

# JAPAN-AMERICA JOURNAL

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Japan-America Society of Hawaii

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# JASH Holds New Year Reception at Historic Washington Place



Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda, Mayor Kirk Caldwell, Pacific Fleet Commander Admiral Harry Harris, and Governor Neil Abercrombie toast to a prosperous New Year.

tarting the New Year at historic Washington Place was welcome news to JASH members and guests. Nearly 200 attended the sold-out reception. Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie invited the guests to his "official" home, calling attention to the many programs and services JASH provides to the community, including schools and children, in accomplishing its mission of promoting understanding and friendship between the people of U.S. and Japan through the special perspective of Hawaii. Gourmet food catered by Neiman Marcus and beer donated by Aloha Beer provided a perfect complement to the stately mansion as backdrop for starting the New Year on a high note. International Sake Association (Kokusai Sake Kai) gave private tastings of sake from the 2013 National Sake Tasting event.

Sponsor Stanford Carr welcomed the guests noting it was the eighth straight year he has sponsored the event, and he looks forward to many more. New JASH Chair Daniel Dinell of Hilton Grand Vacations gave his own New Year greetings, pledging to continue with the Society's mission and programs, and quoting from a student whose life was transformed by JASH. Later, Chair Dinell joined Governor Abercrombie, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell, new Pacific Fleet Commander Admiral Harry Harris, and Japanese Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda in the traditional breaking of the

sake cask, *kagamiwari* ceremony. Consul General Shigeeda offered the sake toast, pointing to JASH's past accomplishments to include the relief support provided to victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, and pledging future collaboration. Sake and implements were donated by Mr. Teru Kishii and The Cherry Company.

JASH would like to thank Stanford Carr, other supporters and donors, and the many volunteers who assisted with the reception. More photos available on the JASH Facebook link at www.jashawaii.org.



Guests enjoy traditional Okinawan shishimai lion dance.

# Tribute to Dr. Michael Leineweber, JASH Director

n January 8, 2014, JASH lost a friend... a true, true friend. Dr. Michael James Leineweber, Vice Chairman/Principal, Media5 Architecture and JASH Vice Chair/ Secretary lost his battle with cancer. Mike was 68. He was a true patriot, a Navy veteran. A veteran myself, I recall spending many hours with him sharing stories of service to our beloved country. The talk would always drift to U.S.-Japan relations, something Mike was passionate about, and the reason for his deep

commitment and involvement in the Japan-America Society of Hawaii. Mike was unique. He wore a suit every day when everyone else in Hawaii wore Aloha shirts. When dressing



casual, which was not very often, he would sport a Palaka shirt, a personal tribute and his desire to be connected to the early plantation workers from Japan who helped build Hawaii of today. He drove around town from meeting to meeting of causes he supported in his classic Mercedes convertible. Always a wave, and always a smile that spread across his rather full face on top of his towering frame--everyone knew Mike was coming or had arrived. As Chair of the Sister-Societies Committee, Mike relentlessly pursued

friendly relations with like-minded Societies in Japan. We will miss you Mike. But the causes you supported will live on. Ed Hawkins, President, Japan-America Society of Hawaii

# JASH Holds Educational Exchange Symposium during Honolulu Festival

ecently JASH participated in a community symposium to raise awareof educational exchanges for promoting countryto-country relations, focusing on the important U.S.-Japan relationship. The symposium, "Building Relations Through Educational Exchanges" was held at the Hawaii Convention Center as part of programs surrounding the annual Honolulu Festival held in March. This year was the special 20th Anniversary of the Festival and the orga-



Ms. Kaori Seki, student from Bunkyo University in Chigasaki, Japan studying at the University of Hawaii gives witness to how the educational exchange program has affected her life. Mayor Mori of Nagaoka City (far left), Dr. Huey (center), and Dr. McDonald of the panel look on.

nizers requested a symposium focusing on relations between Hawaii and Japan, to include Nagaoka City which for the third year in a row provided a spectacular fireworks display off Waikiki Beach.

JASH organized the symposium, inviting former Hawaii Governor George Ariyoshi as the keynote speaker, with presentations from Nagaoka City Mayor Tamio Mori, University of Hawaii's Dr. Robert Huey, Chair of the Department of East Asian Languages & Literature, and Dr. Mary McDonald, Director of the Center for Japanese Studies. Governor Ariyoshi stressed the importance of education and educational exchanges for laying the groundwork for future good will, Mayor Mori told the story of "Kome Hyappyo" hundred sacks of rice that stressed how community leaders in Nagaoka sacrificed the town's present well-being for the future of its people, and Drs. Huey and McDonald discussed how Hawaii and the U.S.-Japan relationship benefited from University of Hawaii's many educational opportunities for Japanese students and the numerous educational

exchanges with schools in Japan. JASH President Ed Hawkins gave a presentation on a U.S.-Embassy endorsed strategic campaign to promote educational and cultural exchanges as a path to future cooperation, highlighting programs such as JASH-sponsored Asian-Pacific Children's Convention, Japan Wizards, the Rainbow for Japan Kids project and the U.S.-Japan Council led TOMODACHI Initiative. An audience of about 100 attended this important bilateral event.

