

## Puna Hongwanji Mission



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# December 2022 Hi-Lites



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### **2022 Honpa Hongwanji Theme & Slogan**

**Building Healthy Sanghas**

*(Connecting with Others)*

### **Puna Hongwanji Vision Statement**

Puna Hongwanji Mission will be a dynamic and unique temple for Hawaii serving the spiritual needs of the community through Jodo-Shinshu teachings.

### **Puna Hongwanji Mission Statement**

Puna Hongwanji Mission is a community of people joined in the joy of a common faith in Amida Buddha to share the Dharma in our daily living.



## *The Hi-Lites Monthly Newsletter*

The Hi-Lites is published monthly by the Puna Hongwanji Mission. The articles and opinions expressed by the editors and individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of Puna Hongwanji Mission.

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## *Memorial Service (Nenki)*

Families, relatives, and friends of deceased members listed, please contact the temple if there are any corrections or omissions. Researched and compiled by Reverend Satoshi Tomioka.



**\*\*\*Memorial services in-person is permitted following health guidelines.**

**\*\*\*Online memorial service is also available.**

**\*\*\*Please contact Rev. Tomioka for more information.**

## **December 2022**

1 yr.	Kazuo Otomo Isami Tanioka	December 16, 2021 December 31, 2021
3 yrs.	Anne Yanazaki	December 11, 2020
7 yrs.	Edmund Sanehira	December 15, 2016
13 yrs.	Hanae Yamamoto	December 31, 2010
17 yrs.	None	2006
25 yrs.	None	1998
33 yrs.	None	1990
50 yrs.	None	1973



## *With Deepest Sympathy*



Puna Hongwanji Mission extends its sincerest sympathy and condolences to the family and relatives of the following member(s) who recently passed away

*Mr. Takamari Fukunaga*



### **Minister's Message**

Mr. Fred Nonaka who is a former president of State Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii shared a story with me once and here is adapted version.

Every morning I have coffee. When I open a coffee can, I can see the seal which keeps the coffee fresh. When I peel this seal, I can smell the coffee. Good smell! Usually, I use one or two spoonfuls of coffee and pour hot water into my cup and then wait a few minutes, until the coffee is ready to drink. In a few weeks, half the coffee in the can will be gone. The amount of coffee becomes less and less. As it gets closer to end, I measure each spoonful and enjoy the taste. With the last spoonful of coffee, I try to use all of it and really enjoy the taste....You may have the same

experience.

In a similar way, we are first born as babies. We spend our days, growing, learning and living our lives. When a life comes to the middle point, we think we still have a lot of time and we spend time on doing the things we have to do. And then we realize that we are getting old and we stop to think, "What is my life? Have I done what I really want to do?" Here, what we now have, is time to live, that we can think of, a spoonful at a time or moment by moment.

We can find several messages in this story.

First of all, our lives are impermanent. Even if we think we still have plenty of time, the time when we say goodbye to this world certainly comes to everybody without exception. Therefore, "our lives are impermanent" means that each day, every moment become precious and beautiful. We can appreciate today, and the life we are living right now. Let's each make today a precious and meaningful day.

Secondly, this story tells us that the attitude we have each day is important. In our lives, there are many things we have to do, working, learning, family, friends, raising children, having fun... we spend our time on these things. These are important things. I'm not saying that you have to give up these thing. Rather, we can make our daily lives meaningful by adding an essence of Buddhism. It is not easy to change a life style and routines in which we feel comfortable. We don't need to change our life style. If we change our attitude toward living and if we learn to appreciate each thing, then, without changing our life style, our lives are enriched with greater meaning.

It is not easy to be mindful of "a meaningful life" 24 hours a day. Our ideas and attitudes easily and conveniently change depending on the situation. However, there is a thing which always awakens us to a meaningful life. It is unchanging, full of compassion and unconditional love, and always embraces our entire lives. That is Amida Buddha's boundless compassion and wisdom. We are enabled to live our lives to the fullest.

