



@wailukuhongwanji



OCTOBER 2025 // VOLUME 62

FRIEND OF THE DHARMA

WAILUKU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
A JODO SHINSHU COMMUNITY TEMPLE



IN THIS ISSUE

**7th Vrt. DS Dana Award
Gathering Nominations**

**BWA Craft & Food Fair
October 18th @ 8am**

WAILUKU HONGWANJI MISSION
1828 Vineyard Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

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Wailuku, HI 96793

TEACHINGS FROM THE MINISTER

Amida's Infinite Love

Reverend Shinkai Murakami

Namo Amida Butsu

Greetings to our Wailuku Hongwanji members and 'ohana. I hope you are well and reciting Amida Buddha's calling voice of Namo Amida Butsu in your daily lives.

Our country's welfare system is stronger than many parts of the world, including Southeast Asia and Japan, yet the gap between rich and poor remains wide. Recently, I came across a story that touched me deeply, a simple expression of love from a little girl raised by a

single mother.

Hanako, age five, was born to her mother at 17. Abandoned by her father, her mother relied on welfare for basic support but still had to work two jobs. Each evening she bathed Hanako, shared dinner, and put her to bed before leaving for late work. One night, Hanako asked how much she earned per hour. When told \$20, she quietly saved coins and, adding \$10 from her mother, asked, "Mom, I have \$20. Can you please sleep

with me for one hour?" The mother realized her daughter needed presence, not money, and promised never to leave her side again.

This story reminds us that while we are born and pass away alone, we are never truly alone. Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion reach into our hearts, offering peace and joy. Namo Amida Butsu is Amida calling: "Come as you are." His embrace assures us always, "You are not alone."

Namo Amida Butsu

EDUCATION

Somen Nagashi Launches Gakuen's School Year

Eri Nomura



We're starting the new school year on an exciting note! Gakuen is happy to welcome two new language teachers, Keiko Swanson-sensei and Minae Murakami-sensei. To kick things off, our first cultural event of the year took place on September 3, when students got to try the lively tradition of somen nagashi.

For those new to it, somen are thin wheat noodles often enjoyed in Japan during hot summers. They're boiled quickly, chilled in ice water, and eaten with a flavorful dipping sauce called mentsuyu. Light, refreshing, and topped with favorites like green onions or nori, somen is a simple but beloved dish.

What makes somen nagashi so fun is the way it's served: noodles are released into flowing water through a long bamboo or plastic tube, and everyone waits with chopsticks in hand to catch them on the way down. Students laughed, cheered, and concentrated hard as they tried to snatch the noodles before they slipped away, definitely a test of chopstick skills and quick reflexes! Those who had tried somen nagashi before knew exactly how to position themselves and strategize to scoop up more noodles, while first-timers got plenty of tips (and noodles!) mahalo to their more experienced classmates.

It was a wonderful way to bring students together while learning about Japanese food. We're planning more cultural activities throughout the year, and we'd love your help! If you know someone, or would like to host an activity yourself, please reach out and let us know.

Honolulu and Oahu Districts Nembutsu Seminar

NURTURING NEMBUTSU: CULTIVATING AWARENESS

Saturday, October 11 from 9:00 - 11:00 am

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Social Hall

1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI 96813

Buddhist teacher and best-selling author of “No-Nonsense Buddhism for Beginners,” Noah Rasheta hosts the Secular Buddhism podcast, which has reached millions with its accessible, practical take on Buddhist philosophy. Known for saying, “Don’t use what you learn from Buddhism to be a Buddhist; use it to be a better whatever-you-already-are,” he helps people embrace mindfulness as a way to befriend who they already are. He’s shared his teachings with global audiences—including Apple®, PwC, and YPO—bringing humor, humility, and practical wisdom to every talk. He lives in Kamas, Utah, with his wife and three children.



NOAH RASHETA

PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

- **Re-imagining the Nembutsu:** Transform the Nembutsu practice from a chant to a way of seeing the world with new eyes and a grateful heart.
- **Everyday Nembutsu:** Simple techniques for moments of peace and insight into a modern everyday life.
- **The Mind as a Garden:** Cultivating the seed of gratitude within.
- **Finding Gratitude in Unexpected Places:** Discovering profound lessons in everyday objects and events.

?? QUESTIONS??

- **Contact Debbie Kubota, Chair**
Commission on Buddhist Education
dekub88@gmail.com

REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT

- **Click on QR Code to register**
- **Or click on this [LINK TO REGISTER](#)**



**SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF BUDDHIST EDUCATION &
THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA**





Thank you for your time, effort, and monetary donations. We are so fortunate to have your support! Through your donations, we continue to service multiple temple programs and work towards securing our future by accomplishing many goals in our 2030 Modernization Strategy. We are extremely grateful for any and all donations towards helping our congregation and advancing our community-minded efforts.



