



子供のために

“KODOMO NO TAME NI”  
FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN

The MOKK and other Japanese cultural clubs and food vendors shared our culture with the thousands who attended the Maui Matsuri.

MOKK CALENDAR  
2009

## Upcoming Events

### Children's Camp

Application form inside!

**July 20-22nd**

Passing our culture to the next generation, this 3-day day camp teaches about various aspects of Okinawan culture, including music, art, dance, food, and martial arts.

### Picnic

**July 26th**

Come and enjoy good food, good folks, and good fun with other MOKK members at our annual picnic at the Velma Santos Community Center in Wailuku.



### Obon Festival

**August 22nd**

Held every year at the Rinzai Zen Mission in Paia, it is Maui's only Okinawan obon festival.

### HUOA Festival

**September 5-6th**

The annual state Okinawan festival is a two-day event held at Kapiolani Park on Oahu. Enjoy Okinawan food, arts & crafts, exhibits, and musical performances by both local and Okinawan artists.

### MOKK Festival

**September 12th**

Maui's own festival celebrating our culture will be held at the Maui Mall in Kahului. Our biggest event of the year!

## THE MAUI MATSURI - MAY 16TH, 2009

The ninth annual Maui Matsuri, celebrating the life and culture of Hawaii's Japanese- and Okinawan-Americans, attracted thousands of patrons - locals and visitors, old-timers and first-timers alike - to the Maui Community College campus last month. Many of our members performed Okinawan music, dance, and martial art (*see page 3*) for large audiences.

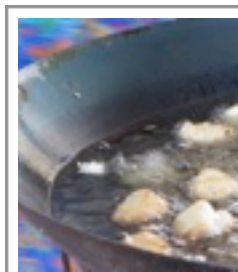


The MOKK sold its signature *sata andagi* (Okinawan donut). Our cooking volunteers, spearheaded by June Konno, worked long and hard to cook the estimated 4,500 andagi and separate them into 900 bags of five andagi each.

MOKK President Joe Toma, who chaired the event for us, organized the operation and sales of our scrumptious treats at the Matsuri. Our pastry's reputation preceded us, and we quickly sold out by 7:00 pm. Even though some of the bags were given to donors and volunteers, we sold well over 800 bags, making over \$4,000! After all expenses were accounted for, this fundraiser netted around \$3,400 for the MOKK.

Many thanks to all those who helped!

お疲れさまでした!



# President's Message



Hai Sai!

Year 2009 is quickly coming to its halfway mark and we can look back on the success occasioned by the 31st annual golf tournament in February and the Maui Matsuri andagi sale last month. I would like to thank golf tournament co-chairs Ron Gibo and Todd Hondo, as well as the many volunteers on the golf course and at the Kaikan, for their tireless efforts. For the Matsuri, June and Darren Konno and the many volunteers are applauded for the andagi production which resulted in sales of more than 4,500 andagi.

I would also like to thank facilities chairman Mike Hondo and the Saturday work crew, as well as Fujinkai chair Sumiko Kuniyoshi and the Fujinkai ladies, for maintaining our facility and the grounds.

During an evening at the Kaikan in April, we were also fortunate to enjoy a special musical presentation from Okinawan musician Keiko Kina and Champloose, her band of family members. As Ms. Kina had lived on Maui in the past, she looked happy to be back on the island, and she was well-received by her many friends and family at the event.

We can now look forward to our children's camp on July 20-22, our picnic on July 27 at the Wailuku Community Center, the obon concession on August 22 at the Rinzaï Zen Mission, and our own festival on September 12 at Maui Mall. Our festival follows the HUOA festival on Oahu on September 5-6. Please mark your calendars for these events.

To our membership, thank you for your continued dedication and support.

Ippei Nihee Deebiru,

Joe Toma  
President, MOKK

## MAUI OKINAWA KENJIN KAI 2009 OFFICERS

President	Joe Toma
1st Vice President	Paul Horikawa
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Newsletter	Jason Hondo
Facilities	Mike Hondo
Hospitality	Elaine Fujita

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*Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai News* is a publication of the Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai (MOKK), a non-profit organization committed to promote, perpetuate and encourage the appreciation of the Okinawan heritage, culture and arts. The newsletter is published for members of MOKK.

**Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai**  
**PO Box 1884**  
**Wailuku HI 96793**  
**phone: (808) 242-1560**  
**fax: (808) 242-5952**  
**email: [Mauiokinawakenjinkai@yahoo.com](mailto:Mauiokinawakenjinkai@yahoo.com)**  
**link: [www.huoa.org/kizuna/default.html](http://www.huoa.org/kizuna/default.html)**

**Office Manager:** Janet Miyahira  
**Newsletter Staff:** Jason Hondo, Linda Kiyabu  
**Contributors:** Elaine Fujita, Traci Fujita Villarosa

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# MORE MAUI MATSURI



*Utæ Isaacs, Lynette Shiroma, Betty Yamashiro*



*Eilaine Fujita, Brandy Cordeiro, Audrey Cordeiro, Toshiko Nishihara*



*Koki Tamashiro, Lillian Arakawa, Betty Yamashiro, June Konno*



*Ariisa Molina (Iaido)*



*Toshiko Nishihara, Betty Yamashiro, Earl Zaan, June Konno (Odori)*



*Utæ Isaacs, Fumiko Cup Choy, Corey Sasaoka, Nicole Sasaoka (Paranku)*

# 2009 Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai Scholarship Recipients

*The Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai has named three Maui high school graduates as its 2009 scholarship winners. Each received a \$1,000 scholarship.*

**Carli Kubo-Chinen** is the daughter of Terry Chinen and Iris Kubo of Pukalani. She graduated from King Kekaulike High School and plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing



at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Carli writes, "I am half-Okinawan, as my father is full Okinawan. My great-

grandparents Shigeo and Usa Chinen sailed over to Hawaii in the early 1900s from Okinawa. My grandmother has half-siblings currently residing in Okinawa and she visited them a few years ago."



**Darin Pasion** is the son of Prisciliano Jr. and Dale Pasion of Wailuku. Darin graduated from Baldwin High



School and will study Japanese at the University of Oregon. Darin says, "My recent travels to Japan and Europe has influenced

me to learn about different cultures

and traditions. The Okinawan culture is a small but integral part of my cultural background. As there are many cultural and social stigmas associated with being Okinawan, I have learned to be proud of my Okinawan heritage. Each year during the Japanese Obon Season, I honor my Okinawan ancestors by taking part in the Okinawan Bon Dance. I also listen to Okinawan music occasionally as a way for me to feel connected to my culture. Representing Okinawan heritage has helped me to connect with the culture through their songs and dance." Darin's great grandfather on his dad's side of the family was Okinawan.



**Hannah Shimabukuro** is the daughter of Gary and Nancy Shimabukuro. Hannah is a graduate of



King Kekaulike High School and will attend Yale University in the fall. She comments: "I plan to study

linguistics

and sociology. Ultimately I would like to work with the Peace Corps or the United Nations, helping establish and protect rights for women. In particular I want to found schools that focus on therapy and healing through an education. I have also been interested in printmaking since the

summer of 2007, when I started interning at Hui Press, a local print studio in Makawao. As an individual who believes in education and inalienable rights I feel obligated to help others with the opportunities I have been graciously given by others.

"My great-grandmother, Mitsu Shimabukuro, came to Hawaii in 1919 from Okinawa as a picture-bride. In both Okinawa and Hawaii she worked as a teacher. This was rare considering the poverty her family lived in; in fact she was the only member of her family besides her aunt that pursued an education. Her dedication to pursuing a better life through learning has carried on to my family. My great-grandmother's history has contributed to my interest in languages, especially smaller languages like Okinawan that have been subject to many changes. I plan to learn Okinawan and in doing so help preserve the Okinawan culture."



Scholarships were presented at each school's awards assemblies. The recipients will also be honored at MOKK's annual picnic held July 26 at the Velma McWayne Santos Community Center in Wailuku. Since 1977, the Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai has awarded annual scholarships to outstanding Maui residents who are Kenjin Kai members or of Okinawan ancestry for a total of over \$55,000.