Here, once again let's think about our life. As we have received a gift of life, it promises that we will have the moment when we say good bye to this world. What will happen to me when I welcome end of life? Jodo Shinshu tradition teaches us that the time when we say good bye to this world is the time we become a Buddha, the enlightened one in the Land of Buddha, begin to work for the sake of happiness for others left in this world. It is here and now that we are assured of becoming a Buddha when we say good bye to this life. It is not the moment of death or not after the death, but here and now, when we are awakened to Amida Buddha's Primal Vow that assures our birth in the Pure Land. That vow is Namo Amida Butsu. Shinran Shonin said,

“Those who attain true and real shinjin/entrusting heart immediately join the truly settled; thus having entered the stage of nonretrogression, they necessarily attain nirvana” (“Hymns of the Pure Land, CWS. p.341”)

When we hear the compassionate calling voice of Amida Buddha “Come to my embrace! Whatever happens in your life, I shall never ever let you go alone!” and receive it without doubt, that is shinjin/entrusting heart to the vow. Since the shinjin is arose through the Primal Vow of enlightenment, it can become the cause of birth in the Pure Land. And we receive the warm embrace that gives us joy and comfort in our life.

We cannot become a Buddha now because we have an imperfect self. However, we can live our lives meaningfully guided by Buddha and no matter what happens, Amida Buddha embraces us. So, in our Jodo Shinshu tradition, it is really important to listen to the Dharma which is Amida Buddha's wish for each of us. Amida Buddha's wish has already been with you. It is up to each of us, how we respond to this Buddha's wish and how we live our lives. It is important to appreciate each thing and live our lives to the fullest as we enjoy a cup of coffee every day. We can live only today and today is the day when Amida Buddha's wish embraces us and never abandons us, no matter what happens.

## Message of Congratulations and Appreciation

On behalf of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, it is my honor to extend my deepest congratulations and appreciation to the Members, Supporters and Friends of Puna Hongwanji Mission as you celebrate your 120th Anniversary.



When I think of the number 120, it makes me think of Shinran Shonin's "Hymn of True Shinjin and the Nembutsu" (Shoshinge) which he composed to express the essence of Jodo Shinshu in 120 lines. In the preface to the Hymn, Shinran Shonin shares his reason for writing the Shoshinge. He says "...wishing to realize the Buddha's benevolence and to respond in gratitude to the Buddha's virtue" and "I realize the depth and vastness of the Buddha's benevolence and compose the following hymn." He purposely begins it with the conclusion, "I take refuge in the Tathagata of Immeasurable Life!" and "I entrust myself to the Buddha of Inconceivable Light!" or taking refuge in Amida Buddha.

Similarly, I believe, the Sangha of Puna Hongwanji has for the past 120 years, out of gratitude, continued to gratefully share the Joy of the Nembutsu with family, friends and neighbors. I would like to commend you for realizing our purpose as stated in our Hongwanji Constitution, "*The organization transmits the wisdom and compassion of Amida Tathagata to all people, and in doing so, contributes to the realization of a society in which everyone, both within and outside of the organization, is able to live a life of spiritual fulfillment.*" and as **His Eminence Kojun Ohtani** said, "*In reflecting on the present circumstance of our organization, it is significantly important to consider how we can approach and reach out to persons who have never had any contact with a Buddhist temple, as well as those who are already involved with one.*" "*Let us...cope with (the) various problems and hardships of the contemporary world, walking together towards realizing a society in which everyone is equally respected.*"

As we move into the future, facing old challenges and setting new goals, may we continue to respond in gratitude to Amida Buddha's Unparalleled Compassion and be guided by the Dharma as did our predecessors in the tradition of the gatha Ondokusan, (translated by our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Music Committee as), "*By the Benevolence of Amida's Light, How in utmost we entrust deep thanks express; For our debt to teachers for their guidance true, We dedicate ourselves in gratefulness.*"

To close, I, once again, express my deepest gratitude to past, present and future Members, Supporters and Friends including Ministers and their Spouses of Puna Hongwanji for their dedication and support of the Temple and the state-wide Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Thank you.

Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion

In anjali/gassho,



Bishop Eric Matsumoto,  
November 20, 2022







**Congratulations to the Members of Puna Hongwanji  
In Celebration of Your 120th Anniversary**



Aloha Members of Puna Hongwanji,

On behalf of the temples of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, congratulations on celebrating your 120th anniversary! The members who founded your temple in 1902 were strangers to this land. They knew little or no English and were brought here primarily as a source of labor for the plantations. Living conditions and pay were very poor. However, they were able to overcome these hardships and build the temple that we enjoy today. We are humbled and grateful for their perseverance through extremely difficult times.

Anniversaries are natural points in time to look back on the past and forward to the future. They are also a time to embrace the moment, here and now. You, the members of Puna Hongwanji are commended for passionately supporting your temple and community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Your usual temple activities and fundraising projects were cancelled or severely restricted for over two years, severely impacting your temple finances. However, Puna Hongwanji is an excellent example of minister, lay leaders and Sangha working together to nourish and grow the temple. Your perseverance and dedication to your temple and to each other have brought you to this day. Enjoy this day in the spirit of "Ichigo Ichie"- once in a lifetime. Treasure the unrepeatable nature of this moment.

As we look to the future, one question surfaces repeatedly among ministers and temple leaders. Where are the members and where are the leaders of tomorrow? Some of them are with us in our Dharma Schools, Jr. YBA, and in our weekly temple services. However, as we move forward, it is clear that we must look outside of our Sangha as well as within. Our sustained strength will come as we embrace diversity in our entire community. Our future members and leaders may be our friends, relatives, and co-workers. They may also be newcomers to our temples. As you reopen your temple to the community, let's be more than a "welcoming" Sangha. Let's be an "inviting" Sangha, encouraging everyone to join with us on this wonderful journey.

Finally, let me share a simple but powerful reminder of our connections. The Nembutsu of those who founded our temples a century ago is the same Nembutsu that comes from our lips. In this way, we are connected across time and distance. There is no separation between generations because Amida's Calling Voice, *Namo Amida Butsu*, is the same. We call the Buddha's name, *Namo Amida Butsu*, in gratitude, in response to Amida Buddha's Calling Voice. On this 120th anniversary of Puna Hongwanji, let us remember the past and prepare for the future. But most importantly, let us embrace this precious moment with *Namo Amida Butsu*.

Warren Tamamoto  
President, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## Puna Hongwanji Kyodan Highlights



Synopsis of Kyodan Board of Directors' meeting held on Thursday, October 20, 2022. Minutes were recorded by Marilyn Sato, Secretary.

### **Repair and Maintenance**

- Thank you to Gary Sunada for the installation of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). One is located upstairs by the temple doors and the other by the elevator in the social hall.
- Repairs to the parsonage screen will start next year.
- Termite tenting will be week of Dec. 19.
- Septic tank needs attention before end of year.
- Rev. Tomioka received quote for the altar decorations. Total cost range is \$52,000-60,000. Some items will be refurbished and some will be brand new.

### **Approved Activities/Announcements**

- Rev. Tomioka announced that the portable Butsudan Buddha altar will be delivered.
- Treasurer R. Solie is working on getting access to all accounts that are using the temple Tax ID.
- Puna and Naalehu BWA Units are preparing for the HIUHBWA General Membership Meeting to be held at PHM. Attendees will receive masks made by Mrs. Nagao.
- Sr. YBA will be busy setting up for various temple events (BWA conference, craft fair, Bodhi Day, etc.)
- Home visitation was made to wish Mrs. Tomiye Kukino a very Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
- Board approved Rev. Tomioka's proposal to do flower arrangement class one time a month for ten months. Instructor is from Honolulu and class will be open to Puna community.
- Board approved sponsoring the pack flag for the scouts.
- Board approved to provide take out hot meals on Thanksgiving Day using Social Concerns Fund.
- The State Social Concerns Committee gave PHM money for the pandemic and eruption. The envelope we received is a way of replenishing their account.
- All Nations Pow Wow donated money to PHM for use of our facilities.
- Dues donation reminders will be sent out by end of month.
- Board was informed that this was not a good year for investments. The year to date return is in the negative, however, we were reminded that this is a long term investment and to not get too excited about its short term activity.
- Nov. 20: Eitaikyo, 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and Distinguished Sangha Service Award
- Dec. 10: Rev. Tatsuo Muneto is the guest lecturer for the Hawaii District Ministers Association (HDMA) Buddhist Education Class, "Never Alone: Shin Buddhism and End-of-Life Care". Register online.
- Dec. 10: Keaau Christmas Parade at 6:00 p.m. Shuttle service for marchers will be available from 4:30-5:30 at PHM.
- Dec. 17: Hybrid gathering for Sr. YBA
- Dec. 18: **General Membership Meeting** after temple service
- Feb. 10-11, 2023: Giseikai - virtual