Sharon Higa & Farron Cabral

KYODAN

Gordon & June Amaral - *In memory of Tamano Inouye*
 Anonymous - *In memory of Micah Koa Nobuo Saito*
 Clifford & Geraldine Beppu - *In memory of Janice Imai*
 Edwin & Mieko Kanemoto - *Maui Wildfire Recovery Service*
 Hideo & Joyce Kawahara - *In memory of Fred Araki and Janet Kitagawa*
 Maui Hongwanji Council - *Maui Wildfire Recovery Service*
 Midtown Foundation (Alvin & Charlotte Nakamura)
 Lester & Barbara Miwa - *In memory of Hitoshi Nagata*
 Gary & Jacqueline Murai
 William & Jeanne Smythe - *Maui Wildfire Recovery Service*
 Lloyd & Sharon Sodehani
 Takashi & Yuki Lei Sugimura - *Maui Wildfire Recovery Service*
 Joe & Barbara Tanaka
 Julie Uno - *In memory of Lawrence Fukio Uno*

NOKOTSUDO

Hideo & Joyce Kawahara
 Arthur & Rene Kimura - *In memory of Douglas Yamada and Misano Jane Yamada*
 Reiko Kondo - *In memory of T. Yoshizu*
 Jean Kuwada - *In memory of Jitsumi & Yoshikazu Yoshimori*
 Gwen Lee - *In memory of Stella (Hirata) Wakamatsu, Kazuo & Sueme Hirata*
 Linda & Allan Smith Sr. - *In memory of Jitsuo & Yoshime Tanouye and the Ronald Fukumoto Family*
 Iris Takitani
 Sarjean Tokunaga

OHIGAN

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Betsy Cardoza | Lester & Jodi Kunimitsu |
| Ed Fujinaka | Ellen Matsui |
| Lydia Furomoto | Dennis Ouchi |
| Wayne & Kay Hedani | Linda Shibano |
| Ritsuko Lana Kato | Linda Ann Unemori |

OBON

George Ainge
 Anonymous - *In memory of Ikaika, Kitty, & Pumpkin*
 Anonymous - *In memory of Sadako Nakao*
 Aileen Cockett
 V. Constantino
 Glenn & Sheri De Silva
 Vance Fujimoto
 Trudy Hayase Akamine
 Wayne & Kay Hedani
 Mark Honda
 Rogers & Karen Ishizu
 Yaeko Kuwata - *In memory of Satoru & Ayame Matsushima, and Helen Matsushima*
 Thomas & Winona Lau Hee
 Patricia Miyashiro
 Gordon Muraoka - *In memory of Makato & Kay Kikue Muraoka*
 Francis & Katherine Nakamoto - *In memory of Yukuo Nakagawa, Donald Nakagawa, Kiyomi Nakamoto Fillinger*
 Shawn & Tessa Ng - *In memory of Micha Saito*
 Mitsuko Nikaido
 Kevin Omuro
 Barbara Rodrigues - *In memory of Joseph Yoda, Chikanoichi & Takayo Yoda Rory*
 Edwin & Thelma Seki - *In memory of Roy & Anna Seki*
 Sharon Sueda
 Warren & Frances Takahashi
 Russell & Jackie Taketa
 Unknown Donor
 Yamaguchi Family

If you would like to donate to any services or programs, please make checks payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and send to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission at 1828 E Vineyard St. Wailuku, HI 96793. If you would like to volunteer time on any of the upcoming or ongoing projects, please contact the office at (808) 244-0406, Monday-Friday between 8:00am and 12:00pm.



Sharon Higa & Farron Cabral

OFUSE

Irene Arakaki - *In memory of Yeiko Tony Arakaki*
 Chado Urasenke Maui Kyokai - *In memory of Dr. Genshitsu-Sen*
 Scott Hirata - *In memory of Edward Hirata*
 Jason & Denise Kitagawa - *In memory of Janice Kitagawa*
 Ryan Nagoshi - *In memory of James Nagoshi*
 Taymond & Sharon Otsubo - *In memory of Janice Kitagawa*

EXPRESSIONS OF DANA

Anonymous – *Altar flowers, Assorted snacks, Plastic straws, Brown paper bags, Assorted wish list items, Newspaper, Yard and campus maintenance, Dessert plates, Plastic forks*
 Richard & Amy Blue – *Landscaping & maintenance*
 Cubs – *Temple yard & campus cleanup*
 Dharma Strummers – *Sunday service music*
 FT – *Campus maintenance & yard cleaning*
 Jeral & Karlynn Fukuda – *Altar flowers*
 Margaret Honda – *Altar flowers, Nokotsudo & flower cleaning, office support*
 HOSHA Gang – *Temple & Nokotsudo cleaning*
 Eric Ikeuchi – *Campus maintenance*
 Calvin & Teri Kaneda – *Altar flowers*
 Carol Mae Kurisu – *Altar flowers*
 Machiko Moriyasu – *Altar flowers & arrangements, and office support*
 Minae Murakami – *Sunday service organist*
 Mike Nishimoto – *Landscaping & maintenance*
 Celeste Rabang – *Office support*
 Nancy Shimoda – *Nokotsudo & flower cleaning, office support*
 Dale Sugiki – *Sunday service organist*
 Toshiko Sugiki – *Office support*
 Ed & Joan Tamori – *Altar flowers & yard maintenance, Blue painter's tapes and Coffee filters*
 Gail Tagashira - *Forever stamps*
 Danny Topp - *A/V support for services, events, workshops, & meetings*
 Mary Tokumaru – *Office support*
 H.Y. - *Assorted Ziplock bags*
 Linda Ann Unemori – *Office support*

