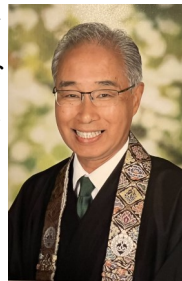




MINISTER'S MESSAGE

“Obon, Obon Its Festival Day!”

As we enter the summer months especially July and August, the Obon Season is already in full swing with several temples already having had their Bon Dances. Obon is one of the important Buddhist observances that we have. Did you visit your temple or a temple near you not only for the Bon Dance, but also for the Obon Service too? I encourage you to attend both the Bon Service and the Bon Dance. To be sure, the Bon Dance is fun with all the dancing, eating and being able to talk story with family and friends amidst the music and taiko drumming, but Obon is also a time of deep spirituality. It is a time to reflect, remember and honor people who were and are a part of your life, and express gratitude in the spirit of Dana.



One of the central themes of Obon is Dana or Selfless Giving. In the book, “The Teaching of Buddha” it says, “A True Offering (Dana) comes from an empathetic heart before any request is made...a True Offering (Dana) is...the one that gives not occasionally but constantly.” “A True Offering (Dana) is one that is given with pleasure, forgetting oneself as the giver, the one who receives it and the gift itself. True Offering (Dana) springs spontaneously from one’s pure compassionate heart with no thought of return, wishing to enter into a life of Enlightenment together.” Dana or Selfless Giving is one of the most beautiful, genuine and pure teachings of the Buddha. We are all encouraged to do it, but when we deeply self-reflect, we realize how challenging it is to perform pure Dana.

Let me share a personal experience that I had which showed me how hard it truly is for me to practice Dana. It happened on one of my trips to the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkely, California. As not to cause an inconvenience to the Staff at the Jodo Shinshu Center and save several hundred dollars on plane fare for the Center, I decided to take a redeye flight to San Francisco which left late Sunday night instead of Monday morning. So, I arrived at San Francisco early Monday morning and with some free time. As it was my usual day off too, I decided to go SF’s Chinatown. While I kind of knew where Chinatown was I didn’t know the exact location. This was before we had all these apps as we do today. I figured out which BART station I had to get off at, but then I had to figure out which direction Chinatown was from the station. As I looked around trying to figure out which way to

FOR ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER

Please call:

Reverend

Eric Matsumoto

808-487-2626 (AHM
office)

If he is not
available, leave a
message on the
answering
machine.

For religious
Emergencies
(Makuragyo or bedside
services), please call
Rev. Matsumoto on his
mobile phone:

808-488-5685

**Aiea Hongwanji
Mission,**

99-186 Puakala St,
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

Phone: 808-487-2626

Email:

aieajiko@gmail.com

Website:

aieabuddhisttemple.org

Minister's Message continued on page 2

July, 2025 JIKO

This experience, one among many, has made me realize what a bonbu or foolish being I am. Someone who has all kinds of attachments and self-centered thoughts. It has made me appreciate, even more, the great unconditional compassion of Amida Buddha who accepts me just as I am, faults and inconsistencies included, promising that I can attain the perfect peace, happiness and tranquility, equal to the Buddha's, by simply entrusting in Namo Amida Butsu, the Buddha's Name Which Calls Me To Entrust. There are no conditions placed upon me. Amida Buddha simply pleads and beckons "Do not worry. Simply Entrust (Namo) yourself to me (Amida Butsu/Buddha)."

Please join us for our 2025 Obon Festivities at Aiea Hongwanji. Sunday, July 13th at 9AM is our Major Bon Service, 10:30AM is the Hatsubon Service for individuals and families observing their first Obon after losing someone, and Saturday, July 26 is Bon Dance night with a short Bon Service at 6pm, Bon Dance at 7pm and Temple Open House from 7:30pm-9:30pm. See you at the Temple!

Reverend Eric Matsumoto

2026 is approaching, and we are receiving requests for hall rentals. The bookings for the summer graduation season are particularly in high demand. AHM offers its members the first opportunity to select an event date. If you are interested in renting the hall in 2026, please contact us at aieajiko@gmail.com before August 31, 2025. After this date, rental agreements will be open to the public.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

The 68th Jr. YBA State Convention took place at BSC and Moiliili Hongwanji Mission from June 20 to 22, 2025. Below is the message from Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani, which was posted in the Convention Booklet.