### **In Appreciation – Thank You Very Much**

- Thank you to Gary Sunada for the installation of the AED. It's an important piece of equipment that benefits all.
- Proud moment for Puna Taiko instructor, Paul Sakamoto, as one of his former students (Fred Visaya) performed in a concert in Los Angeles.
- Miles Nakatsu, Scout leader, said thank you to all who purchased their popcorn. Also, thank you to PHM for supporting them.
- Mahalo, mahalo, mahalo to all who made their dues donation. You are appreciated!

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### **BWA NEWS**

The Hawaii Island United Hongwanji Buddhist Womens' Association (HIUHBWA) meeting was held on October 29, 2022 at the Puna Hongwanji.

Members who attended were greeted with coffee, tea, and breakfast pastries, and were also offered masks sewn by Mrs. Mieko Nagao.

Rev. Rimban Takahashi honored the BWA members who had passed on since the last 2021 membership meeting with a moment of silence.

Present at the meeting were representatives of: Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin, Honokaa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, Naalehu Hongwanji, and Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.

Rev. Satoshi Ka'imipono Tomioka delivered the Dharma message, "Hands". He told us the story of painter Albrecht Durer, whose brother worked in the mines and sacrificed his artistic future for his brother's. After working in the mines for years, his brother could no longer use his hands to paint. He had sacrificed his future as a painter for his brother's. Placing hands together in "gassho" is the most important gesture we do to show our respect to Amida Buddha. Amida Buddha contemplated and practiced for the sake of us so we can be liberated from struggles and attain enlightenment. This is the Vow of Amida Buddha. The wish is bestowed to us and when we encounter it, our hands are naturally placed together and we are assured that we are in Buddha's compassionate hands, from birth, to enlightenment, to end of life.

The Emcee of the program was Marilyn Sato. She did an excellent job. Robin Sato advised us of Puna Hongwanji's carving and costume contests, and of the November 19, 2022 craft fair to be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the grounds of the Puna Hongwanji. There will be more than 40 vendors and 5 food trucks, along with Puna Hongwanji's always ono food offerings!

President Ellen Okano, Hilo, chaired the meeting. Rev. Rimban Takahashi delivered the blessing.

The minutes by secretary pro-tem Bessie Kubo were approved. Carol Tsutsumi's treasurer's report was approved. The reports of Buddhist Education, Dana, Historian, Membership, Publicity, and Scholarship were approved. Bylaws will be revised in time for the next meeting.

Details of the upcoming world BWA convention were discussed.





New members were introduced from Hilo and Puna. The new members present from Puna were (left to right) Ilene Hara, June Kiyabu, Naomi Hirayasu, and Edythe Vassell (Hilo).

Stella Miyashiro put forth a resolution honoring our Centenarians.



The upcoming slate of officers was put forth by Stella and approved by the membership:



President Ellen Okano, Hilo  
 1st Vice-President: Karen Maedo and Lynn Higashi, Hilo  
 2nd Vice-President: Jo Kim, Honokaa  
 General Fund Treasurer: Carole Tsutsumi, Hilo  
 Asst (Scholarship) Treasurer: Lynn Higashi, Honokaa  
 Auditor: Deborah Fried, Hilo  
 Auditor: Eileen Usugawa, Puna  
 Auditor: June Fujikawa, Kona  
 Bylaws: Ellen Okano, Hilo  
 Historian: Sandra Tomiyama, Hilo  
 Scholarship: Stella Miyashiro, Puna  
 Student Exchange: Glenda Pasalaqua, Kona

Lynn Higashi of Honokaa reported that Deborah Fried and Jane Iida have arranged for the viewing of a documentary film by Sky Bergman, “Lives Well Lived: Celebrating the Secrets, Wit and Wisdom of Age”, “Ichi Mi”, focusing on understanding, acceptance, and tolerance.