ANNOUNCEMENT**Temple Wish List**

We kindly request your support in contributing to our temple's wish list, which includes essential items to enhance our space and activities. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

- Forever postage stamps
- 33 Gal. Trash Bags
- 18 Gal. Kitchen Trash bag w/ draw string
- Paper Towels
- Wooden Hashi (chopsticks)
- 7" Dessert Plates
- 12oz Bowls
- Clear Carton Packing Tapes
- Napkins
- 9" Lunch plates
- Blue Painters tape
- Antibacterial hand soap (refill size)
- 12 oz. Hot cups
- Spoons
- Exam gloves (all sizes)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****Help Wanted:
Student Volunteer**

Looking for a volunteer to take out 5–10 bags of trash each week (about 10–35 lbs). It only takes about one hour, perfect for Fridays after school!

- Great for high schoolers
- Community service hours
- Easy to support the temple

If interested, please call the office at (808) 244-0406. Mahalo for giving back!

SAVE THE DATE: SAT. OCT 4TH, 1PM HT

LETTERS TO HOME 2025 BOOK TOUR: HAWAII LGBTQ+



Join us for the last stop of our 2025 book tour, which also coincides with Honolulu Pride!

Letters to Home is an anthology of essays, poetry, and art by LGBTQ+ Japanese Americans and allies. Through sharing lived experiences both positive and negative, contributors explore themes of identity, community, acceptance, and "home."

Speakers: Jill Guillermo-Togawa, Jessica Kawamura, Keith Nishida, & Aiden Aizumi

📍 Honolulu Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin social hall
1:00PM-3:00PM HT

This event is co-sponsored by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, & Honolulu Hongwanji Council



Okaeri is fiscally sponsored by LTSC



Little Tokyo
Service Center



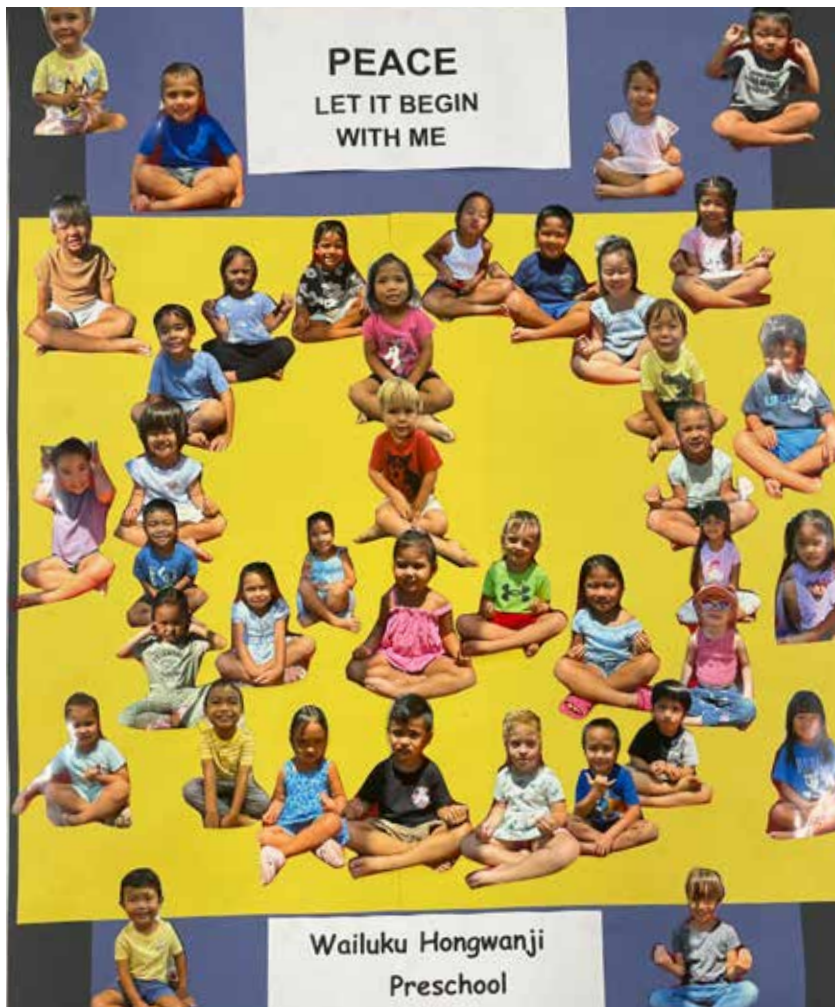
EDUCATION



WAILUKU HONGWANJI PRESCHOOL

144 Kaniela Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 * Phone: (808) 244-9545
 Email: whpreschool808@gmail.com * Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30am - 4:30pm

Jody Vinoray



As we embrace the vibrant month of October, Wailuku Hongwanji Preschool is excited to share a variety of engaging activities planned for our little ones!

- We will continue our weekly shape and color unit.
- **Fire Prevention Week Theme:** This month, we will focus on fire safety, specifically the importance of lithium-ion batteries in our homes. We encourage all families to discuss fire safety with their children.
- **BWA Craft & Food Fair:** Join us for a fundraiser with our mission church, featuring delicious fried saimin and hot dog, along with chips.
- **Family Participation:** Don't miss our annual Trunk or Treat event on Halloween!

