



# UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

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## Hiyamikasa at the HCC!

By Jo Ige, 2018 Okinawan Festival Chair

**"Hiyamikasa! Rallying Together for Everyone's Success!"** proved to be a most befitting theme for this year's 36<sup>th</sup> Okinawan Festival. The Okinawan community of members, family and friends came together to make the big move from Kapiolani Park to the Hawaii Convention Center (HCC). There was a lot of anxiety and planning prior to the Labor Day weekend event but, thankfully, the majority of the attendees were excited to be there. Some of the positive comments mentioned the air-conditioned venue, clean restrooms, overall availability of seating, convenient access for the elderly and families, while still maintaining the familiarity of the Festival.

The Okinawan Festival is a volunteer-run event. The approximate number of volunteers that helped to make the Festival a success numbered well over 3,000 for the two-day event. Kudos to the late Jane Serikaku, former Executive Director, who worked with many Festival chairpersons, clubs, organizations, vendors, and friends from Okinawa during past Festivals. Her leadership was greatly missed, but with her



Taiko drummers energize the crowd. Photo by Gary Nakanishi

"can do" spirit in mind, we persevered. It is amazing how people will come together—sometimes at the last minute—to pitch in and provide the needed manpower. In 2019, the goal is to be better prepared with the specific tasks and duties of the many positions needed to help put on the Festival.

There are superheroes that helped to make the 36<sup>th</sup> Okinawan Festival a success. At the top of the list is the core committee that began planning for the Festival back in January: Courtney Takara, Paul Komeiji, Norman Nakasone, Jon Itomura, Ford Chinen, Cyrus Tamashiro, David Arakawa, Tom Yamamoto, Chris Shimabukuro, Mark Higa (all former festival chairpersons), Greg Kuwazaki, Lynn Miyahira, Val Kato, Tammy



The large crowd readies itself for the festivities. Photo by Greg Yamamoto

Namihira, Gainor Miyashiro, Dwight Ikehara, Earlyn Koizumi, Brandon Nakasone, Kent Billings, Mavis Gushiken, Hanae Higa, and Roy Arakaki.

Club representatives—experts in their booths and activities—made up the festival committee.

Monthly meetings, multiple charts, visits to the HCC, and many adjustments to the layouts were just a part of the move. Individual clubs and groups met during the year to prepare their booths and rooms. There are so many volunteers to thank and, without them, the Okinawan Festivals would not be possible—student groups from various high schools and a Boy Scout troop also joined our volunteer ohana. Throughout 2019, we hope to recognize others who are not mentioned here.

The Hawaii Convention Center's event team—the fearless four: Lois, Sherry, Helene and Chef Kevin—helped us before, during and after the event to make this a fabulous event. While they are used to coordinating large events at the HCC, this one even blew them away! However, they are already helping us to plan for 2019.

Backing us up at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC) was the super staff of Ford Chinen, Karen Kuba Hori, Bonnie Miyashiro, Kaaren Takara, Gary Jitchaku, Clayton Uza, Joanie Gushiken, Betty Kuwaye, and the HOC volunteers who constantly answered questions about the Festival as well as getting things ready to transport to and from the centers.

Continued on Page 3

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Hiyamikasa at the HCC!	Page 1
President's Message	Page 2
Hiyamikasa (cont. from pg 1)	Page 3
Okinawan Festival Photo Contest Winners	Page 4
Master Grant 'Sandaa' Murata Hou On Sha Toku/Shida Fusako Concert	Page 5
Pigs From The Sea Day/Yuntaku	Page 6
Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Opening (cont. from pg 9)	Page 7
Ikuyu Madin/Preserving Our Legacy	Pages 8 & 9
Mensore	Page 10
Mensore	Page 11
Club News/HUOA Donations	Page 12
Autumn Dance Matsuri/HOC Holiday Craft Fair	Page 13
Club News/Ginoza Son	Page 14
UJSH/Nenchosa/Student Exchange/Uchinaaguchi	Page 15
HUOA Schedule of Events/HOT Schedule	Page 16

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# President's Message

By Courtney Takara



## Haitai Gusuyo Chuuganabira!

Saying that September was a very busy month for HUAO would be an understatement. I finally have a chance to reflect about the amazing series of recent events and successes of our organization, especially the relocation of our Okinawan Festival and the celebration for the completion of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza.

I continue to receive compliments and overall positive feedback regarding the move to the Hawaii Convention Center (HCC). It has been heartwarming to hear stories about our *Nisei*, including my own grandmother, who made their way back to the Okinawan Festival after many years of being away due to the various challenges associated with being at Kapiolani Park. HCC also allowed for new experiences, such as educational exhibits, interactive lessons, and *awamori* tasting—all helping to further our mission to promote, perpetuate and preserve Okinawan culture. However, what impressed me the most was the number of supporters and volunteers who came out in full force to make our two-day festival a success! Congratulations to Jo Ige and the Okinawan Festival Committee!

While the Okinawan Festival may have been the big event of the weekend, we still had more to celebrate! On Monday, September 3, I was honored to stand side-by-side with Governor Ige, Mayor Caldwell and many of our friends from Okinawa to untie the maile lei in front of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza. So many individuals from HUAO and Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai (OHK) have dedicated their time to the completion of this project. Their bright smiles and tears of joy left me emotional as I stood in awe of the beautiful building. It is truly a testament to the strong bond between Hawaii and Okinawa.

Following the ceremony, we held the festival Aloha Party at HOC with about 700 guests! I'm pretty sure it was our largest Aloha Party, especially with the 400 friends from Okinawa. This of course resulted in a massive and very lively *kachashi* at the end of the evening.

If that wasn't enough, we still had the Natsumero Charity Concert and Fashion Show the following day. Then, we hosted the Autumn Okinawa Dance Matsuri (now the second largest indoor bon dance). The following weekend, we celebrated our 80-year old members at the United Japanese Society of Hawaii's Nenchocha luncheon. And, finally, we closed out the month with Governor Ige's proclamation of "Pigs From the Sea Day" and *Yuntaku* at Café Julia. It was



Mahalo to the OPG staff for visiting Hawaii to join us for the Okinawan Festival and HOP Celebration. Back Row (L-R): Masaru Yamakawa, Section Chief, International Exchange Division; Mark & Hanae Higa; Emeline & George Tamashiro; Satoko Kaneshi, Supervisor, International Exchange Division; and Cyrus Tamashiro. Front Row (L-R): David Arakawa; Takao Kadekaru, Director General, Department of Culture, Tourism and Sports; Courtney Takara; and Chris Shimabukuro.

### UCHINANCHU

Uchinanchu is the newsletter of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Although subject to change, issues will be published bi-monthly. Volunteer writers are welcome. Send your name, address and telephone number to Uchinanchu Newsletter, Hawaii United Okinawa Association, 94-587 Ukee St., Waipahu, Hawaii 96797. E-mail articles to [huaa@huaa.org](mailto:huaa@huaa.org). Uchinanchu reserves the right to edit all material for clarity and accuracy.

HUAO President ..... Courtney Takara  
 Interim Executive Director ..... Ford Chinen  
 Editorial/Production Services ..... MBFT Media: Arnold Hiura, Eloise Hiura and Hilma Fujimoto

#### ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Uchinanchu reaches over 9,700 households. For advertising rates and more information, contact us at: Tel: (808) 676-5400 – Email: [huaa@huaa.org](mailto:huaa@huaa.org) – [www.huaa.org](http://www.huaa.org)

definitely a busy but memorable September for us!