68th JR. YBA STATE CONVENTION CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE



On behalf of the ministers and sangha members of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, I warmly congratulate you on the 68th Jr. YBA State Convention. I sincerely hope that through connections, learning, and fellowship with your Dharma friends, you will deepen your understanding of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and find joy in being part of our vibrant Hongwanji community here in Hawaii.

When I first heard this year's convention theme, "Hello Kitty and Friends," I remembered the days I watched the Hello Kitty DVDs with my daughters and wondered, "What relevance does Hello Kitty have to the Jr. YBA Convention?" Yet, after some reflection, I realized that Hello Kitty and her friends embody many Buddhist values—especially friendship, kindness, and connection—all of which align beautifully with the teachings of Buddhism.

For example, with her simple yet heartfelt expressions, Hello Kitty reminds us that even small acts of kindness can brighten someone's day. Similarly, the Buddha's teachings guide us to cultivate wisdom and compassion and to strive to be "*kind and gentle to every living thing and protect all who are weaker than myself.*"

Additionally, the characters in Hello Kitty's world each have unique personalities, yet they live in harmony, supporting and accepting one another. Similarly, Buddhism teaches us that while we are all different, we are deeply connected within Amida Buddha's Golden Chain of Love. Our thoughts, words, and actions—whether positive or negative—impact those around us. This reminds us to "try to think pure and beautiful thoughts, to say pure and beautiful words, and to do pure and beautiful deeds, knowing that on what I do now depends not only my happiness or unhappiness but also that of others."

As you engage in the activities of this convention, I encourage you to reflect on how all lives, including yours, shine beautifully within Amida Buddha's Golden Chain of Love. Regardless of our differences—whether in age, gender, nationality, or beliefs—Amida Buddha's Compassionate Light embraces us all. Within this warm embrace, let us strive, no matter how big or small our actions, to bring peace and happiness to all beings in the world.

Lastly, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the members and advisors of the United Jr. YBA of Honolulu for your dedication to making this convention possible. To all participants: May you treasure this experience, build lasting friendships, and continue to walk the path of the Nembutsu with joy and confidence. Namo Amida Butsu.

Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

A MESSAGE FOR PEACE TO COMMEMORATE 80 YEARS SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR II

This year marks the 80th year since the end of World War II. First and foremost, I offer my heartfelt condolences to all those around the world who lost their lives in that devastating war. I also express my deepest sympathy to those who suffered unimaginable hardship—losing family, homes, and enduring countless forms of sorrow—due to the war.

War is a collective act carried out between nations that takes lives and tramples upon the dignity of life. It is a tragic expression of human ignorance and foolishness in its most horrific form. During World War II, in Asia, the Pacific, and across the globe, both allies and enemies alike—combatants and civilians—suffered tremendous losses. On Japanese soil, Okinawa experienced a devastating ground battle. The atomic bomb-

Headquarters Update continued on page 4

July, 2025 JIKO

ings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki annihilated both people and entire cities. Tokyo, Osaka, and many other cities were reduced to ashes through air raids. And yet, it is part of our history as a Buddhist organization that we once cooperated with and even glorified that war.

Shinran Shonin stated, “If the karmic cause so prompts us, we will commit any kind of act.” When illuminated by the Buddha’s teaching, we come to see our true selves—beings so easily swayed by circumstances that we are capable of the most tragic and shameful acts. Precisely because of this, we must never again allow such conditions to arise.

Since the end of the war, our organization has engaged in various efforts to realize peace, including an annual memorial service for all who died in the war. However, as those with no direct experience of war now make up the majority of the population, the painful memories of war are gradually fading. We must not forget our past—a past in which we failed to question the national and social context of that time, and mistook what was wrong for what was right. We must hold a deep sense of remorse and strive never to let our past fade away, guided by Shinran Shonin’s words, “The nembutsu alone is true and real.”

