



WHERE ANCIENT TRADITIONS THRIVE

Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

Back-To-School Education Blessing てんじんさん学業成就

New adventures await as students and teachers prepare for the new school year. Excitement for new possibilities and fear of the unknown mingle in our children's hearts.

Our annual Back-To-School Blessing is offered to bring positive blessings to students, teachers and support staff as they begin this new school year - so they are surrounded by love, hope, vision, and protection and the courage to persevere in all they undertake and the gift of joy and wonder in all things.

Sugawara no Michizane, the deity of Dazaifu Tenmangu, was a 9th century scholar and nobleman who was falsely accused of improprieties at court and sent into exile where he died before being exonerated.

Later, his spirit was deified and today is venerated as the deity of learning and scholarship at the 11,000 or so Tenmangu shrines throughout Japan.

Dazaifu Tenmangu in Saifu City, Fukuoka is the main shrine of all the Tenmangu shrines in Japan where millions of students flock to the shrine each year to receive blessings and omamori amulets.

This year, our Back to School Education Blessing was held on Sunday, August 4 from 10 am to 2 pm with the traditional blessing and gifts of school supplies.

A big Mahalo goes out to the Hanayagi Dancing Academy Hawaii Foundation and the many volunteers who helped to make this special blessing available to the community.

View more shrine photos: www.flickr.com/photos/kotohira-dazaifu

News Coverage Video: <http://www.e-shrine.org/eventvideos.html>



MAHALO for your generous donations



Thomas & Linda Agawa
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Craig & Diane Nishida
Ortega-Shibuya Ohana
Toshio Toyoda

Sharon Tsunoda
Kevin Tsutsui
Robert & Yoko Uyehara
Violet Yonenaka

MAHALO Volunteers

Mahalo for taking time of our your busy schedules to help at our annual Back-To-School Blessing

Keiko Doughty
Alyssa Fujihara
Gayle Fujihara
Bryson Goda
Miyoko Hanahara
Bob Harada
Stacie Hata
Arthur Isa Jr
Tom Jannuzzio
Lorraine Kadota
Marilyn Naitoh
Shinken Naitoh
Craig Nakahara
Craig Nishida

Diane Nishida
Diane Ogasawara
Kei Sakamoto
Yuko Takahashi
Naomi Teramoto
Sharon Toma



Shichigosan Children's Festival

10/20 (Sun) ~ 11/24 (Sun)
Donation \$60

Includes:
\$50 Blessing donation
\$10 Kimono Preservation Fund donation
Omamori, Chitose-ame, Goody Bag,
Complimentary kimono rental & dressing
Hair & makeup



Reservations accepted from September 1

Offering of the First Rice Harvest of the Year

Mahalo to Allan Takeshita for the offering of the first rice harvest of 2013. This is Allan's first attempt at rice production, which he began to perpetuate the ancient traditions of *Niinamesai*, or literally "the festival of new crops."

Japan was historically known as *Mizuho no Kuni*, "the land of golden ears of rice" and *Niinamesai* is still one of the most important rituals where the Emperor, on behalf of the people makes the season's first offering of rice to the kami.

Here in Hawaii, rice production was started by the Chinese immigrants in the 1860s. Rice paddies and water buffalo used to occupy the area from Keeaumoku to Waikiki, which yielded two crops a year.

At one time, Hawaii had over 10,000 acres of rice and Sheridan Street was endearingly known as "Pake Patch" because of the numerous Chinese rice farms.

Rice production declined with the influx of Japanese immigrants. The techniques used in Hawaii could not compete with the mechanized production technology in California. Furthermore, the Japanese preferred short grain rice grown in California, to the long-grain Chinese variety.



Shrine Visitors



16 residents of the Plaza Assisted Living Facility Punchbowl, accompanied by Activities Director, Chaniel Willis visited the shrine on Tuesday, August 6, as part of The Plaza's Japanese Culture Appreciation month. The visitors were blessed in a ceremony for good health.

The Plaza Assisted Living Facility has three locations on Oahu and offers various levels of care.



Tatsunori Ishimoto & Shinichi Takei of Ishimoto Shuzo, makers of the "Phantom Sake" *Koshi no Kanbai*, visited the shrine on August 16.



Upcoming Events

Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service

月次祭

9/1/2013 Sunday
3:00 pm



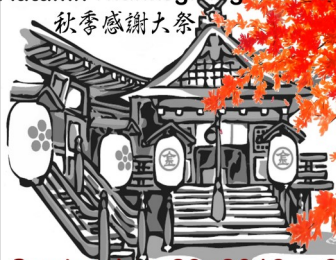
Hanayagi Dancing Academy
Hawaii Foundation

**GARAGE
SALE**

9/15 Sunday
9 am - 2 pm

Autumn Thankgiving Festival

秋季感謝大祭



September 29, 2013 3:00 pm

Tsukinami-sai Monthly Service

月次祭

10/20/2013
Sunday
3:00 pm



Shichigosan

七五三

10/20 ~ 11/24
2013



Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha - Hawaii Dazaifu Tenmangu

A Piece of History

Below is a photo of the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai Hawaii Chapter, taken at Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha on July 26, 1936, on the anniversary celebration of their establishment in the islands.

The main organization of the Dai Nippon Butoku Kai was established in February 1895 in Kyoto by Chiaki Watanabe and Motoosa Mibu.

The purpose of the Kai was to promote, educate and recognize all Japanese martial arts and nurture the Yamato spirit of honor, honesty and courage.

There was also an all-male academy within Butoku Kai headquarters, that specialized in Kokugaku or National studies and Kanbun or classical Chinese writings. Students were expected to train in either Kendo or Judo as part of the curriculum.

The Butoku Kai was disbanded by the General

Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (GHQ) on January 1, 1947 and all assets confiscated by the Japanese government.

The date of establishment of the Hawaii Chapter is unknown, however, the photo was taken on July 26, 1936 on the grounds of Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha, before most of our land was taken for H-1 Highway.

You can see the Hawaii Kotohira Jinsha Koma-inu lions and Ma-ku curtains on the left.

The building on the right is the social hall, one of many buildings that were on the shrine property.

There are records that indicate the existence of a martial arts hall, sumo ring, archery range, and priest quarters on the same property that stretched across the freeway to the Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center.



www.e-shrine.org