



Mejiro Messenger

the Mejiro Messenger is a tri-annual publication of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, 2454 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96826

July 2011 • Volume 1 • Number 2

Going with the



GRAIN

an exhibition of wood art

Going with the Grain is an exhibition of local artists working with native woods and will feature traditional Japanese hand tools from the Cultural Center collection.

Featured Artists:

Aaron Padilla	George Tanabe
Alan Wilkinson	Joel Bright
Andy Cole	Kahi Ching
Bob Butts	Logan White
Bruce Young	Pat Kramer
Edwin Ikeda	Satoru Abe
Francisco Clemente	Sharon Doughtie
Fred Roster	

Opening Reception

Saturday, July 2 - 11:30am

Community Gallery

July 2 - September 30

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday

10:00am - 4:00pm

For more information, call (808) 945-7633

Ext. 28 or email programs@jcch.com. This

exhibition is sponsored by Sekiya of Fukuoka

Hawai'i Endowment Fund.

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i
2454 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96826
tel: (808) 945-7633
fax: (808) 944-1123
email: info@jcch.com
website: www.jcch.com

Find us on Facebook, Twitter & Youtube



OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:30pm

GALLERY/GIFT SHOP HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday
10:00am-4:00pm

RESOURCE CENTER HOURS

Wednesday-Friday
10:00am-4:00pm

Saturday
10:00am-1:00pm

Mission Statement

To be a vibrant resource, strengthening our diverse community by educating present and future generations in the evolving Japanese American experience in Hawai'i. We do this through relevant programming, meaningful community service and innovative partnerships that enhance the understanding and celebration of our heritage, culture and love of the land. To guide us in this work we draw from the values found in our Japanese American traditions and the spirit of Aloha.

DEMONSTRATION LECTURE: JAPANESE WOODWORKING TOOLS AND HOW TO SHARPEN YOUR KITCHEN KNIFE

Saturday, August 6 • 11:00am – noon • Community Gallery

Kiyomi Kageyama is a traditionally trained Japanese woodworker who specializes in building tea houses, shoji doors, tea ware, and fabricating tatami mats. Kageyama has been working in Hawai'i for more than 25 years, and adapts his traditional training to the use of local materials. As one of the few traditional Japanese craftsmen in Hawai'i, he works closely with the Urasenke organization and other clients. Kageyama will demonstrate the use of chisels, hand planes, and saws, including a massive rip saw for cutting logs into planks.

He will hand plane a piece of wood to create an unbroken strip of tissue-thin shaving. The key to this feat lies in the sharpness of the blade, and Kageyama will demonstrate his technique for transforming a dull kitchen knife into a razor sharp tool.

Acchi Kocchi Here & There, This & That Aloha!



The Cultural Center bid farewell to **Suann Chen, Programs Assistant/IT Specialist**, and **Alan Okimoto, Interim Fundraising & Volunteers Coordinator** this past May. We wish Suann and Alan well in their future endeavours!

We are proud to welcome **Neil Takekawa** as **Chief Operating Officer**. Prior to serving as chief operating officer for the Blood Bank of Hawaii, Takekawa was vice-president of sales and marketing for Hawaii Superferry, president of Roberts Hawaii, president & chief executive officer of Hawaii Island Air, president of Aloha Island Air and vice president of customer services at Aloha Airlines. Neil holds a wealth of knowledge about the Cultural Center having served on the center's board of directors for more than three years.

We also welcome **John Okutani**, who will be serving as Temporary Volunteer Volunteers Coordinator on an interim basis. We thank John for his willingness to assist in this capacity.

Also joining us is **Bethany Bannister-Andrews**, who will be assisting in the Gallery and Gift Shop as well as graphic work on a part-time basis. She had worked previously at the Koa Gallery at Kapi'olani Community College and is currently a student in the museum studies certificate program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Please help us welcome Neil, John, and Bethany to our 'ohana!

Thanks to a generous grant from the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust, this past school year the Cultural Center brought in more than 1,600 students from 19 Title I schools on O'ahu. The grant paid for the bus transportation and the center waived the usual admission fees to provide these students with a special hands-on learning experience at no cost to them.



Lenore Hansen-Stafford wins Prince Court Dinner Giveaway!



Lenore Hansen-Stafford was the lucky winner of a buffet dinner for four at the Prince Court Restaurant at the Hawaii Prince Hotel. In May, we asked for your comments about the Cultural Center and/or the Hawaii Prince Hotel. Everyone who submitted a comment was entered into a random drawing.

Congratulations Lenore and a special thank you to the Hawaii Prince Hotel for sponsoring our special prize giveaway!