We are awakened to the reality that all life—past, present, and future—is embraced by the compassionate vow of the Buddha. We must honor those who came before us, cherish those living now, and convey our aspirations to those yet to be born.

Our organization should carry forward the painful stories of war passed down to us by our predecessors so that their experiences will not be in vain. People around the world continue to suffer from wars and conflicts even at this very moment. It is our important role as a Buddhist organization to sympathize with their pain and sorrow, deeply reflect on ourselves, and pass on the Nembutsu to the next generation.

Continuously reflecting on the past, questioning ourselves, and considering what we can do now and what we can leave behind for future generations—these are the matters of true importance. On the 80th year commemoration of the end of the war, I offer this message for peace.

April 14, 2025

Governor General SONOKI Giko
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

BISHOP'S AWARD FOR JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Japanese Language School committee honored following students who received the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Bishop’s Award at their graduations in May 2025.

Hilo Hongwanji Gakuen 6th grader: Aliya Toshiko Kojiro

Hongwanji Mission School 8th grader: Melanie Rina Diones

Wailuku Hongwanji Gakuen 6th grader: Ariani Garcia

MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENT

Rev. Shindo Nishiyama, the Resident Minister of Jikoen Hongwanji Temple, will be retiring from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii as of August 31, 2025. Rev. Nishiyama served Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii for 34 years. Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii expresses our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Rev. Shindo Nishiyama for his dedication and effort of spreading the Nembutsu Dharma to our members and community.



IN REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION Commemorating 80 Years Since the End of World War II

A Narrative from a Hiroshima Hibakusha & an Exhibition on the Atomic Bombing

On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, we gather in solemn remembrance of all those whose lives were profoundly affected by the consequences of war. We reflect on the immense human cost of conflict, and through the preservation of historical memory, we seek to deepen our understanding and commitment to peace.

Guided by the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha, we rededicate ourselves to building a community—and a world—where every life is equally valued and embraced. May this gathering inspire us to walk together on the path toward a more peaceful and harmonious society.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025

COMMEMORATION SERVICE

At 5:00 p.m.

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
(Access to parking is from 1742 Lusitana Street)

Guest Speaker: Ms. Sadae Kasaoka

Ms. Kasaoka was exposed to the atomic bomb when she was 12 years old in her first year of girls' high school. At the moment of the explosion, she was at home, which was 3.5 km (2.2 miles) away from the hypocenter.

ATOMIC BOMB PHOTO POSTER EXHIBITION

In the Hawaii Betsuin Social Hall from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Event Organizers:

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii—Office of the Bishop and Peace Day Committee
Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
Honolulu District Ministers Association

With special cooperation from the
Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation and Ms. Sadae Kasaoka

Living Treasures of Hawai'i™ 2026

**Nominations Due
August 1, 2025**



hongwanjihawaii.com/living-treasures

**FEBRUARY
21
2026**

Save the date for the 51st Living Treasures of
Hawai'i Recognition Program and Luncheon!



2026 HHMH Theme/Slogan POSTER CONTEST

NURTURING NEMBUTSU: SHARING GRATITUDE

The winning entry will be featured on a statewide poster!

**ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BETWEEN
AUGUST 31 – NOVEMBER 15, 2025**

POSTER GUIDELINES - [LINK](#) to detailed guidelines

- Visually express the theme/slogan "Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude"
- How do we express gratitude in our daily lives?
- How does saying Namo Amida Butsu help us recognize the kindness we receive?
- What do we receive by sharing gratitude?
- Through your art, reflect on what it means to share gratitude with your family, friends, and the world around you
- Poster can be created using any medium (e.g., painting, drawing, digital art, photography) but must be submitted as a high-resolution digital file (JPEG, PNG, or PDF).
- Dimensions: Standard poster size (24" x 36" or equivalent in digital format).
- Be original and do not include any copyrighted images or text.

Click on this [LINK](#)
to enter or use
this QR Code



Prizes will be
awarded to the
TOP 5 POSTERS

QUESTIONS?