Stella Miyashiro delivered the Puna Hongwanji BWA Unit Report and advised, inter alia, that the Hawaii Tribune Herald recognized Mrs Mieko Nagao on the front page for sewing and donating 3,000 masks during the pandemic. The BWA members also hosted a bridal shower for Rev. Satoshi Ka'imipono Tomioka's lovely wife, Haruka Tomioka, and provided a delightful pot luck tea party, games, and photos. Eight members from the Puna Hongwanji will be attending the World Convention in Japan.

The Honokaa Hongwanji provided weekly Friday meals organized by the Peace Committee, again held their post-covid annual lunch and their garage sale and silent auction. Their first in person obon since covid was well attended on July 16, 2022. Three of their members plan to attend the World Convention.

Naalehu fed 150 people three times a week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. They received a grant to cultivate and serve food, and Wayne Kawachi, was nominated as a living treasure for his efforts in this endeavor.

The members passed a resolution donating \$500 to the Ministerial Training Fund.

The spring board meeting for the HIUHBWA will be held on Saturday February 18, 2023 in Hilo.

The meeting was adjourned and the members then enjoyed a delicious bento lunch prepared by KTA.

After lunch, Deborah Fried and Jane Iida arranged for the viewing of a documentary film by Sky Bergman, "Lives Well Lived: Celebrating the Secrets, Wit and Wisdom of Age", "Ichi Mi", focusing on understanding, acceptance, and tolerance.

The movie was followed by a lecture on the movie by Rev. Rimban Tahakashi.

Coffee, tea, and desserts were offered. The membership headed home at 2 p.m. after a full and satisfying day.

Many hands helped to make this a successful event. We would like to thank:

- The Puna Senior YBA for setting up and breaking down the social hall.
- Shar Oyadomari for arranging the beautiful altar flowers and the lovely floral bouquets that adorned the stage and registration table.
- As an aside, extra flowers were given to those who wanted to place them on their personal alters.
- Claire Arakawa for providing transportation to the temple for Paho members.
- Masako Sakata for bringing delicious Punaluu malasadas. Thanks to all our members who brought pastries and desserts.
- Marilyn Sato for ordering the bento and to Robin Sato for picking them up and delivering them to the temple.
- Mrs Mieko Nagao for the masks given to each participant.
- The masks were greatly appreciated by all.
- Last but not least, thank you all for your attendance. Without you it would not have been as successful.

Our next BWA meeting will be in person on Sunday, December 11th, 2022 in the dining room after service.

Submitted by: Ilene Hara and Naomi Hirayasu

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## **Keaau Lighted Christmas Parade**

The Keaau Lighted Christmas Parade will resume again this year on Saturday, December 10 at 6 pm. The parade will start from Keaau High School and go through the Keaau village, right at the stop light and end at the Shipman Gym (at the Church for PHM members and friends)

Puna Taiko will lead our church group with their float and members and friends following behind them. There will be many floats, four bands and many walking groups joining the festivities. If you want to walk with our church group, meet at the church between 4:30 and 5:30pm, and be shuttled to the staging area. You could also be dropped off by someone or walk to the area. Thank you for participating.



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## PROJECT DANA



This Project Dana column is dedicated to Kei Tamanaha who left Keaau in November 2022. Ethel Miyashiro graciously agreed to write the following article about Mr. Tamanaha:

On Friday, October 28th, Stella Miyashiro and I bid a fond aloha and bon voyage to long-time member and Project Dana favorite, Kei Tamanaha, as he prepared to depart his home in Keaau to spend time with his son Keith in California.

Over the past several years it's been my pleasure and privilege to deliver his lunch bentos as part of the Project Dana program but more importantly, to spend time "talking story" with him. I learned that we were both in northern California at Travis AFB around the same time in the 1960's. He also had tangerines, cucumbers and papayas he was willing to share in gratitude for delivering his weekly lunches. As his neighbors aged and needed help he often times picked up bentos for them or visited them in care homes and delivered their mail. Now as he approaches 95 years of age, he has time to visit with his son.