We look forward to a fun and educational month ahead!

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

A Season of Service & Growth

Celeste Rabang



The troop boys learning how to tie a necktie

Boy Scouts had a Cub Scout graduation camp, an eagle scout project, summer camp, and a service project.

129 merit badges from Art to Wilderness Survival that were earned by the scouts



Alex, Mason, Ashton, and Nick doing the opening for the troop meeting

EDUCATION

Dharma School's Ohana Fun with Picnic & Bowling

Joan Tamori

WHM Dharma School and Gakuen families joined with members from Kahului, Lahaina, and Makawao Hongwanji for the annual VIDSTA Dharma School Kickoff Picnic on August 31 at Keopuolani Park's football field. Tents were set up along the hillside of the park "pit," offering shade from the scorching sun and humidity as everyone gathered for a fun-filled day of fellowship. The morning began with a brief opening service led by Rev. Shinkai Murakami, followed by a lively series of relays that had children laughing and competing with enthusiasm. Box, burlap sack, ball-on-sticks, and ball-in-the-cup races kept the energy high as teams raced to the finish line. A special MAHALO goes out to WHM Junior YBA

members Kamauoha Tomita and Sam Marie Quipotla, who worked hard to keep the younger children organized and encouraged throughout the games. One of the highlights was the watermelon-smashing game. Blindfolded children took turns swinging, with plenty of hits and misses, until Aaron Tsai landed the final strike to split open the melon to everyone's delight. The tug-of-war closed out the games, with kids winning the first round but losing the second when more adults jumped in to pull.



Above: Winner, Aaron, cracked open the watermelon



Kora & June



Ryan



Cooper



Tate

After all the activity, everyone enjoyed delicious cheese and pepperoni pizzas together. Of course, the sloping hills of the "pit" proved irresistible, with children gleefully sliding down on pieces of cardboard long after the games ended.

To launch WHM's Dharma School year, students and families enjoyed a private bowling party at Wailuku Lanes on September 7, 2025. About 30 participants filled all ten lanes, sending balls rolling toward the ten-pin targets. Laughter and cheers filled the alley as students enjoyed friendly competition and fellowship, while parents offered guidance and even worked on perfecting their own bowling swings. A warm mahalo to Tamara Manley for making the arrangements and for her generous donation that made this fun event possible!

7th Virtual Dharma School Gathering

NURTURING NEMBUTSU: CULTIVATING AWARENESS

Sunday, October 19, 2025 via Zoom

- 8:45 am Dharma Educators Session
- 10:00 am Intergenerational Service
- 10:40 am Dharma School & Adult Breakout Room Activities
- 11:30 Dharma School Group Sharing Session
- 12:00 End

All are welcome to this intergenerational event!!!



Service Dharma Message by

Reverend Tomo Hojo

West Kauai Hongwanji, Kauai Dharma School Advisor

Adult Breakout Room Message by

Ms. Edythe Vassall

Former Managing Editor of Ka Leo Kahea, Hilo
Betsuin & BWA Member, Board of Spiritual Affairs



RSVP Deadline: Saturday, October 11

Link to register (or use phone to scan code):

<https://forms.gle/gK8QJqJe6xbgz4AVA>

Zoom link will be emailed by Friday, 10/17

Any questions?

Contact Debbie Kubota dekub88@gmail.com

ADULT ORGANIZATIONS

Buddhist Women's Association News

Gwen Hiraga

The BWA had its General Membership meeting on September 7th. Attendees received financial reports and updates on projects, upcoming BWA activities and other upcoming events.

The BWA participated in the Peace Day interfaith activities at Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple on September 20th. Thank you to Sharon Higa and the ladies for making the creative and unique wind chimes.

The BWA 120th Anniversary Celebration was held on September 21, 2025. A special service was held at 9:00 a.m., followed by brunch prepared by Carl Yeh. Thank you to all who attended the service and celebratory brunch. The dedicated efforts and work of the Anniversary Committee, guidance from Reverend Murakami and assistance from the temple office provided us with a memorable Celebration.

The 2025 BWA Autumn Craft and Food Fair will be held on October 18th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Vendors from Maui and Oahu, as well as affiliate organizations from the temple, will be there. The BWA will have tables for the sale of food items, both prepared items (Nishime, Shoyu Pork and Chili) and various baked items. Pre-sale of food items will be available on October 5th and 12th after service. These items may not be available at the Craft and Food Fair on October 18th.

Happy Birthday to our members born in October: Ethel Fujii, Emiko Goshi, Eric Ikeuchi, Gail Iwamoto Hamai, Patrice Matsumoto, Michiko Sato, Toshiko Sugiki, and Frances Teshima.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Maui United BWA Fall General Assembly on November 8th at Kahului Hongwanji

The Maui United Buddhist Women's Association's Fall General Assembly will be held at the Kahului Hongwanji Buddhist Temple on Saturday, November 8, beginning at 9 a.m. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Lunch cost TBA. Please make payment to Wailuku Hongwanji BWA and submit it to Sandy Matsuda at our BWA monthly meeting. However, if you are planning to attend the assembly and not partake in the lunch, please let Sandy know so plans can be made accordingly.