Debbie Kubota | dekub88@gmail.com

• SPONSORED BY THE COMMISSION OF BUDDHIST EDUCATION •

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i's
Buddhist Study Center invites you to the

2025 Summer Session

Join us for lectures, discussion,
and fellowship with Rev. Dr.
Enrique Galvan-Alvarez.

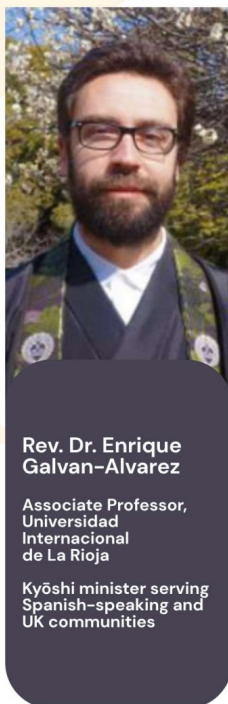
**The Path Comes
to Meet Me:
Awakening to
Namo Amida Butsu**

**August 4–8, 2025
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

**Buddhist Study Center
1436 University Ave, Honolulu
and online via Zoom**



Register by 7/31
[bschawaii.org/
summer-session](http://bschawaii.org/summer-session)



Rev. Dr. Enrique
Galvan-Alvarez

Associate Professor,
Universidad
Internacional
de La Rioja

Kyōshi minister serving
Spanish-speaking and
UK communities



HAWAII STATE LAY ASSOCIATION 62ND ANNUAL CONVENTION BULLETIN # 2

May 28, 2025



TO: All Temple Presidents, District Presidents, & State Vice-Presidents
FROM: State President: Russell Nonaka

Convention Co-Chairs: Rene Mansho, Rick Tabor

SUBJECT: **62nd Annual Convention – SCHEDULE & UPDATES**
Convention Theme: "LET'S BE THE AUTHORS OF OUR FUTURE!"

When: **Friday - September 12, 2025 5:30 – 8:30 pm**
Where: **Jikoen Hongwanji Mission - 1731 N. School St.**
Time: **6:00 pm-Board of Directors; 7:00 –Business Meeting**
When: **Saturday -September 13, 2025 8:00 am – 4:30 pm**
Where: **Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin- 1727 Pali Hwy.**
Time: **8:00 am – 4:30 pm – Business Meeting, Workshops**
Installation of 2025-2026 Officers

2025 Lay Convention Website: [Under Construction](https://sites.google.com/view/hsla2025convention/home)
<https://sites.google.com/view/hsla2025convention/home>

Registration Deadline: **July 16, 2025.** (Late Regis.-July 17-Aug. 29.)
*** See attached Delegate Allocation Schedule

- **Resolution Submittal Deadline:** Per our Bylaws, resolutions requiring financing shall be submitted 60 days (**July 14**) prior to the convention. All other resolutions shall be submitted 5 weeks (**August 4**) prior to the convention.

Email RESOLUTION drafts to: **Dean Sakamoto** OahuLay@gmail.com

- Each District will submit its SLATE of DIRECTORS by email to **Jason Hashimoto** at jasonhashi@gmail.com
Deadline: **August 12, 2025**

- Directors Allocation: **7-HAWAII 4- MAUI 6- HONOLULU**
5- OAHU 2- KAUAI

2025 BSC Summer Session Kauai Satellite Seminar

“Buddha, Dharma, Sangha” and the “European Sangha”

Wednesday, July 30, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (HST): Zoom

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Enrique Galvan-Alvarez



Rev. Dr. Enrique Galvan-Alvarez was born in the Canary Islands, but has spent most of his adult life in the UK. In 2011 he obtained a PhD in Modern Languages and shortly after started working at the (all-online) Universidad Internacional de La Rioja, where he is now Associate Professor. He encountered the Buddha's teaching in 2003 and he started practicing under various Tibetan teachers. In 2011 he encountered Shinran Shonin's teaching and was deeply moved by the writings of Rev. Dr. Al Bloom, with whom he sustained a 5-year long correspondence. Rev. Dr. Galvan-Alvarez continued his study of Jodo Shinshu with other Sensei and Dharma friends, at Dr. Bloom's recommendation, in Europe, Japan and America. In 2019 he was ordained at Nishi Hongwanji. Since then he has been actively spreading the Dharma, both in English and in Spanish.