I am so proud of our organization and thankful to all of our members for their dedication. There are so many people to thank and acknowledge; I would need an entire issue and that still might not be enough. From the Festival attendees, entertainers and volunteers, visitors from Okinawa, donors and supporters of HOP, and all those who have contributed along the way – *Ippee niffee deebiru*. We have a few more months to go, so let's continue to rally together for everyone's success - *Hiyamikasa and Chibariyo!*



## UCHINANCHU

*Ippee Niffee Deebiru... Mahalo!*

*Uchinanchu* is our voice — the voice of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association, its members, and the “home” we all built together, the Hawaii Okinawa Center. By sharing information and experiences, Uchinanchu keeps us connected as a family, dedicated to preserving, sharing and perpetuating our Okinawan cultural heritage.

Every dollar donated — along with the valuable income from advertising - helps offset the cost of publishing *Uchinanchu*. HUAO sends a sincere *ippee niffee deebiru* to the following donors. Mahalo for keeping *Uchinanchu* alive and thriving.

#### Uchinanchu Donors August 1 to September 30, 2018.

- |                |   |                 |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
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### Please Kokua

Production costs for Uchinanchu have escalated due to increases in circulation, labeling expenses and postage. Your contribution to help defray some of the expenses is greatly appreciated.

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Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Home Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include this form with your donation and send to:

HUAO Newsletter Fund, 94-587 Ukee Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

## 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The year at a glance!

- Oct 27 "Mirukuy nu Kaji" - Shida Fusako Charity Concert, HOC
- Oct 29 Uchinanchu no Hi Celebration, HOC
- Nov. 17 "Hou On Sha Toku" – Grant "Sandaa" Murata Solo Recital, Hawaii Theatre
- Nov 29 "Geinou Kouryu Kouen (Yui) Vol. 2" – Ginoza Village Performance, HOC
- Nov 24-25 Winter Craft Fair, HOC
- Dec 5 Evening Craft Fair, HOC
- Jan 19 Uchinanchu of the Year & Installation Banquet, HOC

Check HUAO website – [www.huaa.org](http://www.huaa.org) for more information.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Uchinanchu of the Year and 69<sup>th</sup> Installation Banquet

Please mark January 19, 2019, on your calendars and join us for HUAO's Uchinanchu of the Year & 69<sup>th</sup> Installation Banquet.

Come and support your club's Uchinanchu of the Year, meet your incoming officers and advisors, and say thanks to this year's officers and advisors for their hard work! This is always an entertaining and memorable event.

## SEE YOU THERE!

**Hiyamikasa... continued from Page 1**

A very special development for the Festival came through the work of Lynn Miyahira, who met with our business friends and came up with five outstanding sponsors for the event. These included Zippy's, Sun Noodles, Island Insurance, Star Advertiser and Central Pacific Bank. Zippy's featured the month of August for Okinawan Festival with their Keiki menu. If you missed the shoyu pork plate, too late! It was really ono! Did you know that Mr. Hidehito Uki of Sun Noodles makes a special *soba* noodle just for the Festival and also taught Sandy Kaneshiro to make the broth just right? We are so thankful for their continued support along with the advertisements in the Star Advertiser and the CPB gang that volunteers each year. Island Insurance is a new sponsor but a very wise one that recognizes what makes the festival special is "family and friends coming out to work together." Mr. Tyler Tokioka saw the *Hiyamikasa* theme in action!

*Awamori* tasting was sponsored by the Consul General of Japan and was a success for those who attended. It brought in a different crowd and a host of top rated restaurants for the cocktail challenge and food pairings using various *awamori*. Thank you, Consul General Ito, Rumi Ariyoshi and especially Randy Kuba and committee for chairing this event.

Gordon Uehara captured the 2018 Festival theme and spirit in his colorful and attractive poster and t-shirts. The silhouette of the center's steel column palm trees and the guardian *shisa* made it a very distinctive commemorative shirt. HCC's publicity team gathered the members of Paranku Club of Hawaii, Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai, Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts and Senjukai Hawaii to pose for the welcome shots displayed online.

Member Jennifer Kumura from San Francisco created a special Festival website. Thank you to all the social media promoters who gave the Festival a hand with publicity! The Hawaii Herald's special festival issue

also provided information, while KZOO Radio aired informative clips throughout the month of August.

We made every effort to get the *Uchinanchu* newsletter out early as there were last-minute updates to include, but thanks to Arnold and Eloise Hiura, Hilma Fujimoto, and Alan Isara (who worked their magic on the Festival map) the issue made it out a few weeks before the Festival. All 5,000 issues at the festival were gone by early Sunday! Can you imagine? Back in March, we were hoping that we would get at least 30,000 people to attend our Festival!

Preparations for the Festival started in spring with the club booth chairpersons. These meetings grew from around 50 to over 125 by August. Each meeting detailed the location, size and content of the booths. Specific planning also included the recruitment of volunteers.

The countdown to Festival also included such preparations as wok-cleaning, *andamisu* and *tsukemono* prep one weekend prior to

the event. We also encountered Hurricane Lane—crossing our fingers that it would pass with little impact on the islands. The last Festival preparation meeting was held despite the rain and wind. We were happy that we had a covered venue and that most of the hard work to set up was going to be completed by HCC and ICS. Still, we were concerned about the what-ifs.

The Matson container (with festival equipment, building materials, and supplies) arrived at the HOC on Tuesday with the help of Tommy Tamashiro; tents went up at Jefferson on Wednesday, and unloading to the delivery truck (going to Jefferson site for the *andagi/andadog* and HCC) got help on Thursday from David Nakasone and the Wahiawa crew. They also reversed the trek on Monday (and can use some help next year).

It was a chicken skin moment on Thursday morning when the *Shuri-jo* backdrop was hung above the 60-foot stage with 500-plus chairs set up in front. It meant that the Festival was really happening. ICS set up the booths with the draped sections from noon to 8 p.m. The Festival floor booth captains and their crews began their set up. Signs went up; deliveries kept coming in at the dock. On Friday, the third floor room events joined in the preparation, with sound checks, decorations, and more signage. Everything was completed by 8:30 pm. (FYI - the festival ended Sunday at 4 p.m. and everyone was cleared out by 8 p.m.; with no need to return to HCC on Monday! The return to the container still occurred at HOC on Monday).



(L-R): David Arakawa, Dawn Ige, Keiko Ura and Gov. David Ige pause for a photo. Photo by Greg Yamamoto

## Search for Executive Director

**Hawaii United Okinawa Association is seeking to fill an Executive Director vacancy.**

The Executive Director (ED) serves as the general manager for the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC). The ED plans, manages, and directs the day-to-day activities of the HUOA staff to maintain and operate the facility as well as provide administrative support to HUOA Programs. Facilities include a banquet hall, meeting rooms, museum/gift shop, administrative offices and grounds.

The Executive Director works in concert with the Executive Council and works for the Board of Directors to develop and implement the HUOA's Strategic Plan. The ED maintains a close, collaborative relationship with member clubs, volunteers, community associations, civic organizations and government entities here as well as in Okinawa.

The successful candidate will have demonstrated experience in managing people and facilities, excellent oral and written communication skills, the proven ability to coordinate and manage multiple tasks, have specific knowledge of the HUOA, its programs and having the Uchinanchu spirit is a must. Ability to speak Japanese is a plus. Salary is negotiable.

Email your resume to: [edhuoa@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:edhuoa@hawaii.rr.com)

Or send to: Hawaii United Okinawa Association  
94-587 Ukee Street  
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797-4214



Youngsters are awed by the display of shisa. Photo by Gary Nakanishi

By 6 a.m. on Saturday the kitchen crew was already prepping and the festival volunteers came for the first shift. Purple wristbands indicated that these were volunteers. By 9 a.m. the crowd was waiting in the lobby and on the third floor. When the doors opened, it was nonstop Festival! Thank you everyone for your patience and attention to safety. We had many new things to see, music to listen to, lots of shopping, and so many friends and family to reconnect with. This opportunity for "Sharing Uchinanchu Aloha" was met with much happiness. Volunteers did a terrific job greeting people, providing service, and taking pride in being Uchinanchu.