Pictured above: Chief Operating Officer Neil Takekawa presents Lenore Hansen-Stafford with her gift certificate to the Prince Court Restaurant.

Tanabata - July 7



Celebrate Tanabata the Star Festival with the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i. Tanabata falls on the Seventh Day of the Seventh Month and is observed by writing a wish on tanzaku strips and placing it on tall bamboo branches in hopes that the wishes will be granted by the Heavenly Princess. Tanzaku wish strips will be available inside the Cultural Center main office now until July 7. It's free and fun so celebrate Tanabata with us!

Kodomo no Hi: Keiki Fun Fest - May 1



A sunny day greeted a crowd of families for our annual *Kodomo no Hi: Keiki Fun Fest* event on May 1. In addition to the usual myriad of cultural and craft activities, this year's event featured interactive introductions to taiko and various martial arts to allow children a chance to experience a class before enrolling.

Pictured above: Chizuko Endo from the Taiko Center of the Pacific leads an interactive taiko demonstration with attendees.

Event Rewind

Maui Matsuri - May 14



On May 14, the Cultural Center hit the road to participate in the *11th Annual Maui Matsuri* event. Education Specialist Derrick Iwata, together with volunteers Eric Kobayashi, AJ Bactista, and Shasta Yamada represented the Cultural Center doing our signature activity *hachimaki*, and our Carp Windsock activity. Special thanks to Kay Fukumoto and Tiffany Iida of the Maui Japanese Society for allowing us to participate in their event year after year.

Presentation and Discussion with Ed Sakamoto - May 21



Dozens greeted famed playwright Ed Sakamoto on May 21 for a special program featuring Sakamoto and some scenes from his new play *It's All Relative*. The first part of the program featured a conversation between Sakamoto and JCCH Board of Governor member Dennis Ihara. Sakamoto talked about his childhood in 'A'ala, his years as a reporter and editor at *The Honolulu Advertiser*, and his start and subsequent career as a playwright. After the discussion, they were joined by the play's director, James Nakamoto and by members of the cast, who previewed two scenes from the play.

Great Grandfather's Drum - June 4



A full house of more than 100 people attended the two screenings of *Great Grandfather's Drum* at the Cultural Center on June 4. Thanks to Tsuneki Nishikawa's generous sponsorship of the event and exhibition, proceeds from the \$15 admission benefited the the Fukushima Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund. Nishikawa also made an additional \$8,000 donation to that fund. Led by founder Kay Fukumoto, members of Maui Taiko made the trip and performed Fukushima Ondo for the audience.

Courtyard Bazaar - June 12

Bargain hunters flocked to the Cultural Center on June 12 in search of unique items from more than a dozen members. This first-time event was blessed with blue skies and gentle breezes adding to the festive spirit of the day. The Gift Shop volunteers welcomed many shoppers and the Resource Center sold special books. Andrea Hiura, co-author of the children's book *How Sakura Saved New Year's* also took part in the bazaar, signing books and donating all proceeds to the Cultural Center.



Upcoming Events

For more information on any of these programs or events, please visit our website at www.jcch.com or contact us at (808) 945-7633.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, July 2 • 10:00am • Gallery Theater

Join us as the Cultural Center Board of Directors will report on the status of the center for fiscal year 2010-2011 and future plans for fiscal year 2011-2012. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Free validated parking will be provided for members. For more information, please contact Denise Park at (808) 945-7633 Ext. 27 or email at park@jcch.com.

PEACEFULNESS THROUGH A BOWL OF TEA CELEBRATION OF LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT DINNER

Saturday, July 23 • 5:00pm • Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort & Spa Tapa Ballroom



Experience one of the most significant and meaningful events of the year! Join us as we honor Dr. Genshitsu Sen, 15th Generation Grand Tea Master from Japan's Urasenke Tea School for his life's work of promoting world peace and true happiness through the sharing of tea. Table sponsorships are available (\$10,000/\$5,000/\$2,500). Individual seats are \$250; \$200 for Urasenke members; and \$175 for JCCH members. For more information, visit www.jcch.com or call (808) 945-7633 Ext. 46.

MOLOKAI GUZEIJI SOTO MISSION OBON FESTIVAL

Saturday, July 30 • 6:00pm – 10:00pm • Molokai Guzeiji Soto Mission Temple

Visit the Cultural Center booth at the annual bon dance event on Moloka'i. The center will have keiki make-n-take activities and select items from our Gift Shop on sale throughout the night. Members will receive 10% off merchandise.