During the global Covid-19 pandemic, when all Buddhist activities went online, Rev. Dr. Galvan-Alvarez started forming a Spanish-language online group, Jinen-kō, which now has members across the Spanish speaking world. He also serves the Jodo Shinshu UK community, by offering online sessions and visiting members in their homes across England. He was certified as Kyōshi minister in January 2025 and is currently organizing the 21st European Shin Conference, which will take place in Oxford in September 2025.

Registration Fee: Free

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 Hwy, 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.

Click below to register!

“Registration Deadline July 23, 2025”

<https://forms.gle/tZzwe4PWCPW1ugYE9>



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

For further information, please contact:

Kapaa Hongwanji at 822-4667, West Kauai Hongwanji at 335-3195 or Lihue Hongwanji at 245-6262.

Junior YBA Happenings



Our United had a really fun time at Coral Crater Adventure Park where we did the Adventure Course high up in the air. It was such a fun experience being harnessed and learning to hook onto the cables and move through the obstacles. There were several moments of nervousness,

but we all worked hard to overcome

the obstacles. Yuma and Auntie Gay completed both sets of obstacles, Auntie Arynn had to get rescued and Jamelyn and Diandra did a couple sections of the upper obstacles. It was a fun activity and we learned we can do more than we think we can. We would love to do this again so join us for the next one!



We had a successful Jr. YBA State Convention at the Ala Moana Hotel and Buddhist Study Center on June 20-June 22. This year's Convention was hosted by the United of Honolulu and the theme was Hello Kitty & Friends. We will share the results of the contests and photos in the next newsletter.



We started our busy weekend Bon Dance season! Several of us were able to go to Wahiawa Hongwanji Bon Dance where we helped run the fishing pond game for children both nights. It was not too busy but stayed very steady throughout the night. We

also were able to see some of our former Jr. YBA members too! It was great to see Kano and Shoshi helping

out with the Taiyaki booth and Chihiro and Ty playing taiko with the Ewa Fukushima Bon Dance Club. The second night brought more of our past members, Kenji, Koji, and Kana Suzuki and Jenna Takara. Auntie Arynn helped MC on Friday night too!



If you are available and want to volunteer for any of our other district bon dances, please be sure to check your calendars and come out to whatever bon dance you can help at! We also encourage you to bring your friends to experience bon dance. They are not obligated to work a shift, but they can if they want!

The schedule is as follows:

July 5 – Waipahu Hongwanji

July 19 – Waianae Hongwanji

July 25 – Aiea Hongwanji (shave ice booth)

August 9 – Pearl City Hongwanji (food booth)

August 15 and 16 – Mililani Hongwanji (beverage booth – 2 locations)

Upcoming Important Dates:

Next Meeting: Sunday, July 6, at Wahiawa Hongwanji at 1:00pm (location is still to be confirmed)

We welcome any youth who are entering 6th grade through 2 years after high school graduation are welcome to join Jr. YBA! You do not need to be a member of a temple so bring your friends! Please contact a Jr. YBA member or Auntie Arynn Ishikawa (advisor) at arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com or jrybafoahu@gmail.com if you have questions or for more information.



Follow us on Instagram! @jrybafoahu and @hawaii-fedjryba



Join Project Dana's Public Presentation Meetings!

