



# ONENESS

**KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

May 2021

## BISHOP'S CORNER

### May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii

Bishop Eric Matsumoto



Reminiscing, one of my dearest memories from childhood is making lei every year in May. Growing up in *Mary Foster Plumeria* Hawaii, making lei for Memorial Day is a common memory for many of us. Today, being able to participate in Memorial Day Ceremonies at Punchbowl reinforces this childhood memory.

Further, every May 1 (or possibly the weekend closest to May 1) is the day that many schools with festive celebrations continue to put on a May Day Program which honors the Indigenous culture of Hawaii and also recognizes the many and varied cultures and ethnic groups which comprise our beautiful Hawai'i Nei. My elementary school, Honaunau Elementary, had an elaborate May Day program with the traditional Hawaiian Royal Court, ethnic and cultural entertainment put on by each grade including the faculty and staff of the school, a huge country store which featured Kona's famous pickled mango or, as we called it, "Mango Pickle" and also many exhibits and contests including a lei contest. I remember enjoying looking at all the lei laid out on tables for display. Of course, everyone also wore a lei too. At May Day, I fondly remember the various performances put on by the different grades or classes. It was a beautiful display of the rich heritage of various cultures from around the world. Now that I think about it, it was a way that students would, first hand, learn about and experience other cultures. In this way, probably without realizing it (at the time), we learned, recognized and accepted the fact that there are many different people and cultures in this world. Also, having learned some of the songs, music and dances of other cultures they didn't seem so foreign. Upon reflection, May Day might play an important role in promoting cultural understanding. It wasn't just fun and games. It would lead to a recognition and acknowledgement of others and showed that we are all part of a very diverse global human family and on May Day in Hawaii, we all come together in mutual harmony.





As I think about it, we, the human race, could be likened to a lei. We, individuals could be likened to the petals of each flower. A flower could represent an entire culture, ethnic group, nation or even more. However, there is a part of the lei which is not easily seen that is also vital. The string or twine which passes through each flower connecting all the flowers and thus giving the lei its beautiful shape and form is also a very important part of the lei. The string represents the teaching/dharma of interdependence that

we are all interconnected and interrelated. One flower does not make a lei. For a lei, we need each other (all the flowers) and only when we come together do we have a beautiful lei. Let us not forget to appreciate the gift of a lei, not only for its beauty, but also the attitude of respect with which it is being given and the feeling of deep gratitude with which it should be received.

To conclude, as I thought about the lei and the beautiful flowers which abound in Hawaii, the following Buddhist quotes came to mind. From “The Teaching of Buddha,” “The fragrance of a flower does not float against the wind, but the honor of the virtuous goes even against the wind into the world.” and the following excerpts taken from “The Collected Works of Shinran,” from some hymns by Shinran Shonin extoling the beautiful flowers of Amida Buddha’s Pure Land of Enlightenment, “Beams of light,...shine brilliantly from within each flower; There is no place they do not reach.” “Buddha-bodies...emerge from each flower...” “...the Buddhas constantly teach and spread the excellent dharma. And lead beings into the Buddha’s path.” Namo Amida Butsu and Thank you.



## LIVING TREASURES OF HAWAI’I SPECIAL PROGRAM

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii’s Living Treasures of Hawai’i program, established in 1976, has recognized over 200 individuals who have demonstrated excellence and high achievement in their field of endeavor and who have made significant contributions toward enriching our society.

This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, in lieu of our traditional luncheon program recognizing new honorees, we produced a special one-hour program, “Life and Light: Wisdom of Hawai’i’s Treasures” featuring interviews with five past honorees. The program will air on May 27, 2021, at 7:00 pm (K5 and live stream o Facebook), and May 30, 2021, at 8:00 pm (KHNL).

The Living Treasures of Hawai’i™: Life and Light - Wisdom of Hawai’i’s Treasures brings together the wise sayings and teachings from five Living Treasures of Hawai’i™ honorees: Robert Cazimero, Puanani Burgess, Lillian Yajima, Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani, and Nainoa Thompson. This

inspirational television special highlights what makes the Living Treasures of Hawai'i™ program unique and shares the history of this prestigious honor that is part of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

### **KAHUKU HONGWANJI SCHOLARSHIP**

The Kahuku Hongwanji Mission closed its doors in February 2013 after serving its membership for 111 years. To maintain the legacy of the Kahuku Hongwanji Mission and to develop the future generations of the Hongwanji, Kahuku Hongwanji Mission established a scholarship to support students at the college level.

#### **Eligibility:**

The applicant must be a member of the BSC Fellowship Club or an active member of a Hawaii Kyodan organization.

The applicant must be a full-time student of an accredited college, university, or a post-high school program in the State of Hawaii, and earn a minimum of 12 college credits per semester.