CALIFORNIA HOTEL EXHIBITION AND BOOK EVENT

Sunday, August 14 • 1:00pm • Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles, California



The Cultural Center's *The California Hotel & Casino: Hawai'i's Home Away from Home* traveling exhibit opened at the Japanese American National Museum on May 28. On August 14, there will be a book event featuring Dennis M. Ogawa and John M. Blink, the co-authors of the companion book. The two authors will discuss the early days of the property and sign books following the event. JCCH members that show their membership card will get in free.

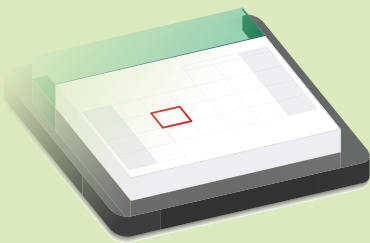
MARTIAL LAW IN WARTIME HAWAII DISCUSSION WITH GREG ROBINSON AND TOM COFFMAN

Wednesday, August 17 • 6:30pm – 7:30pm • Gallery Theater

Join two noted historians for a discussion of the unique but nearly forgotten history of martial law in Hawai'i during World War II, with a focus on the "local Japanese" who were central figures in the larger struggle for constitutional rights for all groups. Greg Robinson is an Associate Professor of History at l'Université du Québec À Montréal whose most recent book is *A Tragedy of Democracy: Japanese Confinement in North America*, (Columbia University Press, 2009). Tom Coffman is writer and producer whose most recent projects are the award-winning video *The First Battle* and a project on martial law for the Judiciary History Center.

Photo Credit: Rev. and Mrs. Toshio Hirano Collection, 1942





Mark your calendar!

EDO SATO KAGURA, JAPANESE SHRINE MUSIC AND DANCE A TALK AND DEMONSTRATION BY JAPAN VISITING ARTIST KYOSUKE SUZUKI

Wednesday, August 24 • 1:00pm – 2:00pm • Community Gallery

Kyosuke Suzuki is the transverse flute player for the Japan Folkloric Dance Troupe and is also one of Japan's leading Edo Sato Kagura (festival and shrine music and dance) musicians and is considered one of the top lion dancers in the Tokyo style. Suzuki has been performing with taiko artist Kenny Endo since 1980, first as members of Sukeroku Taiko, Europalia Japan, and as a member of the Kenny Endo Taiko Ensemble (Tokyo). This demonstration is presented by the Cultural Center in collaboration with the East West Center and Taiko Arts Center.



29TH OKINAWAN FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 3 • 9:00am – 6:00pm • Kapiolani Park

Sunday, September 4 • 9:00am – 4:30pm • Kapiolani Park

This two day event celebrates the rich history and culture of Okinawa. Come visit the Cultural Center booth to make a *hachimaki* and to learn about our latest programs and events.

Join us for the debut of the new wayside exhibition *Right from Wrong: Honoring the Lessons of Honouliuli Internment Camp* at the festival. Developed for the Cultural Center by MBFT Productions, the exhibition highlights the past and present of Honouliuli. The exhibition was made possible by the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program and the Island Insurance Foundation.

Shippoyaki Workshop

Come and learn the exciting Japanese art of enameling during the Shippoyaki Workshop led by award-winning enamel and cloisonné artist, Kazuko Inomata Sensei at the Cultural Center and for the first time in Hilo at the Hawai'i Japanese Center. Students will learn how to make their own one-of-a-kind ornamental pieces in which various colors of enamel are used to produce unique designs on a base of metal or ceramic object.

Friday, August 19 • 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Saturday, August 20 • 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

JCCH First Floor Conference Room

Saturday, August 27 • 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Hawai'i Japanese Center

JCCH Parking: Free with validation
Registration deadline: Friday, August 12
Cost per day:

- \$15 for JCCH members
- \$20 for non-members

In addition to registration fees, students pay \$5 for materials to Inomata Sensei on the day of the workshop. Cash is appreciated!

- Workshop space is limited and participation slots are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis with receipt of application and payment.
- The Cultural Center will confirm your workshop participation within two weeks of receiving your application form and payment.
- Cancellation prior to 72 hours notice will be reimbursed in full.



APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

JCCH Membership # (required for member discount): _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Please check one:

I would like to attend the Friday, August 19 (1 pm - 4 pm) class

I would like to attend the Saturday, August 20 (9 am - 12 pm) class

I would like to attend the Saturday, August 20 (1 pm - 4 pm) class

I would like to attend the Saturday, August 27 (12 pm - 3 pm) class (Hilo)

TOTAL ENCLOSED = _____

Enclosed is my check (payable to the JCCH)

Please charge my credit card: Visa MasterCard

#: _____

Account Number

Exp. Date

Authorized Signature:

For more information, call Derrick Iwata at (808) 945-7633 Ext. 25 or email iwata@jcch.com.