Deadline for registering is Sunday, November 2, during the BWA meeting. Your timely response will help the committee organize.

Crinkle Cookies - Courtesy of Sherri Quinn



- 1 box Duncan Hines or Betty Crocker Cake mix
- 2 Eggs
- 1/3 Cup of Vegetable Oil
- Powdered Sugar for the topping

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix everything except the powdered sugar into a bowl (batter will be thick). Spoon into balls and roll in the powdered sugar. Place on cookie sheets leaving about 2 inches between cookies. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes until cookies brown SLIGHTLY on the edges.



Wailuku Hongwanji BWA

Autumn

Craft & Food Fair

.....

October 18, 2025
8 a.m. to Noon

Wailuku Hongwanji Mission

1828 Vineyard Street

.....

Beautiful crafts by the
BWA and vendors from
Maui and O'ahu!



YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Sakura 4-H Clubs' Clover Report

Sammy Takamura

In August, the Aloha Girls held their kick-off meeting for the new 2025-2026 4-H year. The girls started with their very first officer meeting. In 4th grade, 4-Hers move up from Cloverbuds to Juniors. Part of being a junior includes holding an officer role and updating a more extensive record book. The girls then participated in a fun activity courtesy of Auntie Kelly, where they made all natural bath salts with dried flower petals and essential oils. A calming floral scent filled the room! Finally, the girls worked hard on cards for each other and wrote encouraging words about one another. The girls picked flowers and nature for their project theme this year so look forward to all things botanical and outdoors coming up!

The Friends Forever 4-H Club camped at the Waihe'e Refuge during the Labor Day weekend. They cooked, went hiking to the Waihe'e Stream, swam in the freshwater stream, roasted marshmallows over



Friends Forever Oama fishing.

Friends Forever

Aloha Girls Home-made bath salts

the campfire to make s'mores, popped popcorn over the campfire, went crab hunting at night, and fished for Oama at the beach. The club's theme this year is Outdoor Adventures.

Next month, please join us for 4-H Sunday at 8am with refreshments to follow!



Perfect shot of the Aloha girls by flowers and the temple!

ANNOUNCEMENT

Call for Lahaina Hongwanji Historic Photos

The HHMH Recovery and Rebuilding Committee continues to make steady, consensus-based progress toward restoring the Lahaina Hongwanji campus. Recent milestones include visioning sessions with the Lahaina Sangha, completion of property cleanup by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, coordination with FEMA and HiEMA on funding, and the engagement of FAI Architects to lead a feasibility study and masterplan. The committee's current priority is completing that study, which will guide the next phase of rebuilding.

Help Needed: To support this effort, FAI Architects is seeking pre-fire photos of Lahaina Hongwanji buildings, especially those without architectural plans. These images are critical for recreating the campus and meeting federal requirements. Please share copies with the Wailuku Hongwanji office or email digital files to WHM@wailukuhongwanji.org. Your support will help preserve Lahaina Hongwanji's legacy.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Tadaichi Fukunaga Dana Award Nomination Being Received

Michael Munekiyo

Wailuku Hongwanji is now receiving nomination applications for the Tadaichi Fukunaga Dana Award. A symbol of selflessness that reaches beyond words, the Dana Award is presented to one or two Wailuku Hongwanji members each year for their sustained selfless and compassionate actions.

Established in 1982, the award is founded on the life principles of Mr. Tadaichi Fukunaga, who cherished and practiced our Shin Buddhist value of Dana. Mr. Fukunaga served in many capacities as an officer of the Wailuku Hongwanji, and served as a director and advisor to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. He was an outstanding individual, caring for his family, and supporting his temple and community.

Nomination applications for this year's Dana Award is due by October 31, 2025. Applications will be reviewed by the Dana Award Committee, with presentation of the award(s) made at Wailuku Honagwanji's Sokai (General Assembly meeting) in January 2026. Application forms may be requested from the Temple office.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Honpa Hongwanji Launches New Shining Spirit Award Program for Youth

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (HHMH) has announced a new program intended to honor up-and-coming young community leaders for their service and achievements. Emi Hashi, HHMH's Children and Youth Activities Specialist explained, "we are looking for youth, ages 10 to 20 years old with outstanding community service, impact, leadership, and personal growth."

Purpose - To recognize youth in Hawaii for their outstanding community service and embodying the spirit of selfless giving. The program's objective is to inspire the next generation to understand and embrace the importance of serving and contributing to the greater good of society

Eligibility - Nominees shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Age range of 10 to 20 years old
- A legal resident of Hawaii.
- Engaged in contributing activities for at least 12 months prior to the date of application.

Criteria for Selection - The following criteria will be used in the selection process:

- **Impact on Community:** How did the individual impart meaningful change, whether through addressing a community need, improving quality of life, or inspiring others.
- **Initiative:** How does the individual demonstrate leadership, show creativity in problem-solving or developed new ways to address issues.
- **Effort:** How does the individual exemplify dedication and resilience, and demonstrate consistent, sustained effort in their projects or causes, even under challenging circumstances.
- **Personal Growth:** How did the individual gain new skills and confidence, and acquire life lessons that have contributed to their personal development.