Congratulations to the 2009 scholarship winners!







# A Magical Evening With Champloose

**C**hamploose, Keiko Kina and family treated us to a wonderful and beautiful concert.

Okinawa's well-known musician Shoei and Chiyo Kina are parents of Keiko and Shoukichi Kina, the composer, musician, and legislator. The event took place at the Maui Okinawa Cultural Center on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. Prior to the concert, we all enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner that was contributed by everyone that attended the event.

There were different ethnic dishes, such as chow mein, sweet and sour pork, fried chicken, purple sweet potatoes, fried tofu, sushi, sekihan, rafute and many more. The dessert table was full of eye-popping and delicious cakes, cookies, jello, pies and other sweets.

## Prior to the concert,

George Fujita introduced the Kina family. It was a homecoming for Tina Nagama, daughter of Keiko and Frances Yoshida. Tina was born on Maui and lived here for a number of years.

Tina and Hideo Nagama are parents of Masay and Stephanie, the other members of the group. Eddie, son of

Keiko, is no stranger to Maui. He has visited here many times and made his first debut on the sanshin at the Rinzai

Zen Mission in Paia when he was eight. Ten family members accompanied "Keiko and Family" from Okinawa, making the group a total of fourteen.

Keiko



Stephanie, Masay, Eddie, and Keiko



On Stage



contacted us on Maui regarding her visit to Hawaii and wanted to express her gratitude for all the kindness extended to her while she

lived on Maui by putting on a concert. Approximately 250 people, which included Okinawa Kenjin Kai members, families, and friends were mesmerized by the music and singing provided that evening. The smiles, tears, and laughter were evident on many faces.

Keiko sang some nostalgic songs which included "Natsukashiki Furusato" and "Tinsagu Nu Hana", bringing tears to many eyes. Eddie's sanshin playing of "Ting Ting" and "Shinmanchu no Takara" kept everyone hypnotized. Then the group sang the ever-popular "Hana" which many in the audience could be seen singing along. The evening was concluded with "Toshindo", prompting many to stand up and dance.



**Kimiko Takamiya**, who moved to Hawaii from Okinawa many years ago, thought Keiko and family put on a very good show, much more than she had expected. She also felt that the whole show was well organized, and the songs blended and flowed well.

Sandy Higa, a Sansei, enjoyed the songs and music very much, even if she did

not understand much of the language, She especially loved their rendition of "Shimanchu no Takara".

We will not forget the wonderful evening full of music, dance, laughter, good food and friendship with "Keiko Kina and Family" and the rest of the family from Okinawa.



-Elaine Fujita

# Living National Treasure of Japan Visits New Maui Sanshin Group



**L**iving National Treasure of Japan, Choichi Terukina Sensei, Master of classical Okinawan sanshin in the Afuso style of music, paid a visit to his newest students on Maui on March 28, 2009. The Maui students were excited and a little anxious about their master sensei's visit. However, they were pleasantly surprised to find Terukina Sensei to be a humble, affectionate gentleman with a sense of humor. Sensei had also picked up a little bit of English, too!

Living National Treasure, or *Ningen-Kokubō*, is a title awarded in Japan to certain masters of arts or crafts and performance traditions with the goal of preserving skills and techniques in danger of being lost. The Living National Treasure is held in deep reverence in Japan and these individuals are considered "Bearers of Important Intangible Cultural Assets." While staying in Wailea, Terukina Sensei also enjoyed a round of golf, one of his favorite pastimes. Prior to visiting Maui, he met with friends and students on Oahu and was honored with a Proclamation from Mayor Mufi Hannemann, who designated March 27, 2009, as "Choichi Terukina Day."



B- Joe Toma, Jason Hondo, Todd Hondo, Bob Yonahara; M - Linda Kiyabu, Eileen Kobayashi, Terukina Sensei, Lori Hondo; F- Kenton Odo Sensei, Sean Sadaoka (Oahu)

**Kenton Odo Sensei** of Afusoryu Gensei Kai, Hawaii Shibu, has been flying in from Oahu once a month since January to meet with the Maui students. Kenton Sensei is the first foreigner to take top honors in the Afuso style of classical sanshin.

