



The Newsletter

JAPANESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII



ハワイ島日系人協会

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President's Message – Dwayne Mukai

会長挨拶

Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu! I hope that this newsletter finds you all healthy and joyous as we embark on a New Year!

As the "Year of the Ox" comes to a close, let's all embrace the "Year of the Tiger" with open arms. The slow, gentle and hardworking nature of the Ox is being replaced by the speed, strength and power of the Tiger.

The Tiger is characterized as being strong, courageous with a commitment to the greater good. Thus, generating a positive foundation for 2022. What an excellent way to start the New Year.

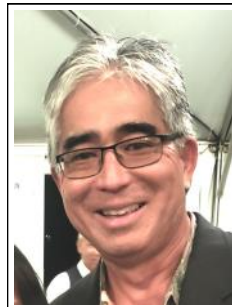
2021 was a year like no other that I have ever experienced. The Corona Virus wreaked havoc in the daily lives of us all. It has caused a major paradigm shift in how individuals, families, businesses and organizations conduct their day-to-day activities.

To side on the air of caution, your Japanese Community Association of Hawaii as most other organizations on the Big Island, decided to follow the recommended Corona Virus protocols. Because of this, except for the Annual Ireito Service which was drastically scaled down with no invited attendees and program, all of our JCAH's planned activities for 2021 were either "put on hold" or cancelled.

Having said this, I would like to express my appreciation to the Annual Ireito Service Co-Chairs, Delbert Nishimoto & Tommy Goya for putting on this service. Please read their report in this newsletter. Mahalo Delbert & Tommy for your continued dedication and service to JCAH.

Though we have hand no activities (visitations) with

our Japan friends, rest assured that we have been in constant communication with them. Unfortunately, the annual student artwork collaboration with Shibukawa was cancelled last year. I am please to announce that it will be held this year.



Unlike previous years when the students' actual artwork were displayed, this year it will be done digitally. Please read the Student Exchange Artwork article in this newsletter.

I, as most of you, have great expectations for 2022. Unfortunately, as I am composing this message, the Omicron Virus is now running rampant in Hawaii and the World. Rest assured that we will all get through this together and that your Japanese Community Association of Hawaii will continue to be a vibrant and integral member of the community. We are working with Na Leo TV to produce Japanese cultural programming and we will keep you informed as it progresses.

In my previous message, I referenced the words "Gaman & Gambatte." Little did we know then how long the Corona Virus would impact us. A year has passed and now we are facing its highly contagious variant, the Omicron Virus. Thus, these words ring truer now than ever before. By "doing our best while facing insurmountable odds with patience and dignity", we will all get through this.

Once again, I want to thank you all for entrusting me to be the President of your Japanese Community Association of Hawaii.

Domo arigato gozaimasu!

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The Student Artwork Exchange Program features the artwork of participating elementary schools in Shibukawa, Japan as well as participating elementary schools from the Big Island. This program was started in 2018 as part of Hawaii County's Sister City Relationship with Ikako-machi which merged in 2006 with Shibukawa City.

Your Japanese Community Association of Hawaii has been coordinating the Big Island's elementary school student participation. Chairing this program has been Aya Shehata. Representing the Big Island have been the art students of EB de Silva School has been participating in this program.

Historically, the Japan students' artwork was displayed in Hilo during the annual Merry Monarch Festival and the artwork of the Big Island students were displayed in Shibukawa a month later. Due to the Corona Virus, the Merry Monarch Festival was cancelled in 2020 and held in 2021 with a scaled back program. Similarly, schools in both Japan and Hawaii were negatively impacted by the pandemic and the Student Artwork Exchange Program was not held in 2020 and 2021.



Student Artwork Exchange

This year, rather than physically sending artwork pieces between Japan and Hawaii, a decision was made to do it digitally. Japan has digitally sent us their students' artwork and we, likewise, will be sending the artwork of students from EB da Silva School to Shibukawa for display.

We are still working out the logistics as to how to publicly display the Shibukawa Artwork. If you would like to view the artwork prior to their Big Island debut, you may see the artwork by going to:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17P1NKP3G8J6CSt9WVu2HtRSWtpg0DChs?usp=sharing>

Hopefully, we will be able to return to exhibiting the participating students' actual artwork in 2023.



The painter and title of each artwork from the top left in counter-clockwise; Aina Ikeda: "Memories of visiting a shrine with my family", Nana Akuzawa: "Koyo seen from Kajika Bridge", Koyuki Sekiguchi: "Belly Button Festival" and Takuma Machida: "Ikaho Onsen stairs".