Thank you to the performers who took their places on the stage and did a fabulous job! It was an amazing program! There were a number of

*Continued on Page 4*

# Okinawan Festival Photo Contest Winners

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association encourages documentation of the Okinawan Festival by sponsoring a photo contest. Our goal is to gather and archive photos from the Festival to preserve the rich history of Okinawan culture in Hawaii.

A total of three prizes were awarded: a winner for each theme (Culture, Ohana), and a Grand Prize winner for the best overall photo. Images are also posted online at [www.okinawanfestival.com](http://www.okinawanfestival.com).

## Grand Prize Winner (\$100):

**Photographer's Name: Warren Au**

Name of Photo: Exciting Eisa Energy!

Photo Description: Eisa performer from Chatan.



## Culture Winner (\$50):

**Photographer's Name: Chad Gibo**

Name of Photo: Kakegoe "Ha iya sasa!"

Photo Description: Hawaii's largest indoor bon dance invites many cultures to celebrate Okinawan traditions



## Ohana Winner (\$50):

**Photographer's Name: Stan Sakai**

Name of Photo: Friends

Photo Description: Young friends.



## Hiyamikasa... continued from Page 3

volunteers who helped backstage and in the dressing rooms. Our local groups are always so wonderful to see—the kids growing up playing *sanshin* and dancing; the familiar members who have now achieved certi-



fications in the performing arts, and the variety of numbers were delightful! The performers from Okinawa, many who also were in attendance for the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza celebration, were excited to perform for the Hawaii crowd. Performers upstairs on the mini stage, in *Yuimaaru* and *Bunkwanushima* (Cultural Village-Hui o Laulima) also wowed their audiences. The *bon* dance was a success with so many participants dancing to the beat in that huge circle! A special thank you to the video crew from Hawaii Okinawa Today and the Olelo team - check the listings for the festival showings.

The most visible volunteers are always in the food booths serving up the ono Okinawan Festival food. This year was a bit different with the *andagi/andadog* woks at Jefferson, and the food cooked in the state's largest kitchen

with the help of Chef Kevin and his staff and two concessions on the Festival level. It was incredible to watch the volunteers working so hard cooking the foods and delivering it to the booths. Unfortunately, the food did run out. The volume of people far outweighed the increased order of food anticipated for the Festival. The lines of people were long and to their credit, those in line



Hula dancers from Okinawa. Photo by Greg Yamamoto

were so very patient.

On a personal note, the most gratifying moments were the sharing by individuals who brought their elders to the festival. Many had not been able to attend in the past, but were able to enjoy themselves at this new venue. One person commented, "Dad would never go to the Festival, but took a chance this year and had a wonderful time. He stood in the food line without complaining and even came back the next day and stood in line

*Continued on Page 5*

# Master Grant 'Sandaa' Murata Hou On Sha Toku - A Selfless Resolve With Sincere Honor & Gratitude

By Jodie Chiemi Ching

The late Clarence and Judith Murata adopted an infant unaware that he was destined to bring to Hawaii a new energy and influence through *uta-sanshin*. With the nurturing of Japanese American parents who supported his exploration of Japanese and Okinawan culture, Grant "Sandaa" Murata became a master of his craft.

Kenton Odo Sensei explains, "He started Afuso Ryu Choichi Kai in Hawaii as the only member with the support of his *sensei* (National Living Treasure of Japan) Choichi Terukina in Okinawa, as well as family and friends." There were some challenges, Odo continues. "Not knowing he was Okinawan at the time, he even took flack for not being Okinawan. Also, being *sansei* (third generation) where English was the language spoken at home, he had to learn to read and write Japanese and *Uchinaaguchi*."

Presenting the upcoming performance entitled "*Hou On Sha Toku - A Selfless Resolve With Sincere Honor & Gratitude*" is Master Grant "Sandaa" Murata's way of saying "thank you" to his ancestors, *sensei* and elders. It is also a celebration of "having over 200 students past and present, two *shihan* (master instructors), five *kyoshi* (certified instructors) and over 100 *mago-deshi* (descendant students)," says Odo Sensei.

Master Terukina has expressed it is time for his student Master Murata to celebrate the gift of music that he has shared in Hawaii and abroad, and

humbly present this solo recital in gratitude by dedicating it to his adoptive parents and his adoptive grandmother, the late Margaret Hanayo Murata.

On Saturday, November 17, 2018, the Ryukyu Koten Afuso-Ryu Ongaku Kenkyu Choichi Kai U.S.A. will present Hawaii's first solo *uta-sanshin* recital at the historic Hawaii Theatre. The performance, entitled "*Hou On Sha Toku - A Selfless Resolve With Sincere Honor & Gratitude*," will feature Master Grant "Sandaa" Murata honoring his ancestors, all of his *Sensei* and elders. Their guidance continues to help shape and influence his dedication to preserving and carrying the treasured art form of *uta-sanshin* to future generations.

Through the artistry of Murata Sensei, "*Hou On Sha Toku*" will unfold the heartfelt story of his life and the gift of music. Featured are classical Okinawan dance, performances from his students, as well as top musicians from Okinawa, including his *Sensei*, Grand Master Choichi Terukina, Japan's National Living Treasure.

General Seating and VIP Tickets are available online at [www.hawaii-theatre.com](http://www.hawaii-theatre.com), at the Hawaii Theatre Box Office, or the Hawaii Okinawa Center. This is a *Gannenmono* event and endorsed by the Hawaii United Okinawa Association.

## Hiyamikasa... continued from Page 4

again." Another said, "Appreciated the ADA restrooms for wheelchairs and walkers."

With the increase in Festival attendance, planning for 2019 is very important to address the shortfalls of this year—it was such an unexpectedly huge crowd! While many things sold out, it gave the committee much to prepare in the future. The leadership team of committee chairs and club members are ready for the challenge and look forward to your participation again.

There is nothing like getting involved and working together with so many different people. There isn't enough space to thank everyone, and I probably missed mentioning many of you. Many thanks to each individual and groups who made the time to come out and be a part of the Festival. Each and every one of you is special. This Festival was successful because of you. *Ippee niffee deebiru!*

## Shida Fusako Dance Concert October 27, 2018

Master Ryukyu Classic Dancer Shida Fusako and her students will be joined by members from five local dance schools at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on Saturday, October 27, 2018. This is the first charity concert event ever staged by the master dancer.

The producer is Keiko Ura and the master of ceremonies will be newscaster James Tengan of NHK World Japan.

The proceeds will be donated to Hawaii United Okinawa Association in support of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza. Tickets are available at local dance and music schools, Toma Enterprise, and the Hawaii Okinawa Center, telephone 676-5400. Tickets are \$35.

~ CHOYO RYU ~  
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James I Hanyu Okinawa Kai Hawaii Shida

For additional information contact the HUOA office at 676-5400 or [info@huoa.org](mailto:info@huoa.org)

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# Pigs From The Sea Day

By Dan Nakasone, Sansei Uchinanchu and a Wahiwa Okinawa Kyo Yu Kai member

The significance was palpable by all who were present when the Honorable Governor David Ige, the first governor in the country of Okinawan descent, proclaimed September 27, 2018, as “Pigs from the Sea Day.” It was in recognition of one of the world’s greatest humanitarian efforts led by Uchinanchu of Hawaii that happened on that day 70 years ago. On September 27, 1948, 536 pigs onboard the U.S.S. John Owen made landfall at White Beach, a U.S. Naval base on eastern coast of Okinawa. The pigs had survived a treacherous 6,000-mile overseas journey from Portland, Oregon to help restart farms that were decimated by the Battle of Okinawa.