The sanshin, literally "three strings," is an Okinawan musical instrument, also known as the shamisen.

The Maui class meets in Wailuku and now has an enrollment of 13. New students—adults and older children—are welcome at any time. Contact Bob Yonahara at [byonahara@yahoo.com](mailto:byonahara@yahoo.com) or Linda Kiyabu at [lindak@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:lindak@hawaiiintel.net) for more information.



-Linda Kiyabu

## A Slice of Okinawa



### 辺戸岬 *Hedo Misaki (Cape Hedo)*

Northernmost tip of Okinawa, where the waters of the East China Sea mix with the Pacific Ocean.

## The Maui Okinawa Festival...Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars, MOKK's largest event of the year, the annual **Maui Okinawa Festival**, is scheduled for **Saturday, September 12th**. Organized by the MOKK, the festival shares our culture with the people of Maui through various foods, entertainment, and exhibits. This is by far the biggest undertaking of the year for the MOKK, and it will take the generous efforts of all of our members to make it a success!

A special edition of the newsletter will be issued in August with specific needs (e.g. volunteer areas, donations and skills needed) outlined in detail. If you have any questions at this time, please contact this year's chairperson, Betty Yamashiro, through the MOCC office at 242-1560.



# REGISTRATION FORM – MAUI OKINAWAN CHILDREN'S CAMP 2009

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size: Adult/Youth \_\_\_\_\_  
(Program is for children entering 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade)          circle one          indicate size

Returning Child: \_\_\_\_\_ No of Yrs. Participating: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Yes    No

Each registered child will receive one free Camp T-shirt. Additional shirts may be purchased for \$7 (youth) and \$10 (adult). Order below.

Parent or Legal Guardian's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Home                                  Parent work                                  Parent cell

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration Fee:

\$75 per child (MOKK Member)                                  \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$100 per child (Non-MOKK Member)                                  \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(includes one year MOKK membership)

Please indicate any additional shirt orders:

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to MOKK. Mail registration form and check to:

MOKK  
PO Box 1884  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Upon acceptance, additional forms will be sent to you.  
Ipee nifee deebiru





# Donations to the Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai

3/21/09 to 6/17/09

## General fund

Anonymous	\$25
Arakawa, Shintoku	\$75
Konno, Darren	\$30
Sugino, Stanley & Nancy	\$50
Makimoto, Nadao & Aiko	\$25
Miyahira, Mark	\$35
Nakasone, Chiyo	\$500
Tengan, Kimiko	\$25

## In memory of Minoru Gushiken

Gushiken, Jean & Gushiken, Calvin	\$50
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## In memory of Mack K. Isagawa

Isagawa, Margaret W.	\$200
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## In memory of Masayo Oshiro

Cordeiro, Audrey	\$50
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## In memory of Ralph Toyama

American Dental Assn- co-workers of Wendy-Jo Toyama	\$200
Bresler, Michele	\$25
DeWalle, David J.	\$50
Gallerani, Mark & Kellie	\$50
Goodwin, Bob & Faith	\$50
Kaneshiro, Donald	\$50
Miyagi, Morris, Iris, & Tori	\$30
Newton, Ed & Patricia	\$75
Omuro, Stanley & Annette	\$50
Payne, R. Barkley	\$35
Riha, Kenneth	\$50
Saiki, Janice	\$20
Scanlan, William & Phyllis	\$100
Toyama, Janet - In behalf of the Shun Toyama Family	\$50
Toyama, Tokiaki & Patricia	\$50
Toyama, Yoshikatsu	\$100
Wilhelm, Clarence & Mineko	\$50
Worthington, Howard & Irene	\$50

## Scholarship Fund

Anonymous	\$25
Cordeiro, Audrey	\$50

## In loving memory of Chiyoko Yogi & Takeo & Fujiko Higa

Hori, Glen & Karen & family	\$20
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## 80th Anniversary