Nomination Procedure - An organization or person from the community (teacher, advisor, counselor, mentor, clergy, coach, etc.) may nominate a young person for this recognition by submitting the following:

- Nomination form with information on the nominee
- Recommendation letters (maximum of three)

The completed nomination form and letters of recommendation must be received by the HHMH's Living Treasures of Hawaii Committee no later than November 15, 2025. Nomination forms are available at the Wailuku Hongwanji Temple office. Additional program details may be obtained by calling the HHMH's main office at (808) 522-9200.

ANNOUNCEMENT

November Social Concerns Fund Drive

During the month of November, Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple joins temples across the state in supporting the Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive, coordinated by the Honpa Hongwanji Committee on Social Concerns.

This is a time to reflect on our blessings, give thanks, and extend compassion to those in need. Practicing Dana, selfless giving, is a year-round commitment, but November offers a special opportunity to come together in generosity.

A designated donation envelope will be included with the November "Friend of the Dharma" newsletter. Contributions may also be submitted directly to the temple office. A question often asked by members is "How much should I donate to Social Concern?" A good guide is "Donate what you would spend for one meal on your family or cost of one meal at a restaurant." Please make checks payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission.

Your generosity helps illuminate the path of kindness and resilience. Thank you for your continued support.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Bet You Didn't Know!

Here are a few surprising and meaningful ways your donations to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission are managed with care, purpose, and aloha:

Undesignated Checks: If you write a check without a memo, your donation goes into the Kyōdan account, our general fund. This supports utilities, payroll, insurance premiums, temple upkeep, and office supplies. Your generosity helps keep the temple running smoothly every day.

Membership Dues (Gojikai): Checks marked "Gojikai" or "Membership Dues" go to the Gojikai account. This means you're officially recognized as a member in good standing - *mahalo for be-ing part of our temple's ohana!* And most of this fund supports our HONPA assessment of our temple's contribution to the statewide organization.

Six Special Services—Wait, How Many? You may have heard we hold six Special Services: New Year's Eve, Ho-onko, Ohigan, Gotan-e, Obon, and Eitaikyo (November). But there's a twist; we also hold a Special Eitaikyo Service in February, and Ohigan happens twice: Spring and Autumn. So, technically, we hold eight Special Services! Why do we still say six? We're looking into it. Stay tuned for the next newsletter! By the way, donations to Eitaikyo are placed in a separate account and may only be used for emergencies or exceptional needs, with approval from the Board of Directors.

Nokotsudo Donations: Checks with "Nokotsudo" in the memo go directly to the Nokotsudo account, used exclusively for expenses related to the Nokotsudo.

Ofuse Donations: Let's clear this up: It's pronounced "oh-foo-say", not "oh fuse" like an electrical fuse box. Ofuse means "for services rendered", such as, weddings, funerals, birthday celebrations, and dedications. These donations help cover current temple expenses.

Dharma Fund (Shigemi Okamoto): Started by the Okamoto 'ohana, this fund supports, Dharma seminars, Guest Speakers, and Training Programs. A gift to this fund is a gift to lifelong learning.

Tadaichi Fukunaga Dana Fund - Donations here help cover costs for the Dana Award, including, plaques, certificates, and other expenses. Recipients are nominated by the four Maui temples, each of which may submit applications.

Kunisaki Scholarship Fund: This fund provides educational scholarships to students whose parents are temple members. A donation here helps nurture the next generation.

Social Concern Fund: Most donations arrive in November and December, with a few in January. At the end of February, we total the contributions and send a check to the HONPA Social Concern Fund, a collective gift from our members to support compassionate outreach.

Other Donation Opportunities: You can also support the Building Fund, Ohanaryo (flowers and decorating supplies), Honotomo (temple newsletter), Offertory (Sunday Service/Osaisen-Donation Box), and Hashi Elevator Fund.

Kauai Hongwanji Council Nembutsu Seminar

Daily Life and Jodo Shinshu

Sunday, October 12, 2025, 9:00 am (HST)

Zoom & Kauai Hongwanji Temples

Guest Speaker: Reverend Yuki Sugahara



Let us learn together that entrusting ourselves to the working of Other Power is the path that nurtures a heart of peace and gratitude in our daily lives.

Reverend Yuki Sugahara was assigned by Bishop Marvin Harada as the new Rimban of the Buddhist Church of Sacramento effective summer 2023. From July 2011 until June 2017, Rev. Sugahara served as minister of the Florin Buddhist Church. Since June 2017, he has served at the Oregon Buddhist Temple in Portland, Oregon. Rev. Sugahara was originally from the Shimane prefecture, north of Hiroshima; he comes from a family of ministers from both his mother's and his father's side in Japan tracing back 15 generations.

Registration Fee: Free (Registration Required)

Donations can be made to the Kauai Hongwanji Council. Please make a check payable to Kauai Hongwanji Council and send it to Kapaa Hongwanji Mission 4-1170 Kuhio Highway, Kapaa, HI 96746.