The “Pigs from the Sea” symbolizes a much greater post war relief movement from Hawaii, which sent 151 tons of clothing, books, school supplies, medical supplies and a host of other goods—even 750 milking goats—to help bring relief for the people in great need. Hawaii also raised funds to build the first institution



Hiroaki interviews 90-year-old Otomi Hirakawa.

for higher learning, the University of the Ryukyus. There are many Uchinanchu here and in Okinawa who are familiar with portions of this story, but most people today are unaware of this post WWII humanitarian effort. Moreover, what happened to the relief supplies after being received in Okinawa was virtually unknown. I had solicited a friend, Chizu Inoue, Chief Editor of Okinawa’s *Momoto Magazine*, to help me uncover what I felt was the missing “last chapter” of this remarkable story. We were joined by Hiroaki Hara, a librarian of the Okinawa Prefecture Library, who is currently in Hawaii as an East-West Center Obuchi Fellow at UH Manoa.

I went to Okinawa in October 2017 to research this story not knowing what we might find. We had three objectives: 1) To find credible documentation on how the relief supplies were managed and distributed; 2) To

document firsthand oral history. The human element is essential in providing insight and perspective as well as the emotional impact; and 3) That our findings be shared with current and future generations in Hawaii and Okinawa.

Just after WWII officially ended must have been a period of great upheaval, but I was hopeful that our research would yield answers. It did, and it was heartwarming to find the level of care and effort that went into getting the supplies to the people. And we are at the cusp of being able to document firsthand oral history from those who gave and received relief supplies. We were fortunate to have met individuals with firsthand knowledge and to hear their heartfelt stories. Our Issei would be proud in knowing that

their efforts played a significant role in the post war recovery of Okinawa. (*The Hawaii Herald* August 17, 2018 issue has the full story: “Aloha from Hawaii to Okinawa.”)

The *Momoto Magazine* 2018 Summer issue was dedicated to Hawaii with the relief effort as its cover story. And the Okinawa Prefecture Library will unveil a relief effort display in October 2019 in conjunction with the World Uchinanchu Day on October 30. Hiroaki Hara is continuing to do research for the OPL display and for articles he is currently writing for the *Okinawa Times*. If you have any leads on documentation or oral history opportunities please contact him at: [imp.hara@gmail.com](mailto:imp.hara@gmail.com) or Dan Nakasone at: [adventure@hawaii.com](mailto:adventure@hawaii.com)



Pigs From the Sea Day

document firsthand oral history. The human element is essential in providing insight and perspective as well as the emotional impact; and 3) That our findings be shared with current and future generations in Hawaii and Okinawa.



Nisei women packing clothes at Jikoen Hongwanji

## Yuntaku 2018

By Starla Takara, Yuntaku Chairperson



Hanae Higa, Yuntaku committee, with UH students from Okinawa.

Under the twinkling lights and nestled between the buildings in Downtown Honolulu, the sound of *eisa* beats filled the air. On Friday, September 28, 2018, *Yuntaku* was in full swing in the beautiful courtyard of Cafe Julia at the YWCA.

“Yuntaku” means to “talk story” or “chat” in *Uchinaaguchi*. Attendees had the opportunity to talk story with one another as they searched for individuals to help them complete their *Yuntaku* bingo card. They chatted with others at the six cultural booths: Hawaii United Okinawa Association, Afuso-Ryu, Ryukyukoku

Matsuri Daiko Hawaii, Young Okinawans of Hawaii, Chinagu Eisa Hawaii, and Shinka Hawaii, to complete their cultural booths passport. Through *Yuntaku*, Okinawans and Okinawans-at-heart could connect with one another and the *Uchinanchu* culture.

Entertainment throughout the night featured performances by Chinagu Eisa, HOCA and Afuso-Ryu. Games such as *Uchina Janken*, *andagi* whistling and *gime-gime* musical chairs added even more fun to the atmosphere. Attendees also had the opportunity to win an Amazon Echo, \$100 Amazon gift card, and a variety of prizes through lucky drawings sold by the 66th Cherry Blossom Court of the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce.

On behalf of the committee, we would like to thank Cafe Julia and the numerous donors and supporters who made the event possible.

Planning such an event is not possible without the hard work of committee members from Shinka: Mark Higa, Hanae Higa, Lara Karamatsu, Gina Maeda, Lynn Miyahira Krupa, Ike Nagamine, Kurt Nagamine, Ayumi Sakamoto, and Lisa Tamashiro.

Shinka is the 50<sup>th</sup> HUOA member club whose mission is to perpetuate the Okinawan culture and connect individuals to the Okinawan identity through social and cultural interactions. Shinka is aimed at individuals between the ages of 21-39. Interested in joining? Visit [shinkahawaii.org](http://shinkahawaii.org) or contact us at [shinkahawaii@gmail.com](mailto:shinkahawaii@gmail.com) for more information.



Cherry Blossom Court selling lucky number tickets.



Afuso Ryu members playing Sanshin.

# Making Imprints for Our Future Generations

## Hundreds from Okinawa and Hawaii Welcome the Newly Completed Hawaii Okinawa Plaza

By Mark Higa

In our traditional fashion, after months of planning and days of sometimes grueling work at the Okinawan Festival, many of us eagerly awaited the Aloha Party on Labor Day. The annual rituals of clean-up and then celebration, allow us to wish each other congratulations and *otsukaesama deshita*. This year, however, was certainly unique—a year of firsts—and also a year of trials and tribulations. Ultimately, the feeling of *hiyamikasa* ran through our veins as we remained courageous and committed to lay a foundation for the future together.

This year, we welcomed hundreds of our friends from Okinawa to participate in the Okinawan Festival, and also to celebrate the completion of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza project. A crowd of over 500 people made up of supporters and donors from Okinawa and Hawaii attended the blessing for this project that symbolizes the result of collaboration, hard work, and hope for the continued flourish-

ing of our Okinawan culture in Hawaii.

Attendees were seated facing our glorious new plaza building and watched in awe as Chatan Eisa rung in the ceremony with a soul-shaking



The untying of the maile by project supporters in Hawaii and Okinawa represented our connection to the future. Photos by Milton Hee, Eyes of Hawaii



The crowd joins hands for the singing of Hawaii Aloha led by HUOA Past Presidents George Bartels and Tom Yamamoto. Photos by Milton Hee, Eyes of Hawaii

performance of drumming and hoisting of the *hatagashira* that was gifted to HUOA. *Shishimai* provided added excitement for the audience while Daiichi Hirata's echoing chant surely brought our hearts and minds together with our ancestors who helped pave the way for this journey and blessing.

Governor David Ige, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell and Consul General Koichi Ito, who all played pivotal roles in the completion of the Plaza, offered heartfelt words of congratulations and a strong reminder of the sense of *yuimaaru* always demonstrated by the *Uchinanchu* community. Some of the leaders from Hawaii and Okinawa who were instrumental in stewarding the efforts for fundraising and execution of the project shared personal messages marking this significant moment. Speakers included George Tamashiro, Chris Shimabukuro, and Mark Higa, as well as many of our biggest supporters from Okinawa: Asami Ginoza, Chair of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Fundraising Committee in Okinawa;

Continued on Page 9

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# Bridging from Generation to Generation - For Our Children!

# *Ikuyu Madin*

Rallying Together for Everyone's Success

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association would like to acknowledge the following individuals, families, organizations and companies who have donated or pledged to our Campaign. Since our last report we received \$48,494.40. The HUOA is truly grateful for your support and the confidence you have displayed through your generous donations and humbly ask for your continued support.

We are appreciative to the clubs and their members who have continually supported us. We would like to welcome Steven & Stephanie Saito and Alice S. Uyehara to our 200 for 2M Campaign.

*Magukuru Kara Ippee Niffee Deebiru* – from our hearts, thank you very much.

