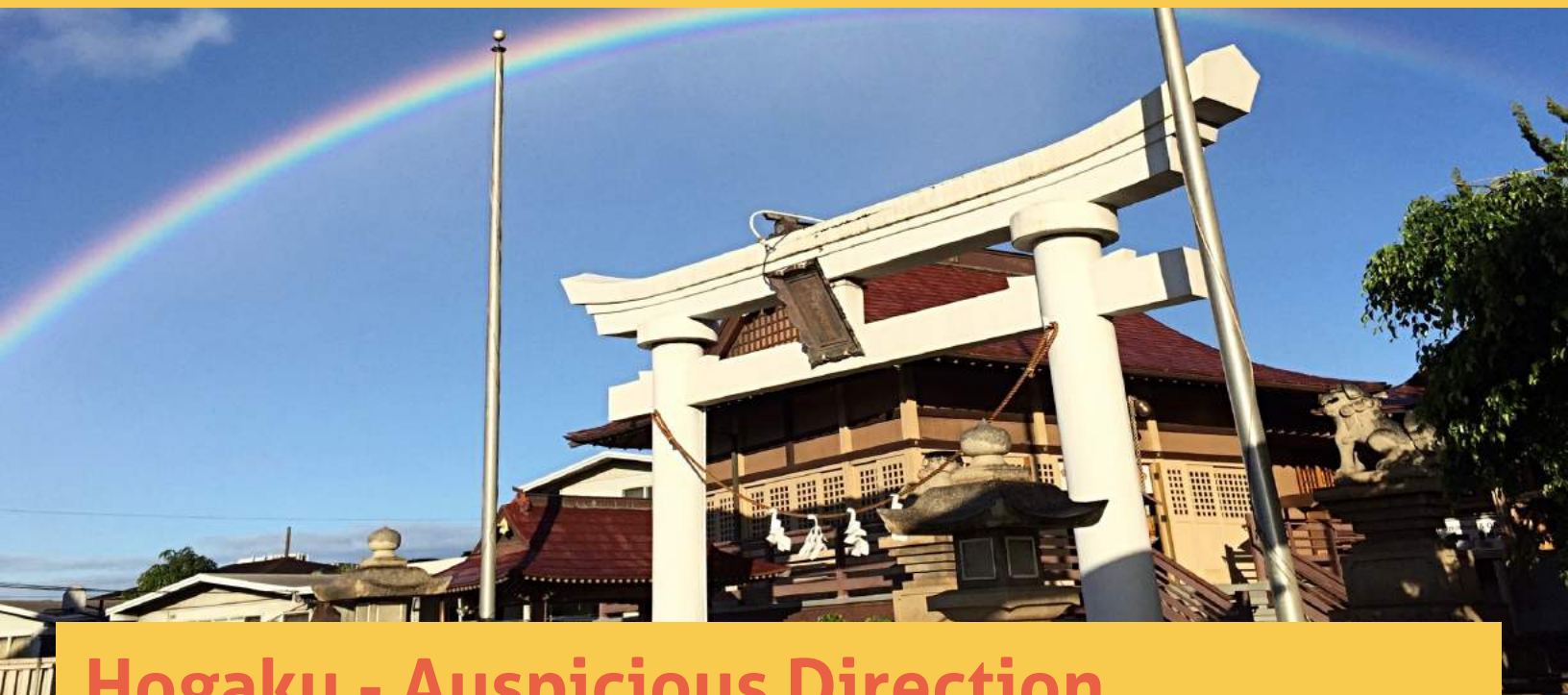
2012 Shrine Scholarship recipient, Tatiana "Tatia" Omokawa visited the shrine on 3/15 to report her acceptance to Hokkaido University from April.

Tatia has been preparing for the opportunity to immerse herself in Japanese language and culture for the past 3 years since participating in an Honor's program in Hokkaido and Okinawa. Ganbatte!!

Shrine volunteer Hanayagi Mitsufujika (Alyssa Fujihara) of Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Foundation sealed the bonds with Shihan Dance master, Hanayagi Mitsujiyuro and fellow Natoris with a Sakazuki ceremony in accordance with ancient tradition.

By exchanging sakazuki cups, the senior Natori instructors pledge their loyalty and support to the new Natori. This is significant, because this ceremony bonds people who are considered complete strangers as members of an artistic family.





Hogaku - Auspicious Direction

The roots of Hatsumode - first visit to a Shinto shrine - is steeped in the ancient Chinese tradition of Wu Shing (five elements) and Yin Yang.

In the 5th and 6th centuries, the principles of Yin Yang and the Five Elements were transmitted to Japan from China, as well as the divisions of learning to which they were linked – astronomy, calendar-making, divination, the reckoning of time, and studies based on observations of nature.

Wu Shing and Yin Yang were influenced further by Taoism, Shintoism and Buddhism and evolved into the system of Onmyodo around the 7th century in Kyoto.

This process of determining auspicious or harmful signs present in the natural world was accepted into Japanese society as a technique for predicting good or bad fortune in the human world.

Onmyodo became extremely popular among the aristocrats and practitioners of Onmyodo known as Onmyoji began to appear throughout Japan around the middle of the 7th century.

Eho Mairi or literally, "Lucky-direction visit" is a practice derived from ancient Onmyodo beliefs and practices relating to auspicious and inauspicious directions. It has contributed to the widespread practice of Hatsumode at new year.

Hatsumode, is the modern evolution of the Edo era folk tradition of "Eho-mairi," the tradition of paying a New Years day pilgrimage to one's local Shinto shrine to give thanks and ask for a New Year's blessing.

Up until the late 1860s, it was common to visit the shrine or temple of ujigami or those in the direction of his or her eho (lucky direction) for

the year, but after the Meiji period, it became customary to visit a well-known shrine or temple, regardless of the ujigami or eho.

The concept of Hatsumode didn't exist until the late 1800s, when national and private railroad companies throughout Japan promoted Hatsumode as a means of bringing in customers, forming tie ups with popular temples and shrines and creating discount New Year's travel package deals.

The two most famous examples of this are Ise Jingu, located in Mie-ken and Kawasaki Daishi, located in Kanagawa-ken, both of which can be accessed easily by railway.

The lucky direction for 2016 is South Southeast (between South and Southeast). The unlucky direction is Southwest.



Arashi & Pam Igarashi's Takenoko Sushi celebrates their 3rd Anniversary this month.

In its 3 years, Takenoko has positioned itself as the most popular and iconic sushi restaurant on the big island.



Rev. Takakzu Maeda of Jinja Shinpo visited the shrine on 3/19. Rev Maeda has done extensive research on shrines in Hawaii which he compiled in his book entitled "Hawaii Jinjashi" or the history of shrines in Hawaii.





CALENDAR

APRIL

- 3 3 pm
Tsukinamisai
- 10 3 pm
**Spring Thanksgiving
Festival & Scholarship
Presentation**

MAY

- 1 3 pm
Tsukinamisai
- 7 & 8 10 am - 4 pm
Pet Expo
- 29 8 am
**Honolulu Shinto
Renmei Memorial
Day Service**

JUNE

- 5 9 am - 2 pm
**Chinowa for
People & Pets**



MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Pothole patching blitz continues in the parking lot 3/18 & 3/19.

MAHALO to Mike Lee, Bob Harada, Shinken Naitoh & Rev Takizawa

Door knob in the kitchen was replaced on 3/21 by Arthur Isa.

Trash area upgrades were done on 3/19 & 3/21 by Mike Lee and Rev Takizawa.