The maximum capacity is 100 people, first come, first served. We will email you a Zoom link three days prior to the seminar

Platform:

The seminar will be held via Zoom. The Kauai Hongwanji Council temples will participate from their respective temples. Please select your participation location—either your temple or Zoom—when you register for the seminar.

Temple Locations:

- Kapaa Hongwanji Mission

4-1170 Kuhio Hwy, Kapaa, HI 96746

Phone: (808) 822-4667

- West Kauai Hongwanji Mission

1-3860 Kaumualii Hwy, Hanapepe, HI 96716

Phone: (808) 335-3195

- Lihue Hongwanji Mission

3-3556 Kuhio Hwy, Lihue, HI 96766

Phone: (808) 245-6262

Click below to register!

“Registration Deadline: October 5, 2025”

<https://forms.gle/tfCfzXD7vHLkrBpA7>



When you complete the seminar registration, you will receive an automatic confirmation email from Google forms.



MOVING SHIN BUDDHISM INTO THE FUTURE



Jodo Shinshu Buddhism came to Hawaii in the 1880's when Japanese laborers came to work on the sugar plantations. These newcomers struggled to survive because of hard physical labor, poor living conditions, and minimal pay. By turning to the temple for guidance, they found the Buddhist teachings to be comforting. Ministers and lay members supported each other and built a thriving, gathering place of Nembutsu followers. They persevered and dealt with their hardships to succeed in their new home.

The roots of Jodo Shinshu planted by these early immigrants continue to grow and inspire many generations. For over 130 years, our temples have been vibrant, spiritual communities that have shared the Buddhist teachings through Dharma education, spiritual support, and community service. We welcome the inclusion of all people into our Sangha. We seek to share with others the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

The Dharma continues to be relevant, and even more necessary, in these turbulent and chaotic times. We believe the Nembutsu teaching has the power to transform lives and create a more humane world. We must continue to preserve and enhance our dharma-centered programs into the future so people may enjoy lives of harmony, peace, and gratitude. Please join us as we build a pathway to the future of Jodo Shinshu in Hawaii.

Living Gratitude Program:
The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization
EIN 99-0073500





HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

STATE HEADQUARTERS

1727 PALI HIGHWAY HONOLULU, HI 96813 PH: (808) 522-9200 FAX: (808) 522-9209

www.hongwanjihawaii.com

Dear Dharma Friends,

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (Hawaii Kyodan) needs your support as we strive to preserve our rich history and transition into the future. Our Living Gratitude Program is destined to build a promising future for Buddhism in Hawaii. Your contribution will support Honpa Hongwanji's efforts to **EDUCATE** our members, youth, ministers, and the public about Jodo Shinshu; **INNOVATE** using technology and outreach; and **SUSTAIN** our Hawaii Kyodan into the future as we provide guidance to communities throughout Hawaii.

Please consider a gift today or a recurring gift to the Living Gratitude Program. This generous gift is your commitment that ensures the future of Shin Buddhism in Hawaii.

In Gassho.

Bishop Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani

President Dr. Warren Tamamoto

RETURN FORM & CHECK TO:
HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
LIVING GRATITUDE PROGRAM
1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96813

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CITY, STATE ZIP: _____

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TEMPLE AFFILIATION, if any: _____



I would like to learn more about making a planned giving gift through my will or trust or another type of gift to HHMH.

We gratefully accept matching gifts from your employer or direct payment through your bank to HHMH Living Gratitude Program

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the rules and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Tax ID #99-0073500

Our Deepest Sympathies



Diane Aiko Tadakuma (AI NEN – Deep Love and Care), age 72, of Wailuku, passed on August 28, 2025.

Ine Ichikawa (JYO KYO – Showing the Path of the Truth)), age 99, of Pukalani, passed on September 4, 2025.

Namo Amida Butsu

ANNOUNCEMENT

Reverend Tatsuo Muneto to Speak at Eitaikyo Memorial Service - Nov. 9, 2025

Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple warmly welcomes Rev. Tatsuo Muneto as guest speaker for the Eitaikyo Memorial Service on Sunday, November 9, at 9:00 a.m.

Eitaikyo, meaning “perpetual sutra chanting,” is a tradition in which sutras are recited in lasting tribute to departed loved ones. Families who enroll names in the Eitaikyo Book ensure that sutras are chanted in their memory for as long as the temple exists. These services, held twice annually, express enduring gratitude and connection.

Rev. Muneto, originally from Hiroshima, joined the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii in 1965 after completing Buddhist studies at Ryukoku University and training in Kyoto. He later earned a master’s degree in Asian Studies and Clinical Pastoral Education.

Over his 50-year ministry, he served at temples across Hawai‘i, including Hawaii Betsuin, Hilo Betsuin, Kona Hongwanji, Lihue Hongwanji, Moiliili Hongwanji, and the Buddhist Study Center. Though retired since 2014, he continues to support Buddhist education, training, counseling, and hospital chaplaincy.