## IKUYU MADIN KAI MEMBERS OF THE 200 FOR 2M CAMPAIGN

*(Listed Members have either donated or pledged \$10,000 or more to our current campaign starting July 1, 2014.)*

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*Donations listed below were received August 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018.*



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# Preserving Our Legacy

2017 TO 2018-ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM



We are in our last month of our Annual Giving Campaign, members embracing the theme “*Hiyamikasa – Rallying together for everyone’s success,*” have generously come forth and contributed towards the success of our organization. We would especially like to express our gratitude to the many donors whose gift was in memory of Jane Serikaku.

This year’s program we received 805 donations, representing \$125,373.40. We are happy to report through your generosity, we exceeded last year’s campaign. We truly appreciate your support and the confidence you have shown in us and hope for your continued support for our 2018/2019 Annual Giving Campaign. *Ippee Niffee Deebiru!*

The following list of donors reflects contributions from August 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018.

**GOLD - (\$1,000 TO \$2,499)**

In Memory of Jane Serikaku by Tamotsu Miyagi, Yoshimichi Yonamine, Mitsuru Hanmine, Masaru Nakasone, Takashi Uezu, Jun Shimada, Shin Uehara, Shinako Fukumura, Megumu Ishimine, Hidemasa Tokuyama, Hitoshi Chip Miyazato, Hirokazu Tshako, Yoshiichi Higa, Kenichi Nakayoshi, Kazuhiko Kawamitsu, Tadashi Oshiro, Naoto Oshiro, Daisuke Oshiro, Hiroshi Tamaki, Manabu Taira, Naomi Yamauchi, Takako Maruyama, Sayuri Shimabukuro, Ayumi Arakaki, Keiko Kakazu, Tadato Miyagawa, Haruki

Shimabukuro, Chiaki Inamine, Ryoko Kamizato, Kayano Hika, Tomomi Chinen, Hiromi Niizato, and Mei Miyagi.

Janice Toyama

**SILVER - (\$500 TO \$999)**

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In Memory of Holly Emi Takara by Howard & Jane Takara

**CONTRIBUTOR - (\$100 TO \$249)**

In Memory of Jane Serikaku by Yoshikazu Matsubara Warren Au

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In Memory of Lorraine Kaneshiro with love from Lorraine Fund

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## Making Imprints for Our Future - continued from Page 7

Choko Takayama, President of the Okinawa Hawaii Association; and representing the Okinawa Prefectural Government, Takao Kadekaru, Director General of the Department of Culture, Tourism and Sports. HUAO President Courtney Takara expressed a deep *kansha*, as she represented the many gen-



Kahu Kelekona Bishaw leads our entry with a blessing.

erations of beneficiaries of the HUAO whose lives will be enriched by this project.

The messages were resonating, acknowledging that the project epitomized the values of our *Uchinanchu* community: with a pure, resolute purpose and a selfless dedication, the hands of many can make seemingly impossible feats reality. We were also reminded that this joining of com-



Chatan Eisa leads the opening procession with Izumizaki Hatagashira in the background.

munities in Hawaii and Okinawa for a wonderful cause has helped forge many friendships over the years and brought numerous enriching events to Hawaii that support HUAO’s mission to preserve, perpetuate and promote the Okinawan culture.

Speakers reflected on entire communities and countless individuals who made this possible, including those who are no longer with us physically but are always with us in spirit, such as our late Executive Director Jane Serikaku. We were all overcome with a warmth in our hearts. Everyone

shared a feeling of euphoria, gratefulness, and hope.

Beautifully crafted wood plaques were presented to our dedicated supporters from Okinawa, and a star-studded group that included Sadao China, Daiichi Hirata, Hajime Nakasone, Tatsuya Shimabukuro and Toru Yonaha, sang an acapella rendition of *Ashimiji Bushi*. As the maile lei was untied and Kahu Kelekona Bishaw offered his blessings, we marked the start of a new chapter in our journey together! The crowd formed a massive circle, joining hands for the singing of

Photos by Milton Hee, Eyes of Hawaii



Courtney Takara and Chris Shimabukuro present Asami Ginoza with a special plaque of appreciation.



Shishimai from Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts mesmerize the crowd.

Hawaii Aloha and closed the ceremony with our celebratory *kachashi*.

*Ippee Niffee Deebiru* to all of you who lent your hearts, minds and hands to this endeavor. Because of each of you – we share this bright hope to provide for our children, grandchildren and future generations to sustain our programs, educational opportunities and facilities. Like the Hawaii Okinawa Center, this is your project and your home that we all played a role in creating. As we watch tenants start occupying the Plaza and carry forth with fundraising efforts, let’s continue to find ways to protect our home and work together toward everyone’s collective successes!



HUAO Past President Tom Yamamoto holds a picture of our late beloved Executive Director, Jane Serikaku.

# Mensore

welcome!



## OHK Calls on Governor David Ige



Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai members made a courtesy visit to Governor Ige during their trip to Hawaii.

## Okinawa Mayors Visit Hawaii



Kumejima Town Mayor Haruo Oota and Onna Village Mayor Yoshimi Nagahama visited Hawaii on a mission to research Visitor Industry Impacts to Communities and Coral Environments.

## Students from Miyakojima!



Nago Students Visit, August 21, 2018



## Kin Town Mayor Visits Okinawan Festival



President-elect Jo Ige and Kin Club members welcomed Kin Town Mayor Hajime Nakama and delegation who came for the Okinawan Festival and HOP celebration.

## American Consulate Visits



Left: Akinori Hayashi, Political Specialist, American Consulate General Naha. Right: Shinji Hosokawa, Political Specialist, Consulate General of the United States of America Sapporo Japan.

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## Yaese Students Visit HOC



## Welcome Students



Okinawan students from an afterschool program established by former Center of Okinawan Studies staff member Rinda Yamashiro visit HOC.

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# CLUB NEWS

*our clubs, our future*

## Ginowan Club Makes Andagi at the Festival

Yes! *Andagi* was prepared and cooked from scratch! Ginowan Club's involvement with the Okinawan Festival is primarily focused on mixing and cooking *andagi*. At the same time, however, members are also involved in other activities, such as the parade, *paranku*, and cultural activities. After a joyous picnic in August, prepping *andagi* for the Festival was



Pat Miyashiro's 6 a.m. *andagi* batter mixing crew.

a major undertaking. Chairperson Sandra Nishimoto organized volunteers and did a tremendous job in recruiting 160 volunteers—many covering several shifts because of the need for more hands. Shift captains were: Sandra Nishimoto, Wilma Ogimi, June and Kelli-Ann Zakimi and Pat Miyashiro.



Lauren Suekawa, David Okaneku, and Dot Aragaki cooking *andagi*.

It was a challenging experience to be separated miles from the Festival site and to be lacking some necessities, but making new friends and catching up with old friends and family made for a happy crew!



Pat Miyashiro, hat in hand, with Wilma Ogimi viewing perfectly made *andagi*.

## Ginowan Picnic 2018

By Sean Tamashiro

This year's Ginowan picnic took place on August 5—a little later than usual. As usual, we got there early to reserve our spot and get good parking. It is a good feeling when everything is set up and you know you can take it easy.

When the club's equipment arrived, we helped to offload the vehicles. I think people appreciate it when others help, because I know I do. Having helped in the past makes the work easier to anticipate. We assemble the roof frame, put the tarp on, put legs on one side of the tent, then the other side, and tighten the screws. Many people are required to walk the tent to its final location. We use a tree as a point of reference and then secure the tent. We move the tables under the tent and load the tables with prizes and other items like the shave ice machine.

This year my oldest son stayed home to catch up on his homework, so my youngest son helped out in his place. It's good to see how much my youngest son has grown. When we are finished, we went back to our tent to relax, eat donuts,



Cannot hold any more from the Produce/Prize Pick Up!

and drink coffee. If anyone else arrives later and needs help, we go and help.