Japanese Sailing Cadets Buried at Alae Cemetery

Every August, your Japanese Community Association of Hawaii holds the Ireisai Hoyo Memorial Service or, more commonly known as, the Ireito Service at Alae Cemetery.

Following the service, representatives of JCAH visit the burial sites and place flowers on the gravesites of two Japanese Training Cadets that died while visiting the Big Island.

The cadets are: Enjiro Kikuchi, of Ibaraki-ken, who died on August 1, 1924 at the age of 22 and Ryoji or Yoshiharu Kiyota, hometown unknown, who died on January 22, 1927 at an unknown age.

The right is a picture of the Japan training ship Shintoku Maru that visited Hilo in 1927 to which cadet Kiyota was assigned to.



(Left) An obituary on Nippu Jiji published on January 21, 1927 reads:

On January 21, at 5:30 am, Yoshiharu Kiyota, a student cadet aboard the training vessel Shintoku-maru belonging to Kobe Merchant Maritime High School, has died. Kiyota who fell ill upon visiting Hilo on board the vessel in late August, was admitted to the Yoshimura Hospital for treatment for tuberculosis after disembarking the vessel that left Hilo on September 1. Despite receiving treatment, he fell into coma recently. Hilo Nikkei-kai, the Japanese Association, oversaw the funeral.

(Right) Gravestones of Ryoji Kiyota and of Enjiro Kikuchi (Far right) at Alae Cemetery. Kiyota's gravestone engraves his date of death as January 22, 1927, a different date found in the newspaper article.



The 2022 JCAH scholarship application

is now accepted.

Purpose:

To increase access for high school graduates and post-secondary students from the Island of Hawai'i whose interest is primarily in Japanese studies.

Schools Qualified

Any accredited College or University in the USA or Japan.

Qualifications of Applicant:

- Resident of East Hawai'i (Kohala-Naalehu). Preference will be given to graduating seniors whose major or minor is in Japanese studies. Post-secondary students, formerly from the island of Hawaii may also be considered.
- Enrolled or planning to enroll at a college or university.
- Preference will be given to an applicant whose parent or guardian is a member of good standing of the Japanese Community Association of Hawai'i.



Number and Amount of the Awards:

- Two Scholarships of \$1500 will be awarded to graduating High School seniors or post-secondary students annually.
- Former scholarship recipients may be eligible for scholarships.

Filing of Application:

- Part A. Application form
- Part B. Parents' Confidential Statement
- Part C. Personal Letter, Data Sheet, and Transcript
- Part D. Letters of Recommendation

Deadline:

Application must be postmarked on or before, Friday, April 8, 2022 and mailed to JCAH, 714 Kanoelehua Ave., Suite 202, Hilo, HI 96720. Or email must be received by Friday, April 8, 2022. Email: jcahawaii@yahoo.com.

Criteria:

- Academic merit as demonstrated by a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Some degree of financial need, not necessarily determined by federal guidelines.
- Two letters of reference.

Judging:

- Judging shall be conducted by the Scholarship Committee of the Japanese Community Association of Hawai'i.
- The decision of the Judges is final.

Visit <http://www.jcahawaii.org> for details and for downloading the application form.

JCAH 18th Annual Kenjinkai Friendship Golf Tournament

COVID-19 again, for the second straight year, was the deciding factor of the cancellation of the 18th Annual Kenjinkai Friendship Golf Tournament that was to be held at the Hilo Municipal Golf Course on Tuesday, September 21, 2021.

We are hoping that 2022 will be a better year and enable the JCAH to finally hold its 18th Annual Kenjinkai Friendship Golf Tournament. We anticipate the following Kenjinkai organizations and also the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Hawaii to participate.

Fukushima Kenjinkai
Hiroshima Kenjinkai
Kumamoto Doshi Kai
Yamaguchi Kenjinkai
Yamanashi Kenjinkai

Fukuoka Kenjinkai
Hui Okinawa
Tokyo Club
Niigata Kenjinkai
JCCIH – Chamber



Ivan Nakano and Allan Sasahara will again co-chair the tournament. Please keep your calendars tentatively open for Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at the Hilo Municipal Golf Course for the tournament.

Remember, keep your back swing smooth.

Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu



Welcome new members who joined since last newsletter

Rev. Yuki Fujimori and Mr.
Nobuhisa Fujimori
Jaylen Grace
Ella Iseri

Leanne & Gregory Kirk
Kelsey Poaha
Gina Tanouye