PowerPoint presentations are available on our website at www.jashawaii.org.

## Pacific Fleet Commander invites JASH to Round Table

dmiral Harry Harris, new Commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, recently invited members of the Japan-America Society of Hawaii Directors and Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation (CPASF) Trustees for a visit of his Pacific Fleet headquarters. Admiral Harris provided a military mission briefing of the Pacific Command "AOR" (Area of Responsibility) which extends from California to the West Coast of Africa, and his



Admiral Harry Harris welcomes JASH Directors and CPASF Trustees to his Headquarters.

role as Commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Chief Petty Officer, was recently honored by the Japanese American Citizens League for assuming four-star rank and being assigned as Commander of Pacific Fleet. Admiral Harris spoke about his recent visits to the region of his command, relating his engagements with Chinese, Russian, Korean, Japanese, and other military counterparts. Admiral Harris fielded questions, providing frank responses and assessments. The Admiral thanked JASH for the

work it does in promoting U.S.-Japan relations, and how he The Admiral, son of a Japanese mother and a Navy looks forward to working with JASH for common causes.

# JASH Helps with Japanese Food Trade Fair in Hawaii

or the third straight year, JASH helped put on the Japanese Food Trade Fair at The Royal Hawaiian Hotel. Arranged by Tokyo-based Exhibition Technologies, the fair brings food and drink vendors from various areas of Japan to showcase regional products and cuisine. The fair is intended to show food service companies and restaurants in Hawaii new products available from Japan. Fifty venders gathered for

this event on January 29th, and over 200 people attended.

JASH President Ed Hawkins, as a member of the Fair's Executive Committee, gave welcome remarks to the venders



JASH President Ed Hawkins helps open the Japanese Food Trade Fair with a Kagamiwari ceremony. L-R: Sushi Chef Masayoshi Kazato, Hawaii Restaurant Association Executive Director Roger Morey, Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda, Mr. Hawkins, Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce President Wayne Ishihara.

and attendees along with Japan's Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda and other distinguished guests.

The next evening, a "Setsubun" Party reception was held at the Official Residence of the Consul General of Japan in Honolulu, during which master chef Masayoshi Kazato, Director of the All-Japan Sushi Association's Sushi Skills Institute, created unique sushi items for the attendees. Afterwards, the staff of Exhibition Technologies

and the Consulate entertained attendees and their children with a traditional Setsubun bean-throwing ceremony to drive out evil spirits and bring in good fortune.

# Hawaii High School Students Compete in the Japan Wizards Competition

his year, 135 students representing 24 schools from Oahu, Kauai, Hawaii, and Maui competed in the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Japan Wizards Statewide Academic Team Competition (JWC) held at Kapiolani Community College (KCC). This marks the third year that Hawaiian Airlines graciously served as overall sponsor.

JASH President Edwin Hawkins welcomed the high school students and thanked Hawaiian Airlines and other major supporters.

This year, 45 teams competed in two skill levels. The teams were tested on their knowledge of Japanese art, culture and tradition, food, geography, history, Japan-Hawaii ties, literature, politics and government, sports, contemporary Japan, and of course the Japanese language.

The top three scoring teams in each of two

levels were awarded plaques. In Level A, these were Iolani School (1<sup>st</sup> place), King Kekaulike High School (2<sup>nd</sup> place), and Waiakea High School (3<sup>rd</sup> place). The Level B winners were Iolani School (1<sup>st</sup> place), Maryknoll School (2<sup>nd</sup> place), and Kalani High School (3<sup>rd</sup> place). The top scoring public

and private school of each level (Level A: King Kekaulike and Iolani; Level B: Kalani and Iolani) were awarded trips to Japan. These teams (three students and an advisor) will travel to Japan this summer to experience firsthand what they studied in the classroom and through independent research. This year's Atsuhiko Tateuchi Memorial Award for Outstanding Schol-

arship went to overall top scoring team Iolani School, Level B.

Between competition rounds, students were kept busy with the numerous activity stations in the Activity Center. These included origami by the Hawaii Origami Club, calligraphy, gyotaku fish printing by Prior 2 Pupu Productions, karuta, a tea ceremony demonstration, and Jeopardy to name a few. The Ken Yu Kai Kendo Club provided a kendo demonstration to start the Activities.



JASH President Ed Hawkins, JASH Chairman Dan Dinell, Hawaiian Airlines' Vicki Nakata, JTB Hawaii's Keiichi Tsujino and David Asunama, and JASH Director Jean Rolles pose with the four winning teams of Japan trips.

This year, Temple University of Japan was a major sponsor, donating the Japan Wizards Competition t-shirts worn by all students, advisors, and volunteers. JASH would like to thank all the donors and supporters, including Kapiolani Community College for the generous use of their facilities.





(L) Students learn how to fold Origami with volunteers from the Hawaii Origami Club; (R) Volunteers teach students the Tea Ceremony.