At this early hour, the sun comes into our tent at an angle. Because we will be there all day, we try and block the sun the best we can with a mesh screen, which helps until the sun moves higher overhead. There is a nice breeze from an approaching storm.

The games begin with a warm-up of hot potato. I did not last very long and I think the winner was a young boy. Some of the games take great coordination, speed and focus. It's always great to see people outside their comfort zone enjoying themselves and

seeming very silly. Many people have tried to enhance their skills over the years, but have yet to master these games. Others only require luck.

Some of the games have very weird names like *akayamiso*. I hope I spelled this correctly. We take a break for lunch and listen for our lucky numbers to be called for some good prizes. Once the food settles, the games start up again. The two most popular games occur after lunch: Produce/Prize

*Continued on Page 15*



## HUOA DONATIONS

August 1 to September 30, 2018



*HUOA sends a sincere ippee niffee deebiru to the following donors:*

Anonymous  
Yaeko Arakaki  
Hawaii Katsuren Chojin Kai  
Kumiko Higa  
Robert Miyasato  
Jane Miyoko Nakasone  
Okinawa Prefecture Department of  
Culture, Tourism and Sports  
Joyce N. Patterson  
Royal Contracting, Co., Ltd.

### AUTUMN DANCE DONATIONS

Hatsuko Gushiken  
Karen Kuba Hori  
Iwakuni Odori Ai Ko Kai  
Goya Ohana  
Geno Oshiro  
Shelby Oshiro

Bevilynn Tomei  
Courtney Takara

### FESTIVAL DONATION

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii  
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**HUOA VIDEO**  
Steve Arashiro

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In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Yonega & Fujiko Arashiro  
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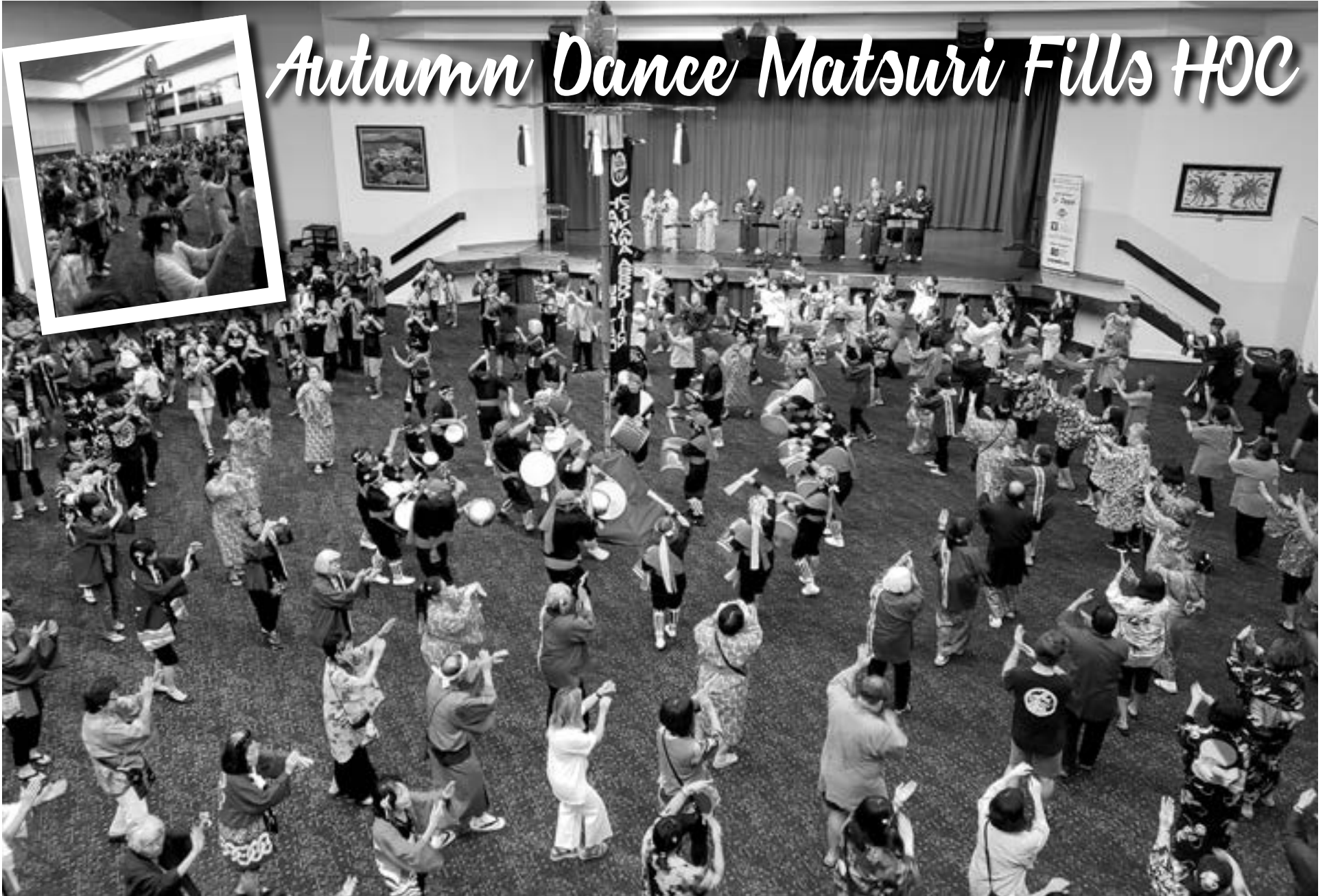
In Memory of Mary Hori by Karen Kuba Hori

### The following individuals and clubs have generously donated In Memory of Jane F. Serikaku:

Arnold & Eloise Hiura,  
Hui O Lailima, Hui Okinawa,  
Jocelyn Ige, Dorothy Hoe,  
Tom & Harriet Kitazawa,  
Robert & Agnes Kiyuna,  
Roy & June Nakamatsu,  
Dorene Niibu, Doris Oshiro,  
Kaaren Takara, Clayton & Cynthia Uza,  
Yonabaru Cho Jin Kai, Kinuko Yamazato

In Memory of Aunty Jane Serikaku  
by Susanne Gibo

In Honor of Jane Serikaku by  
Michelle A. Whaley.



# Autumn Dance Matsuri Fills HOC

The 2018 Autumn Dance Matsuri was held on Saturday, September 15, at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Ippe Nifee Deebiru to everyone who joined us for the Autumn Okinawa Dance Matsuri!

## Hawaii Okinawa Center Holiday Craft Fairs

This holiday season the Hawaii United Okinawa Association will again host two of Hawaii's premier Craft Fairs. On November 24th to November 25th, the Hawaii Okinawa Center will open its doors for the thousands of anxious shoppers trying to find that special holiday gift and don't forget to reserve December 5th for our "An Evening in Waipio Craft Fair."

### 2018 Winter Craft Fair

November 24th - 25th  
Saturday - 9am to 3pm  
Sunday - 9am to 2pm

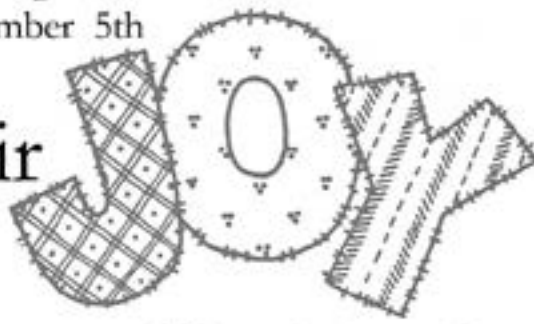
### Hawaii Okinawa Center

94-587 Ukee St. - Waipio Gentry  
Parking available at the Center &

across the street at the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza

Early Entry!!! A donation of \$5.00 or more will entitle you to enter the banquet hall at 8:30am, thirty minutes before the general public. We will also be collecting non-perishable food items for Hawaii Foodbank.