The applicant must have a required minimum college GPA of 2.5.

The applicant must be of college age up to 35 years old.

The applicant must submit the application form with an essay on "Dharma and My Life".

**Application Deadline:** July 31, 2021

**Scholarship Amount:** \$2,000.00 each / two recipients

For more information of this scholarship, please contact the HHMH Headquarters at (808) 522-9200 or email at [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

### **ORIGINS OF STATE RECOGNITION FOR BUDDHA DAY IN HAWAII**

At the online Hawaii Buddhist Council Buddha Day Service on April 4, Bishop Eric Matsumoto made reference to a successful campaign in 1963 for state recognition of Buddha Day.

Back then, joint Buddha Day (or Wesak Day) celebrations were pan-Buddhist affairs too large to be held in a single temple. Kapiolani Park was sometimes the venue, as it was in 1963. In the Hongwanji Archives is a 1955 Wesak Day program booklet provided by Carolyn Uchiyama. The celebration was held at Kapiolani Park that year too, and downtown Honolulu store windows featured "Wesak Week."

While many are aware of Hongwanji youth involvement in the establishment Peace Day in Hawaii, fewer may be aware of the Buddha Day story. City newspaper archives reveal that the effort was much in the news from January to June 1963. HHMH Bishop Chitoku Morikawa was

quoted in Honolulu papers about a petition effort, which in turn led us to the article pictured here from the January 1963 *Goji* newsletter.

Bishop Morikawa wrote, "It is our hope that you will all help by affixing your signatures to these petition forms when they are circulated, and thereby participate in an action that will have far-reaching benefits even beyond the confines of Buddhism or Hawaii." The effort attracted support outside of Hongwanji as well, including from Chinese Buddhist temples and associations. By March of 1963, 40,000 signatures had been collected and bound into an 8-inch-thick volume for presentation to the legislature.

While state holiday status was dropped from the bills, official recognition of April 8 as Buddha Day passed both houses of the Hawaii State Legislature in 1963. At that year's Honpa Hongwanji Lay Convention (attended by more than 700 delegates!) a resolution of appreciation honored the legislators who introduced the Buddha Day bills, Sen. Kazuhisa Abe and Rep. Jack K. Suwa. The final bill was signed into law by Governor John Burns on June 3, 1963.

- David Atcheson, Archives Committee Chair ([archiveschair@honpahi.org](mailto:archiveschair@honpahi.org))

*Two Archives Committee resources were especially important in the preparation of this article: 1) our Newspapers.com subscription, 2) digitized versions of archival Goji newsletters (searchable PDF files).*

## OBITUARY NOTICE

Mrs. Sonoe Motoyoshi, the wife of the late Rev. Sachihide Motoyoshi and the mother of Rev. Yukiko Motoyoshi, passed away at the age of 104 on Sunday, March 28, 2021, at her residence in Stockton, California. At this time, there are no other details regarding funeral service plans because of the pandemic.

# The Goji

VOL. XIV, NO. 1

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu 13, Hawaii

JANUARY, 1963

## Two Significant Events in 1963

BISHOP CHITOKU MORIKAWA



As we welcome the New Year, we look forward to two significant and happy events.

The first is the fact that sometime this year, as a St. Shinran 700th Memorial Anniversary project, the Hongwanji Annex will be completed. The ground-breaking ceremony was held on December 15 of last year and the construction is progressing smoothly. The joy will be not only in the completion of this new structure, but in the anticipation of the enormous contribution it

will make towards the spread of Buddhism and the strengthening of our Hongwanji Sangha.

The second happy event for 1963 (although still in flux) is the possible establishments of April 8 as a state holiday. Although there is a very large number of Buddhists in Hawaii, there has never been a legal holiday set aside for the observance of a Buddhist holy day. In February, when the state legislature meets, a petition will be presented to both houses to urge passage of a bill that would establish April 8, "Buddha Day", as a state holiday. It is our hope that you will all help by affixing your signatures to these petition forms when they are circulated, and thereby participate in an action that will have far-reaching benefits even beyond the confines of Buddhism or Hawaii.

May you all have an active and good 1963.