Upcoming Events:

Meeting Date:	Wednesday, July 9, 2025
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813)
Topic:	"Supporting a Loved One with Hearing Loss: Understanding & Better Communication" – This presentation is designed to help families, friends and caregivers better understand hearing loss and how it affects day-to-day life. We'll cover the different types of hearing loss, its emotional and social impact, and how it can change the way we interact with one another. Most importantly, we'll share practical, effective communication strategies to foster deeper connection, reduce frustration, and offer meaningful support to those living with hearing loss.
Speaker:	Tori <u>Carapello</u> , CEO/Founder, Hear 4 Hope
Meeting Date:	Saturday, July 12, 2025
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu, HI 96797)
Topic:	"Why It's Good to Plan Ahead for End of Life" – In this session, caregivers will gain valuable insights into the services available to assist them and their loved ones before and during the time of death. The goal is to educate caregivers on essential preparations and the procedures that follow a person's passing. Discussion will take place on what caregivers may experience at the time of death, highlighting the steps and processes to anticipate when engaging with family members and professionals. Additionally, resources on proactive planning to help ease the burdens of funeral, memorial, and burial arrangements will be provided.
Speaker:	Pete <u>Dillwith</u> , VP Operations, Mililani Memorial Park & Mortuary

*Zoom links will be provided by inquiry

Please call or e-mail if you are interested on attending public presentations or need more information about the program:

Shelley Paet, C4C Program Specialist
(808) 945-3736
cgsg@projectdana.org



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii - 2026 Theme/Slogan Poster Contest Guidelines ***"Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude"***

Purpose:

The poster contest aims to engage participants in a creative exploration of the 2026 theme and slogan, *"Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude."* How do we express gratitude in our daily lives? How does saying Namo Amida Butsu help us recognize the kindness we receive? What do we receive by sharing gratitude? Through your art, reflect on what it means to share gratitude with your family, friends, and the world around you.

Eligibility:

Open to all ages and skill levels, including Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii members, affiliated organizations, and the broader community.

Submission Guidelines:

1. Alignment with Theme:

- Posters must visually express the theme *"Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude."*
- Participants should focus on illustrating how gratitude is expressed in their daily lives.

2. Content Requirements:

- Visual elements should reflect how expressing Namo Amida Butsu recognizes the gratitude they have received from or shared with others.
- The design should encourage viewers to reflect what it means to share gratitude with family, friends and the world around them.

3. Design Specifications:

- Posters may be created using any medium (e.g., painting, drawing, digital art) but must be submitted as a high-resolution digital file (JPEG, PNG, or PDF).
- Dimensions: Standard poster size (24" x 36" or equivalent in digital format).
- The design must be original and not include any copyrighted images or text.

4. Submission Process:

- Entries must be submitted electronically via the official submission portal by Friday, October 31, 2025.
- Each submission must include the artist's name, age, and contact information. A brief description explaining the inspiration behind the design is optional.

5. Judging Criteria:

- Relevance to Theme: How well does the poster capture the essence of *"Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude?"*
- Creativity and Originality: How unique and innovative is the design?
- Artistic Quality: The overall visual appeal, including composition, use of color, and technical execution.
- Message Clarity: How does the poster communicate the message and teachings of Buddha and Shinran Shonin?

6. Awards and Recognition:

- Prizes will be awarded to the top 5 posters.
- Winning posters will be displayed at all temples, Hongwanji Mission School, Pacific Buddhist Academy, Buddhist Study Center, and featured in the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's publications, website, and social media platforms.
- Winners will be notified on November 20, 2025 and announced at the HHMH Board of Directors Meeting on Saturday, December 13, 2025

Important Dates

- Contest Announcement: July 1, 2025 via email to ministers/temples and Headquarters Update
- Submissions Accepted: August 1 - October 31, 2025
- Judging Period: November 1 - 19, 2025
- Winners Announced: Email to winners on November 20, 2025. Announcement on Saturday, December 13, 2025 at the HHMH Board of Directors Meeting and in the December Headquarters Update.
- Winning posters distributed to temples during December/January via mail.

Contact Information:

Please contact Debbie Kubota at dekub88@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

Link to Enter:

<https://forms.gle/MX7xiKHko25savsJA>

Link to 2025 HHMH Theme/Slogan Poster Contest Winners & All Entries:

<https://hongwanjihawaii.com/blog/2024/12/26/poster-contest-entries/>

PROPAGATION PROGRAM GRANT

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii "Propagation Program Grant Committee" would like to announce to all of you that "Propagation Program Grant" is available to all of you for "New and wonderful ideas for propagating Nembutsu teachings into our community". This grant is designed to support new and innovative ideas for sharing the Nembutsu teachings within our communities. Do you have a creative Dharma project you'd like to bring to life and share with others? If so, we encourage you to apply.