(Donor to receive a coupon for one free andagi, one coupon per person - per day)



### "An Evening in Waipio"

December 5th - Wednesday

5:30pm to 9:00pm

Great Shopping  
Delicious Food - Andagi  
Santa - Silent Auction

A special mabalo to organizing clubs Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club, Hui Makaala, Hui O Lanlima, Ishikawa Shijin Kai and Onna Sonjin Kai for the Winter Craft Fair and Itoman Shijin Kai, Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai and Kin Cbojin Kai for the Evening Craft Fair.



## Ginoza Village Performance— 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai

On Thursday, November 29, 2018, Ginoza Village will be presenting a special performance at the Hawaii Okinawa Center to help celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai. "Ginoza Son, Geinou Kouryu Kouen (Yui) Vol. 2" will be the second performance by Ginoza Village



in Hawaii. For the first performance two years ago, the village sent performers from the Kanna and Matsuda districts.

This year, they will be featuring performers from Sokei and Ginoza, the two other large districts in Ginoza Village. If you were able to join us in 2016, you will remember the impressive performances, including Matsuda district's "shishimai" and Kanna district's renditions of "choja no ufusu" and "shochikubai." Knowing that the performers from Ginoza Village gave such a



memorable performance two years ago, we eagerly anticipate another great performance this November!

Tickets for the event will be available through the Hawaii Okinawa Center, or through the Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai (contact information below). The ticket price of \$35 includes admission and dinner.

Ginoza Village separated from Kin Village (now Kin Town) in 1946, and two years later in 1948, the Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai was founded with 21 charter member families. The Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai will also have a separate 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration event the next day on Friday November 30, 2018 at the Manoa Grand Ballroom. For more information about this event, please contact David Shinsato from the Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai (davidts@hawaii.edu).

## Hawaii Shuri-Naha Celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



On September 29, 2018, the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the HOC Legacy Ballroom. Old and new faces mingled in the crowd of 200 members and guests, talking story, nibbling on pupus, sampling shots of Kuba Awamori and vinegar from Lotus Spirits, and Okinawan sweet potato *shochu* from the Hawaii Shochu Company. A group photo was taken to document this very auspicious event.

In addition, families picked up their 254-page commemorative book, which includes the Shuri and Naha club histories and features biographies of *issei* and *nisei* along with genealogical information. This commemorative book has been 16 years in the making. Its purpose is to preserve the history of the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club and to help the newer generations trace their roots, reconnect with their family and relatives, and appreciate their rich family and cultural heritage.

The celebration opened with a rousing *eisa* performance by RMD. Then our own homegrown talents were highlighted by Tamagusuku Ryu Senjukai, Frances Nakachi Kuba Sensei, and Jinpu Kai USA, Kin Ryosho Ryukyu Geino Kenkyusho, Cheryl Nakasone Sensei, performed with Afusu Ryu as *jikata*.

The program continued with heart-touching and stirring songs by Wayne Takamine, the Shuri-Naha Sanshin Sunshine Band of Mark and Hanae Higa, Kori-Jo Kochi and Dudley Yogi, and closed with Cyrus Tamashiro singing *Shimanchu nu Takara*, reminding us of our Hawaiian and Okinawan island treasures.

Each dues paying family member left the event with a souvenir bowl printed with the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo designed by Mark and Hanae Higa. A package of Sun Noodle Okinawa soba, donated by Hidehito and Keiko Uki, and a beautiful, microwavable, Okinawan fabric bowl holder made by Bobbi Kuba completed the keepsake set.

Club members placed a family item in our time capsule which will be opened at our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party 10 years from now in 2028. We look forward to seeing all our family and friends again at that celebration! *Karii!*



Chris Taylor, President of the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club; Jan Kawachi, Co-Chair Legacy Book Committee; and Tina Matano, Chairperson of 90th Anniversary Luncheon.

HAWAII (Ginoza Sonjin Kai) - OKINAWA (Ginoza Village) 70<sup>th</sup>

# Ginoza Son

Geinou Kouryu Kouen (Yui) Vol. 2

In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai

HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER  
2018. 11-29 (Thu)  
6:00 PM - DOORS OPEN / 6:15 PM - DINNER  
Tickets available for purchase through the Hawaii Okinawa Center.  
Cost: \$35  
Contact: 676-5400 or info@huoa.org  
Hosted by: Hawaii United Okinawa Association / Ginoza Village

## UJSH Hosts Annual Nenchosha Festival

This year, the United Japanese Society of Hawaii (UJSH) recognized 21 honorees at its 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Citizens Festival, or “Nenchosha Ian Engei Takai.” Of the 21 honorees, many were HUOA members and fellow *Uchinanchu* from the Lanakila Okinawa Nenchosha club. After lunch, we all gathered on stage for an *Uchinanchu* photo! 📷



## Wahiawa Okinawa Kyo Yu Kai Crowns 2018 Golf Tournament Winner

WOKYK congratulates Yoshiaki “Aki” Kakazu as this year’s tournament winner. Chairman James Oda did an outstanding job organizing the event alongside Miles Hakoda, Warren Hahn, Mark and Faye Oyasato, and Debra Oda.

Other recent winners of this event include: 2017-Mark Oyasato tied with Troy Kim; 2016-Nobu Tamanaha with Gary Jitchaku as overall winner; 2015-2012-Rodney Kaneshiro, Vern Miller, Tom Oyasato, and Jimmy Oda, respectively. 📷



Last year's winners with Aki Kakazu. (L-R): Troy Kim, Aki Kakazu, and Mark Oyasato.

## Uchinaa-guchi

(Okinawan language)

### Word of the Month

#### September

**ushi-deeku**, *n.* A women’s group dance, with hand drums and singing, to express gratitude for a rich harvest, usually held on the fifteenth day of the eight lunar month. [OBJ, OD]]

#### October

**wuunu**, *n.* [ono] An axe; a broadaxe with a handle large enough to be help with both hands. Also **wuun**, **uun**, **uuunu**. See also **yuuchi**<sup>2</sup>, **tiin**<sup>2</sup>, **ishiyuuchi**, **haa**<sup>2</sup>, **habu**<sup>2</sup>, **niri**.

(Excerpted, with permission, from the *Okinawan-English Wordbook*, by Mitsugu Sakihara, edited by Stewart Curry, University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, 2006)

## Uchinanchu no Hi Celebration

**Please Join Us!**

**Monday, October 29, 6 p.m.**

**Hawaii Okinawa Center**

Join us for a “potluck” dinner as we celebrate with *Uchinanchu* around the world. We will show a video of the play, *Hiyamikachi Uchinaa!* about Shinsuke Taira and Okinawan immigration.

Please RSVP by calling 676-400 or email [huaa@huaa.org](mailto:huaa@huaa.org).

## Opportunity to Host High School Students from Okinawa

**Homestay period: Feb. 17 – March 2, 2019**

Twenty-five high school students from Okinawa will be arriving on Sunday, February 17, 2019.

Homestay families must have a high school student willing to host and escort their guest to their own high school for five school days during the two-week period.

This will provide a tremendous opportunity to learn about Okinawa and to share our local lifestyle.

Hawaii students who are willing to host will have the opportunity to spend two weeks in Okinawa, usually hosted by the student that you will have “adopted” into your family while they are here with you. The Okinawa portion of the exchange program will be in June 2019.

Application forms are posted on our website: [www.huaa.org](http://www.huaa.org). If you have questions, please call HUOA at 676-5400 or Joanie Gushiken at (808) 454-7868, email: [jsgush@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:jsgush@hawaiiintel.net).