*In the January 1963 Goji, Bishop Morikawa introduced a petition effort for Buddha Day*

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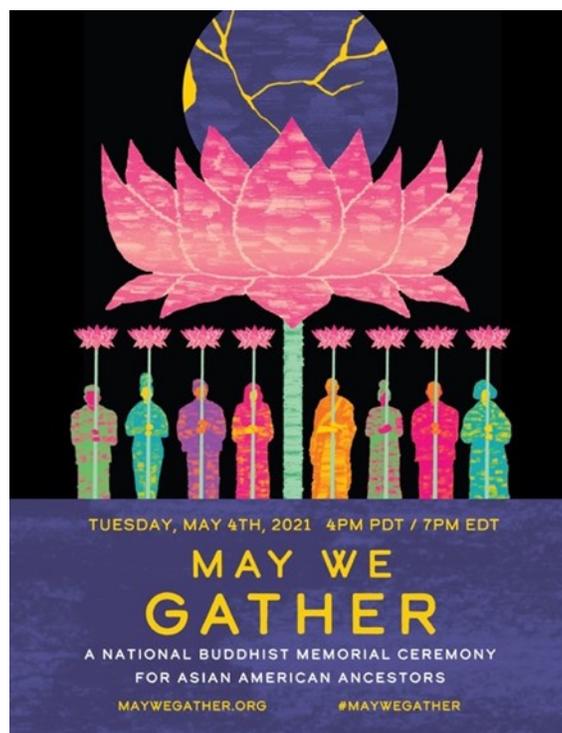
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**"MAY WE GATHER" A NATIONAL BUDDHIST MEMORIAL CEREMONY FOR ASIAN AMERICAN**



# KAHUKU HONGWANJI MISSION SCHOLARSHIP

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**Scholarship Amount:** \$2,000.00 each / two recipients



## **HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII**

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813

(808) 522-9200

[hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

MAHALO FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION & SUPPORT  
March 22-April 18, 2021

Memorial Services

*In memory of...*

Harumi Inagaki - Laraine Moriguchi  
Hisao Maeda - Sharyl Lam Yuen  
Tom Tsutomo Morita - Lincoln Morita  
Zenichi & Bert Muraoka - Muraoka Family  
Sakai & Yoshiko Osaki - Jessie Muramaru  
Shigeru Osaki - Dora Yoshimoto, Kimiko Osaki,  
Jarrett Yoon - Rev. Janet Youth

Ohigan Service

Ethel Aiko Oda

Hanamatsuri Service

Jim Jung  
Ralph Kitashima  
Phil O'Rourke  
Carol Saiki  
Gloria Shimizu  
Roberta Yanagawa

Sunday Memorial Service

Yoshiki Kano  
Ralph Kitashima  
Phil O'Rourke  
Carol Saiki  
Roberta Yanagawa

Columbarium

Sally Nakamura

Food Sale Donations

Arthur Fujita  
Darlene Fujita  
Fusako Harada  
Marie Hashimura  
Stan Morinaka  
Lorna Nishimitsu  
Rona Sakai  
Gloria Shimizu  
Pearl Shimizu  
Dennis & Sadie Sunada  
Betty Yamamoto

Membership

Sharon Contrades  
Josephine Dodo  
Marie Hashimura  
Stanford Iwamoto  
Evelyn Nakamura  
Milton Nakamura  
Sally Nakamura  
Alice Yamada

Food Sale Support

Madison Doo  
Mason Doo  
Marie Hashimura  
Stanford Iwamoto  
Ralph Kitashima  
Haven Kuboyama  
Rev. Mieko Majima  
Milton Nakamura  
Lorna Nishimitsu  
Francis Nishizawa  
Taryn Ramil  
Carol Sakai  
Calvin & Rona Sakai  
Gloria Shimizu  
Pearl Shimizu  
Joan Slingerland  
Dennis & Sadie Sunada  
Lane Sunada  
Clyde Takekuma

Hall Rentals

Lighthouse Outreach Center  
Apologia Addiction Program  
Storybook Theatre

Miscellaneous Donations

Dr. Jay Hiramoto  
Sally Nakamura - Choba, Calendar, Oneness  
Lorna Nishimitsu  
Betty Yamamoto

Volunteer Support

Marie Hashimura  
Robert Hiraoka  
Ruby & David Ishida  
Stanford Iwamoto  
Ralph Kitashima  
Haven Kuboyama  
Milton Nakamura  
Francis Nishizawa  
Ray Paler  
Tami Ramil  
Calvin & Rona Sakai  
Gloria Shimizu  
Pearl Shimizu  
Joan Slingerland  
Dennis & Sadie Sunada  
Lane Sunada  
Clyde & Kay Takekuma  
Sidney Yanagawa



Sunday Service Schedule

9:00 am @ Kapaa Hongwanji Mission

5/ 2 Joint Dharma School Gathering  
5/ 9 Family Sunday Service  
5/16 Family Sunday Service  
5/23 Family Sunday Service  
5/30 Gotane Service

from the president's corner...

***Aloha Everyone!***

We did it again! The Lualau lunch Sale and Verde fundraising tickets were a big success. We couldn't have done it without everyone's help to sell/buy the tickets, preparing the side dishes for the lunch and other food items. We also thank those who donated food items and generous monetary donations. We extend a BIG MAHALO for your part in making this fundraiser a success.