Tsuhako, Misao	\$25
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## April 22, 2009 Performance "Champloose"

### Keiko Kina & Family

Anonymous	\$20
Anonymous	\$10
Anonymous	\$25
Hondo, Todd	\$20
Kiyabu, Lillian	\$10
Takamura, Annette	\$10
Tamashiro, Ed	\$10
Tamashiro, Koki	\$10
Yamashiro, Alex	\$10
Yamashiro, Betty	\$10
Zaan, M/M Minoru	\$20

### In-kind

M. Toguchi Body, Inc.	5 cases bottled water
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## Maui Matsuri - May 16, 2009

In-kind	
Sugino, Stanley & Nancy	2 cartons freezer ziploc bags (432 bags)





# MAUI OKINAWA CULTURAL CENTER – SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

	1 <sup>st</sup> Week	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week	4 <sup>th</sup> Week	5 <sup>th</sup> Week
Sunday	1-3pm Odori 3-5pm RMD	9am-3pm Odori 3-5pm RMD	1-3pm Fujinkai Mtg (Jan, Apr, July, Oct) 1-3pm Odori 3-5pm RMD	1-3pm Odori 3-5pm RMD	1-3pm Odori 3-5pm RMD
Monday	7-9am Gateball 7-9pm HTK (Koten Taiko)	7-9am Gateball 7-9pm HTK (Koten Taiko)	7-9am Gateball 7-9pm HTK (Koten Taiko)	7-9am Gateball 7-9pm HTK (Koten Taiko)	7-9am Gateball 7-9pm HTK (Koten Taiko)
Tuesday	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)
Wednesday	7-9am Gateball	7-9am Gateball 6:30pm Sanshin	7-9am Gateball	7-9am Gateball	7-9am Gateball
Thursday	6:30pm Sanshin	6pm Board Mtg	6:30pm Sanshin	6:30pm Sanshin	6:30pm Sanshin
Friday	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)	6-9pm Iaido (Sword)
Saturday	8-11am Workday 9am-1pm MOT (Drums)	8-11am Workday 9am-1pm MOT (Drums) 1-5pm Hawaii Taiko Kai	8-11am Workday 9am-1pm MOT (Drums)	8-11am Workday 9am-1pm MOT (Drums)	8-11am Workday 9am-1pm MOT (Drums)

**Gateball**  
**Iaido** *Sword*  
**Hawaii Taiko Kai** (HTK)  
*Koten drums*  
**Maui Okinawa Taiko** (MOT)  
*Drums*  
**Ryukyukoku Matsuri**  
**Daiko** (RMD) *Drums*

**Fujinkai** *Women's Group*  
**Project DANA** *Service Group*

Contact:  
 Charlene Yamashiro  
 Robert Montgomery  
 Janet Miyahira  
 Wendy Tamashiro  
 Traci Fujita Villarosa  
 Betty Yamashiro

**Classes and activities held at the  
 Maui Okinawa Cultural Center  
 Call (808) 242-1560**

**General Board Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (Jan, Mar, May, June, Sept, Nov)  
**Executive Board Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec)

## 2009 Upcoming Events

Application  
form inside!

<b>Children's Camp</b>	<i>Maui Okinawa Cultural Center</i>	<b>July 20-22nd (Mon-Wed)</b>
<b>Picnic</b>	<i>Velma "McWayne" Santos Center</i>	<b>July 26th (Sun)</b>
<b>Obon Festival</b>	<i>Rinzai Zen Mission</i>	<b>Aug. 22nd (Sat)</b>
<b>Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) Festival</b>	<i>Kapiolani Park (Oahu)</i>	<b>Sept. 5-6th (Sat-Sun)</b>
<b>Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai (MOKK) Festival</b>	<i>Maui Mall</i>	<b>Sept. 12th (Sat)</b>
<b>Bonen Kai</b>	<i>Maui Beach Hotel</i>	<b>Nov. 14th (Sat)</b>



**PO Box 1884**  
**Wailuku HI 96793**