## Ginowan Picnic 2018 - continued from Page 12

Pick Up and the Water Balloon Toss. People gather around an area for the Produce/Prize Pick Up, strategizing on what the best items are and how best to get them. The seniors are let into area first and given a few seconds head start before the mob goes in. If you participate, you better plan on making stew. Some people grab so much stuff that things fall back to the ground. Those items become fair game and are snatched up quickly.

The Balloon Toss begins by selecting the best balloon. People check for size, air bubbles, feel/weight, and the firmness of the balloon skin. The game begins with an easy throw from a few feet away. Even so, some balloons make their way to the ground and break. Fortunately, there may be still some left over balloons, so they can start over. As the distance between partners grows wider, the number of participants decreases. Some are fortunate to have their balloons hit the ground but not break. Some partners catch the balloon near their body where it explodes all over them. Some partners throw their balloon short so the other partner has to sprint to catch it, which is sometimes successful.

A good day was had by all. We help to break down the club tent, pack up, and say our goodbyes. Until next year. 📷

# HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*Mark Your Calendar!*

# HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

## November 2018

- 14 Executive Council meeting, HOC, 7pm
- 17 Hou On Sha Toku-Solo Concert by Grant Sandaa Murata, Hawaii Theatre, 3:30pm
- 22 THANKSGIVING DAY-HOC office closed
- 23 Winter Craft Fair Set-up
- 24-25 Winter Craft Fair; Sat 9am-3pm & Sun 9am-2pm, HOC
- 28 Board of Directors meeting, HOC, 7pm
- 29 Ginoza Son Geinou Kouryu Kouen (Yui) Vol. 2~  
In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Hawaii Ginoza Sonjin Kai, HOC,  
Dinner: 6:15pm, Concert: 7:15pm

## December 2018

- 3-4 Evening Craft Fair set-up
- 5 Evening in Waipio Craft Fair, 5:30-9pm, HOC
- 12 Executive Council meeting, 7pm, HOC
- 25 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY-HOC Office Closed

### Classes • Other Meetings at Hawaii Okinawa Center:

- HUOA Sanshin: every Thursday, 7pm\*
- Ichigo Ichi E: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7pm\*
- Ikebana: 1st Wednesday, 7pm\*
- Karaoke nite: 4th Tuesday, 6:30pm\*
- Kobudo Taiko: every Monday, 7pm, contact Calvin Nakama 224-7374
- Monday Crafters: every Monday, 9am\*
- Okinawan Genealogical Society meeting: 3rd Saturday, 9am\*
- Uchinaaguchi: every 2nd Tuesday, 1pm\*; every 4th Thursday, 7pm\*

\*for more information, please call 676-5400

\*\*Subject to Change\*\* (entries as of 9/24/18)

New episodes premiere on the first and third Saturday of the month at 7 pm and repeat the following Thursdays at 5 pm on 'Olelo Community Media Channel NATV 53. However, no HOT show is aired on the fifth Thursday of a month.

All HOT shows are submitted in high definition format. 'Olelo currently offers HD programming on Hawaiian Telcom channels 1049 and 1053.

All 'Olelo shows are streamed on the Internet at [www.olelo.org](http://www.olelo.org). Our latest shows are available on-demand on the same 'Olelo website at: What's on; OleloNet Video On demand; then search for keyword "Okinawa". The HUOA website [www.huoa.org](http://www.huoa.org) has links to the site. This TV schedule is also available on the HUOA website, which will be updated should any changes occur.

Nov 3, Sat, 7 pm, Nov 8 & 15, Thurs, 5 pm — 2017 Okinawan Festival (Show Eight) featuring Tamagusuku Ryu Senju Kai Frances Nakachi Ryubu Dojo, Okinawa Yui Buyo, and Azama Honryu Sumi No Kai Hawaii Shibu.

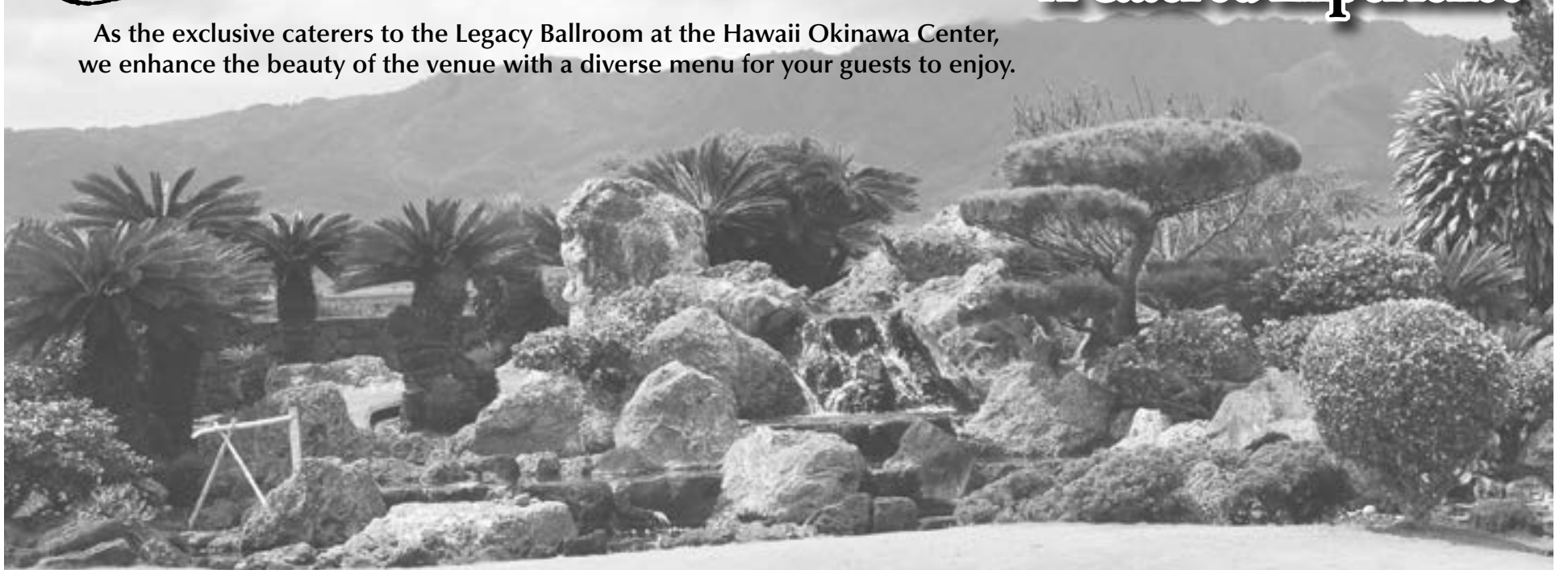
Nov 17, Sat, 7 pm, Nov 22, Thurs, 5 pm — 2017 Okinawan Festival (Show Nine) featuring Ryukyu Sokyoku Hozon Kai Karina Sokyoku Kenkyusho, Nidaime Teishin Kai, and Brandon Ing. Also special Thanksgiving messages.

Dec 1, Sat, 7 pm, Dec 6 & 13, Thurs, 5 pm — 2017 Okinawan Festival (Show Ten) featuring Rimi Natsukawa.

Dec 15, Sat, 7 pm, Dec 20 & 27, Jan 3, 2019 (maybe) Thurs, 5 pm — Reviewing the Highlights of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association in 2018.

# Celebrate in 2018 with A Catered Experience

As the exclusive caterers to the Legacy Ballroom at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, we enhance the beauty of the venue with a diverse menu for your guests to enjoy.



Menus for all occasions - Weddings, Birthday Parties, Graduations, Anniversaries, Office Parties, Seminars and Meetings  
Popular Hawaiian & Local Style menus • Prime Rib Buffets • Create your own menu • Party Platters for pick-up • Onsite deliveries  
**Discounts available for HUOA Club Members.**



Call **677-7744** or visit [www.acateredexperience.com](http://www.acateredexperience.com) for menus and more information.