I'll definitely miss his welcoming smile and our "talk story" time. I've learned that our elders always have more to give to us in their wisdom and kindness than we can ever give to them.



A hui hou, Mr. T.

Humbly submitted by Ethel Miyashiro, Project Dana Volunteer.

Kei Tamanaha will be missed by his neighbors and friends. We wish him well in his new home in California.



In gassho,  
Stella Miyashiro  
Eileen Usagawa

## Distinguished Sangha Service Award

The 2022 recipients of Puna Hongwanji 's Distinguished Sangha Service Award were honored at our recent Eitaikyo Sangha Memorial Service. CONGRATULATIONS and "MAHALO" for your years of dedicated service to our temple. Your knowledge, guidance and hard work are greatly appreciated and you continue to inspire your fellow Sangha members.



Kay Kawazoe, Florence Nishimura and Mitsuye Toma



Mrs. Kay Kawaoze is a long-time member of Puna Hongwanji Mission. She has been demonstrating her commitment to Puna Hongwanji with her husband, the late Mr. Lefty Kawazoe. One of her remarkable contributions to the temple was the suggestion of creating a toban (group in charge) system to take care of weekly refreshments and clean up. With this idea, more members became engaged with the temple by offering a place to gather for fellowship.





Mrs. Mitsuye Toma is a long-time member of Puna Hongwanji Mission with her husband, the late Choki Toma. She was very active with the kitchen group, choir, and also helped with other temple functions. Some members remember her beautiful soprano voice when she sang. She said she enjoyed every duty and working with other temple members. She never thought of it as “I have to”, but rather “I want to” which guided her to volunteer at the temple. For her, the temple is a place of gathering, belonging and a third home.



Mrs. Florence Nishimura has been a long time member of Puna Hongwanji with her husband, the late Mr. Albert Nishimura who also contributed to the temple through repair maintenance of the facility. She was quiet and often worked behind the scenes, especially in kitchen. She was easy to work with and worked well everyone. One of her great attributes was sharing. She learned that not holding onto things but by giving them away she could share her happiness with others.

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### **PUNA HONGWANJI WINTER CRAFT FAIR 2022**

Thank you very much to everyone that participated and attended the Winter Craft Fair. On Friday night there were heavy rains, thunder, and lightening. On Saturday we had beautiful blue skies and no one would have believed it stormed the night before. The vendors are asking when the next event will be, based on that they must have done well. There were many other events happening over the weekend, but we had a steady flow of people in attendance.



A huge mahalo goes to Veronica “Ronnie” Kitayama and menehunes for organizing the event. When we first advertised we were a little over 40 vendors. By the time we had the craft fair we had 60 vendors. Throughout the day there were wonderful raffle prizes that were given out that were donated by the vendors and local businesses. There was a silent auction area of donated items as well. Thank you to all the entertainment as well from Keonepoko Elementary Choir, Pililani, and Puna Taiko.

There also was a Pikachu sighting. Pikachu brought so much joy to many children and adults who wanted to get a photo with Pikachu. One lady said her nephew loves Pikachu so she needed to take a picture of Pikachu and she took one with him as well. During the Keonepoko Choir performance you saw the attention move from their choir director to many of the kids fascinated with looking at Pikachu instead.

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### **PUNA HONGWANJI SR. YBA YEAR END GATHERING**

We will be having a year end gathering for our Puna Hongwanji Sr. YBA members. The gathering will be on Saturday, December 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Puna Hongwanji Social Hall or Online via Zoom. It will be potluck and BYOB. RSVP is due by Saturday, December 10, 2022 to Robin Sato at 808-936-7179 or email [rob.f.sato@gmail.com](mailto:rob.f.sato@gmail.com). We are taking a head count so we know how much people to expect. Also if you want to join us online we will need to set-up the computer system so need to know if you want to join us online.

Membership dues for the Sr. YBA is \$10 a person. When making a check, please make it payable to Puna Hongwanji Sr. YBA. We meet on the first Wednesday of the even months at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 7. We are still meeting online via Zoom. The Zoom link are emailed out to those with email addresses. If you don't get it, please let Robin know.