To register, please return this form and payment to:

*Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, 2454 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96826
or fax to 808-944-1123.*



Kansha Donor List

Donations are from April - May 2011

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Sekiya of Fukuoka/Hawaii Endowment Fund

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In memory of Janet Kanja - Kiane French (Donors) • In memory of Keiichi Okihiro - Anonymous (Donors)

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May Leiko Imamura-Uruu (Donors)

THINKING OUT LOUD
Talking Issues, Taking Action
KZOO 1210AM
Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm
Phone: (808) 941-5966
Email: jch@am1210kzoo.com



Thinking Out Loud celebrated another milestone with its 100th show on May 16 and the popular talk-story community forum still has the community talking. So tune in, call in and start Thinking Out Loud!

July 4
 Community-Based Repatriation:
 Whose Culture is it?
 (Guest: Aaron Fox)

August 1
 Stemming the Brain Drain
 Through Local Commitment
 (Guest: Nicole Velasco)

July 11
 The National Park Service and
 the Honouliuli Site
 (Guest: Suzanne Bott)

August 8
 Okinawan Identity
 (Guest: Pete Doktor)

July 18
 Building a Community
 of Readers
 (Guest: Jed Gaines)

August 15
 TBA

August 22
 Girl Fest Hawaii
 (Guest: Kathryn Xian)

July 25
 JCCH Book Club: *How Sakura*
Saved New Year's
 (Guest: Andrea Hiura and
 Marissa Machida)

August 29
 JCCH Book Club: *Na Kua 'aina*
Living Hawaiian Culture
 (Guest: Davianna McGregor)

Thinking Out Loud is sponsored by the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities, "We the People" Initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities, University of Hawai'i Center for Japanese Studies, and the University of Hawai'i College of Social Sciences.

Mahalo
 to our Corporate Members!



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JCCH members are now entitled to special group discounts on personal automobile and homeowners insurance with Island Insurance. Protecting Hawai'i's families since 1939, Island Insurance is recognized as one of the Top 50 property & casualty insurance companies in the nation and is rated "A" for financial strength by AM Best and Fitch Ratings. For more information, call your independent agent or (808) 643-4000.

Membership Form

Yes! Sign me up!

Membership directly supports the educational and cultural programs and exhibitions at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i.

- \$15 Student (with copy of valid student ID)
- \$35 Individual
- \$50 Family (two adults + two children 17 and under)
- \$1,000 Legacy (lifetime, one person)

New Member Renewing Member

Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

 Name

 Mailing Address

 City State Zip Code

 Telephone

 Email

For Family Memberships Only

 Name of second adult Gender (M/F)

 Name of Child 1 Age

 Name of Child 2 Age

In addition to my membership, enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of \$_____ in support of JCCH programs and activities.

Total (Membership+Donation): \$_____

Payment

- Visa MasterCard Check (payable to JCCH)

 Card number Exp. Date

 Signature

Please complete form and mail with payment to
2454 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96826.

Complete list of membership benefits available online at
www.jcch.com.

July 2011



**Japanese Cultural
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2454 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96826

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Proceeds from the Gift Shop support Cultural Center programs.

New in the Gift Shop!



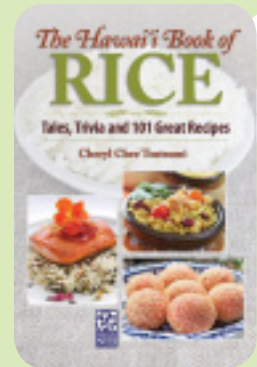
Kagami Mochi Charm
\$10.00



Rainbow Shave Ice
Dangle Earrings
\$20.00



Sushi Post Earrings
\$10.00



The Hawai'i Book of Rice
by Cheryl Chee Tsutsumi
\$15.95

New Jewelry from A Jillion Pieces!

Charms, rings, and dangle and post earrings from A Jillion Pieces are now in the gift shop. These cute items are made to look like local Hawaiian and Japanese food, including rainbow shave ice, spam musubi, and daifuku mochi!

The Hawai'i Book of Rice celebrates rice and the many ways it touches our lives in Hawai'i. Anyone who's ever snacked on a SPAM® musubi, pounded mochi or had to "go home, cook rice" as a child will eat up this book of 101 "rice-ipes" — snacks and appetizers to entrées and desserts —and chapters on the history of rice in Hawai'i, rice legends and lore, and anecdotal stories from rice-loving locals.