The committee will review all applications that meet the following criteria:

Priority will be given to innovative, creative ideas or activities focusing on Buddhist Education and the propagation of the Dharma.

Each project may be funded only once within 5 years.

The maximum amount of the grant should not exceed \$10,000.00

The project should have statewide implications/potential.

The next application deadline is July 31. For more information or to apply, please contact your resident minister or the Honpa Hongwanji Headquarters.

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME TO SUPPORT OUR BON DANCE EVENT

Cans of spam, bottled water, and bags of ice can be dropped off at the community hall on Sundays 8:00 am through noon or on the morning of

Saturday, July 26, 2025.

Thank you very much.



Family Memorial Service



Buddhist consider the memorial service a significant occasion to remember the deceased with feelings of gratitude and love. The memorial service provides an opportunity to pay tribute and recall cherished memories of the departed, while listening to the Buddha Dharma. The service is not for appeasing the spirits of the deceased or for the sake of the deceased, but rather for the sake of the living. In remembering the deceased we acknowledge their influence on our lives as well as the importance of living the Buddha Dharma.

If your family would like to arrange a memorial service for your loved one, please call Reverend Eric Matsumoto at (808)-488-5685, or leave a message on the office phone: (808)-487-2626. You may schedule the service either before or after the memorial date.

July 2025

1 st Edward Toshio Inamasu
7 th Elsie Fusako Unten
7 th Ae Cha Takaki

17 th Robert Yukio Kojima
25 th Kenichi Matsushige

August 2025

1 st Shinichi Suzuki
1 st Kenneth Kaoru Kamada
7 th Akiko Nakanishi
13 th Robert Tadashi Araki
17 th Larry Yoshio Nakahara

25 th Eleanor Chisato Ohira
25 th Joyce Toshino Matsunaga
33 rd Richard Isami Okano
33 rd Kenso Higuchi

Aiea Hongwanji Mission
99-186 Puakala Street
Aiea, HI, 96701

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Temple Calendar of Events for July 2025

- | | | |
|-------|-------------|---|
| 6 | Sun 9:00AM | Sunday Service |
| 11 | Fri 5:30PM | HAIB Directors Meeting |
| 12-13 | Sat-Sun | Peace on your Wings Performances at Kennedy Theatre, UH Manoa |
| 13 | Sun 9:00AM | AHM O-Bon Major Service |
| | 10:30AM | Hatsubon Service |
| 15 | Tue 7:00PM | AHM BOD Meeting |
| 17 | Thu 10:00AM | Lotus Adult Daycare Service & Visitation |
| 20 | Sun 8:00AM | Bon Dance Yagura Set Up (No service) |
| 26 | Sat 6:00PM | Bon Service (prior to Bon Dance) in Hondo/Main Sanctuary |
| | 7:00PM | Bon Dance with Temple Open House from 7:30PM-9:30PM |
| 27 | Sun 8:00AM | Bon Dance Yagura Dismantling (No service) |
| | 10:30AM | AHM BWA Meeting |

*For the year 2025, the end date for observing Hatsubon this year is June 15, 2025.

** Rev. Matsumoto will be away on July 19-20, 2025, and July 28 to Aug 5, 2025. Please call Rev. Mariko Nishiyama for emergencies at (808) 953-0014.

Partial Temple Calendar of Events for August 2025

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| 3 | Sun 9:00AM | Sunday Service |
| 4 | Mon | First Day of Preschool |
| 4-8 | 6:00PM-8:00PM | BSC Summer Session with Rev. Dr. Enrique Galan-Alvarez at BSC and Online |
| 10 | Sun 9:00AM | Sunday Service |
| 13 | Wed 9:00AM-10:30AM | Preschool Temple Services (tentative) |
| 17 | Sun 9:00AM | Sunday Service and removal of Bon Lanterns & Wind catchers in Hondo after Service |
| 18 | Mon 7:00PM | Oahu District Buddhist Education Meeting |