## HALLOWEEN EVENTS

A Halloween Costume Contest and Halloween Fruit/Vegetable Carving Contest was held this year with four age categories. This year we randomly selected the winners by putting their names in the “Wheel of Names”. We also did a people’s choice award for each category. We had 19 entries for the Costume Contest and 9 entries for the Halloween Fruit/Vegetable Carving Contest. Thank you to all the participants and congratulations to all the winners.



### **Halloween Costume Contest**

#### **Winners:**

**Age 0-3:** 1<sup>st</sup> – Mark Yamanaka; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Karen Mason

**Ages 4-12:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Kian Ikeda; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Leo Saito; 3<sup>rd</sup> Peyton Miyazono

**Ages 13-18:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Ashley D’Ambrosio; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ethan D’Ambrosio

**Ages 19+:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Alison Sato; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ray & Daysha Miyazono; 3<sup>rd</sup> – Haruka & Satoshi Tomioka





**Ages 19+**

### Halloween Fruit/Vegetable Carving Contest:

#### Age 0-3:

1<sup>st</sup> – Mark Yamanaka

Ages 4-12: 1<sup>st</sup> - Peyton Miyazono; 2<sup>nd</sup> –

Raegan Bihag; 3<sup>rd</sup> Skyler Bihag

Ages 13-18: No entries

Ages 19+: 1<sup>st</sup> – Stella Miyashiro; 2<sup>nd</sup> –

Masako Sakata; and 3<sup>rd</sup> – Carlo Osoteo, he gave up his prize as he was participating from the Philippines. Prize given to Carol Tsunazumi



**Ages 4-12**







People's Choice Award Halloween Costume: Mark Yamanaka and Melissa Yamanaka

People's Choice Award Halloween Fruit/Vegetable Carving Contest: Carlo Osoteo, he gave up prize, so prize was given to Raegan Bihag and Skyler Bihag.



Rev. Tomioka, Jenn, and Robin visited Pahoa Elementary School on Halloween Day. We went to visit Kumu Kali's Pre-Kindergarten class to deliver some goodies from Puna Hongwanji. They invited us to attend their Halloween parade that was going to be in the gym as there was rain off and on. As Pikachu entered the gym you could hear the students shouting Pikachu, clapping, and cheering with excitement. Each grade level paraded inside the gym filled with many inflatables. Pikachu participated in the parade as well and the students were happy to see Pikachu. After the parade we went to the classroom to distribute their goodies. Some of the students gave Pikachu a big hug.



## **CHRISTMAS EVENTS**

The holiday season is upon us and how festive will you be this year? Share your holiday photo with us and be creative. Photos can be, but we are leaving it up to you, a photo of your Christmas yard decorations, door decorations, wreath you made, your decorated Christmas tree, your ugly Christmas sweater, your holiday baking, your ginger bread house, etc. We look forward to receiving your photos and sharing the holiday cheer with everyone.

Photos will be due by Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Email them to [punahongwanjievts@gmail.com](mailto:punahongwanjievts@gmail.com). Provide your name, age, and description of your photo. We will use the age categories of 0-3; 4-12; 13-18 and 19+. Be sure to check our Puna Hongwanji website, Facebook, or Instagram for more detailed information.

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### **Garden Enchantment at Lili`uokalani Gardens**



Garden Enchantment -- the free exhibit at Lili`uokalani Gardens in Hilo -- is set for Friday and Saturday, December 23 and 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. each evening. Lighted displays will be placed throughout the park. Admission is free. Photo booth with the Grinch on Friday and with Santa on Saturday.



2022 Big Island Buddhist Federation  
Online & In-Person Service

# Bodhi Day

*Commemorating Sakyamuni Buddha's Enlightenment*

Date: Sunday, December 4

Time: 9 a.m.

@Puna Hongwanji

16-492 Old Volcano Rd., Kaaau HI 96749

[Click Online Service](#)



Guest Speaker: Mrs. Peggy Farias  
President, W.H. Shipman, LTD.

She will share about the history of Mr. Herbert  
Shipman and the bodhi tree planted by him.

Any questions?

Email at [mpunahongwanji@twc.com](mailto:mpunahongwanji@twc.com)

or 808-966-9981