Rev. Muneto is the author of *Dharma Treasures – Spiritual Insights from Hawaii’s Shin Buddhist Pioneers* (1995), and with his wife Edna, enjoys travel to sacred Buddhist sites. They are proud parents of two daughters and grandparents of two grandsons.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

October Hoji Memorial Services

1st YEAR - 2025

DAY NAME

- 18 Val Ogata
30 Isamu Iwaishi (KO SHO)

7th YEAR - 2019

DAY NAME

- 11 George Katsumi Kashiwa (DO NIN)

13th YEAR - 2013

DAY NAME

- 07 Alvin Sigeo Anbe (JO JI)
15 Harry Norio Tanoue (SO KU DO)
19 Alan Shuichi Sueda (KYO SHU)
23 Earl Izumi (SHO JI)

17th YEAR - 2009

DAY NAME

- 03 Akira Tanaka (SHO MYO)
15 Tamako Fukunaga (EI KO)

25th YEAR - 2001

DAY NAME

- 02 Shigeno Grace Hayase (MYO NO)
09 Edward Lum (JYO CHIN)
26 Misayo Kurisu (TEI HO)

33rd YEAR -1993

DAY NAME

- 22 Masayoshi Yoshida (SHO KAN)
25 Kiyoso Okamoto (JUN SEI)

50th YEAR - 1976

DAY NAME

- 07 Yoshimatsu Nojima (HO SHO)
10 Masami Ino (SHIN MYO)

To schedule a memorial service, contact the main office at (808) 244-0406, M-F between 8am to 12pm/noon.

REFERENCES

Organization & Project Sign-Up Info

Interested in joining an affiliate organization, club, association, or looking to volunteer or donate to a project? Below is a list of sponsored organizations and ongoing or upcoming projects at Wailuku Hongwanji and their contact information. We look forward to seeing you and your family, and thank you in advance, for any monetary donations you make to support our efforts!

| | |
|--|--|
| Altar Flower Donations | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Buddhist Womans Association (BWA) | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Boy Scouts | Call (808) 250-1891 or email msdel17@hotmail.com |
| Buddha Reads Book Club | Call the main office at (719) 200-7300 or email Buddha.reads@gmail.com |
| Choir | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Cub Scouts | Call (808) 280-1299 or cubpack40@gmail.com |
| Dharma School | Call the main office at (719) 200-7300 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Dharma Strummers | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com |
| 4-H | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email WHMSakura4H@gmail.com |
| Gakuen (Japanese Language School) | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Hosha Day Clean-up (First Thursday of Month) | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Junior Young Buddhist Association (Jr. YBA) | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Judo Club | Call (808) 244-9094 or email rhiyakumoto@hawaii.rr.com |
| Karate | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Kendo | Call (808) 244-2650 or email michael.sone@gmail.com |
| Office Support | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Preschool | Call the Preschool at (808) 244-9545 or email whpreschool808@gmail.com |
| Facility Rentals | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Sunday Morning Announcements | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com |
| Volunteer Opportunities | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Website & Facebook | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |
| Yard & Facility Maintenance | Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org |

FRIEND OF THE DHARMA

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The Friend of the Dharma is published monthly. The opinions written by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October / November 2025

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|  | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. 7pm Troop Mtg. | | Social Hall Rental |
| 5 8am Sunday Service | 6 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 7 | 8 5:30pm Obon Pract. | 9 7pm Troop Mtg. | 10 | 11 |
| Fall Break | | | | | | |
| 12 8am Sunday Service 1st Session Youth Choir 9:30am BWA Mtng MUBWA Fall Rep. mtng. @ KHM at 1pm | 13 Columbus Day (Federal Holiday) 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 14 | 15 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom | 16 BWA ACCW Delv. 7pm Troop Mtg. | 17 | 18 BWA Crafts & Food Fair |
| 19 8am Sunday Service 10am State Virtual DS Student Gathering 11am Cub Den Mtng | 20 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 21 | 22 | 23 7pm Troop Mtg. | 24 Social Hall Rental 4pm Scout Trunk or Treat in temple courtyard | 25 Social Hall Rental Minister's Lay Asst. Retreat (BSC) |
| 26 8am Family Service Youth Choir Minister's Lay Asst. Retreat | 27 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 28 6:30pm Cubs Mtng | 29 | 30 7pm Troop Mtg. | 31 Preschool Truck or Treat in temple courtyard | 1 |
| 2 8am 4-H Sunday 2026 WHM Calendar Artwork Due | 3 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 4 | 5 Social Hall Rental | 6 BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. State Ministers Continuing Education Seminar 7pm Troop Mtg. | 7 | 8 9am MUBWA Fall Assembly at KHM |
| 9 9am Eitaikyo Service 11am Cub Den Mtng | 10 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 11 Veteran's Day (Office Closed) | 12 5:30pm Obon Pract. | 13 7pm Troop Mtg. | 14 5pm Cub Scout Movie Night | 15 Social Hall Rental |
| 16 8am Sunday Service | 17 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 18 | 19 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom | 20 BWA ACCW Delv. 7pm Troop Mtg. | 21 | 22 Social Hall Rental 9:30am Alzheimers Walk @ Queen Kaahumanu Ctr. |
| 23 8am Family Service Youth Choir 10:30am 4-H Mtng Lanai Hongwanji 100th Anniversary | 24 5:15pm Dharma Strummers | 25 6:30pm Cubs Mtng | 26 | 27 Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed) | 28 Family Day (Temple / Office Closed) | 29 |
| 30 8am Sunday Service |  | | | | | |