**Keirokai Appreciation - Saturday, May 8, 2021 @ 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

The Board of Directors will be honoring our Keirokai members for their contributions to sustain the temple and their dedication to the Sangha. Keirokai are members who are 80 years and above. We will be preparing a special bento which will be delivered to their homes from 10:30-11:30 a.m. We hope you will be at home to meet us, chat and receive your lunch.

**Parsonage Storm Damage Repairs**

The minister's residence sustained damages from the storm. A claim was filed with a proposal from S.T. Morinaka Construction. The damage was also reported to HQ as requested. We have received funding from the insurance and the Social Concerns Committee. We are grateful to the Social Concerns Committee. The repairs will be scheduled with Morinaka Construction.

**State Dharma School Gathering - Sunday, May 2, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.**

We will be viewing this virtual event at the temple. The guest speaker is Bishop Matsumoto. Let us enjoy the event together at the temple.

**Virtual Services at the temple - May 9, 16, 23**

While Rev. Majima is in Japan we will be viewing a video tape service. Rev. Majima prefers to do a virtual Zoom service, however, due to the time difference, it is difficult to schedule the service at 9:00 a.m.

**Kapaa Hongwanji Centennial Celebration - October 2022 (day to be decided)**

Kapaa Hongwanji was established in October 1912. October 2022 will be our 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. Please let me know if you can assist in making this a special and memorable event. With the Sangha's kokua we will be able to survive and make this event a reality.

**Women's Association**

The Eshinni Kakushinni Day Service was observed at the temple on Sunday, April 25, 2021. We all enjoyed Mrs. Lois Toyama's message. She shared Eshinni and Kakushinni's contributions which helped to establish the Hongwanji.



## Memorial Service

May				June			
Margaret Fuyuko	Yamaguchi	13th	5/7/2009	Fujio	Haraguchi	27th	6/1/1995
Edna Hatsuno	Oshita	23rd	5/9/1999	Lily Rinko Tomomitsu	Higashi	13th	6/2/2009
George	Yoshimatsu	17th	5/21/2005	Hideo	Miyasaki	17th	6/3/2005
Ellen	Higa	3rd	5/27/2019	Towns Mitsuko	Nagao	33rd	6/10/1989
Masayo	Kamehiro	50th	5/29/1972	Paul	Nishimoto	13th	6/12/2009
Ruth Natsuyo	Ebesu	33rd	5/29/1989	Derek Tatsumi	Asari	17th	6/19/2005
				Evelyn Kiyoko Aoka	Arinaga	13th	6/20/2009
				Shizuko	Wataya	23rd	6/22/1999
				Masami	Oda	3rd	6/28/2019

### From the Minister

Next year, we will have the 100th Anniversary, and we look forward to celebrating with Bishop Matsumoto and past ministers. The committee is planning an unforgettable event. Please let us hear your ideas. Thank you again for your continuous support and generous donation for our temple.  
Namo Amida Butsu

### *In Memory of our Dharma friend*

Kapaa Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy to families who have recently lost their loved ones.

Namo Amida Butsu.

### Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement



Group 5	5/1/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Ms. Carol Saiki	Ruby Ishida
Group 6	5/8/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukamoto - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Brian Yamamoto, Mr. Winston Kawamoto	Joan Slingerland
Group 1	5/15/2021	Mrs. Marie Hashimura - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hiraoka, Mr. Milton Nakamura, Mr. Ray Paler	Kay Takekuma
Group 2	5/22/2021	Mr. Francis Nishizawa - Chair Mrs. Yasuko Murakami, Mr. Clint Saiki, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Yanagawa	Rona Sakai
Group 3	5/29/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Takekuma - Chair Mr. Stanford Iwamoto, Mrs. Erin Takekuma, Ms. Madison Doo, Mrs. Tami Ramil, Ms. Taryn Ramil	Roberta Yanagawa
Group 4	6/5/2021	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Ruby Ishida

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, Hawaii 96746



## ONENESS

The Newsletter of  
Kapaa Hongwanji Mission  
Minister: Rev. Mieko Majima  
[www.kapaahongwanji.org](http://www.kapaahongwanji.org)  
Phone (808) 822-4667  
Email: [mail@kapaahongwanji.org](mailto:mail@kapaahongwanji.org)

### United Jr. YBA



Baccalaureate Service -  
Sunday, June 13, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.

Congratulations to Mason Doo who will be graduating from Kamehameha Schools and Isabella Kasprysk from Kapaa High School.

We will be having a Baccalaureate Service on June 13. Let's congratulate our seniors and extend our best wishes as they pursue their future careers.