# Mahalo!

The Japan-America Society of Hawaii wishes to thank its many generous and dedicated sponsors and contributors for their support of the Japan Wizards Competition.

# **Sponsor**



# **Major Supporters**

ABC Stores
Atsuhiko and Ina Goodwin Tateuchi Foundation
Friends of Hawaii Charities
Hawaii Hotel Industry Foundation
Hawaiian Airlines
The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles
JTB Hawaii

## **Contributors**

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## Mahalo!

The Japan-America Society of Hawaii wishes to thank Kapiolani Community College for the generous use of its facilities and for their support of the Japan Wizards Competition.

# **UH Student Selected for Prestigious** Japan-America Student Conference

Washington, D.C. based non-profit organization to participate this coming summer in a cultural exchange between the U.S. and Japan under the Japan-America Student Conference (JASC) program. JASC is the oldest student-run cultural exchange program between the U.S. and Japan which began in 1934. Some of its past participants were Japanese Prime Minister & Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa (JASC 1939, 1940) and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (JASC 1951). JASH collaborates with UH's Center

for Japanese Studies in nominating a candidate, and supports this program through a generous grant from Mr. Allen Uyeda of the First Insurance Company of Hawaii.

Mr. Covey is majoring in International Business Administration, is fluent in Japanese and has a working knowledge of the Korean language. Born in Japan, Mr. Covey came to

niversity of Hawaii Manoa Shidler College of Busi- Hawaii when he was five. Mr. Covey also spent a summer ness student Ken Covey was recently selected by a in Korea under the Freeman Korea Study Abroad Program.

> Mr. Covey expressed a desire to promote common understanding among peoples of different cultures and backgrounds, using his personal experiences in Korea that showed the deep rift between Koreans and Japanese in how they view their respective histories. When informed of his selection, Mr. Covey was delighted that he could share his perspectives with other participants from the continental U.S. who may have very different experiences and backgrounds.

Japan-America Student Conference Mr. Ken Covev is a non-profit organization that operates educational and cultural exchange programs for university students from the United States, Japan, and Korea. To learn more about these programs, visit its website at http://www.iscdc.org or at www.jashawaii.org under Opportunities.

## Two UH Students Selected as Ehime Prefecture Interns for 2014



Ms. Rochelle Ohata. (Not pictured: Ms. Kamalolo Koanui-Kong)

wo University of Hawaii students were selected as Ehime Prefecture Interns for 2014. Ms. Rochelle Ohata, undergraduate Japanese language major/business minor, and Ms. Kamalolo Koanui-Kong, undergraduate Hawaiian language major, were selected for a three month internship at Ehime Prefectural International Center (EPIC) this summer. The students will work at the International Center with its staff and other interns from neighboring countries to carry out the Center's mission of assisting foreign travelers and visitors to Ehime. The interns will also visit schools and organizations to teach and promote Hawaiian culture, a major goal of this program. For this reason, one intern is required to be conversant in Japanese and the other schooled in Hawaiian studies.

The internship resulted as a good-will measure estab-

lished soon after the tragic collision of the Ehime Maru training ship and a U.S. submarine near Oahu in 2001. This and other educational exchange programs were established between Ehime Prefecture, Uwajima City, and State of Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu. JASH played an integral part in starting these programs. The EPIC internship is one of these programs which JASH collaborates with the University of Hawaii Manoa's Center for Japanese Studies to select participants. While in Ehime, the students will also visit historical and cultural centers to learn about this region of Japan. Before departing for Ehime, the students will visit the Ehime Maru Memorial at Kakaako Waterfront Park where they will learn about the accident, the memorial, and on-going relationship with Ehime.



## Ms. Arisa Yoshida Selected as Crown Prince Akihito Scholar for 2014

student at the Rikkyo University (also known as Saint Paul's University) College of Intercultural Communications in Ikebukuro, Tokyo has been selected as Crown Prince Akihito Scholar for 2014. Ms. Arisa Yoshida, recipient of this prestigious two-year scholarship, will enroll at the University of Hawaii Manoa this fall and work toward a Masters of Arts degree in Communications.

The Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships to University of Hawaii graduate students for study in Japan and graduate students in Japan for study at the

University of Hawaii. The Scholarship was established to commemorate the wedding of Crown Prince Akihito to Michiko Shoda in 1959 to promote understanding and good relations between U.S. and Japan, and so far has provided scholarships



Ms. Arisa Yoshida

to 142 scholars who are now serving around the world as "ambassadors of good will." As a unique aspect of the scholarship, scholars are given an audience with Their Majesties The Emperor and Empress of Japan at their Imperial Palace residence in Tokyo. Their Majesties have maintained a special relationship with the scholars, evidenced by their visit to Hawaii in July 2009 to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Scholarship during which they met with Akihito Scholar alumni.

The two-year scholarship covers tuition and living expenses, plus one-time round trip

ican side on issues

of varying sensitivi-

ties involving Japan

culture and religion.

This advice contrib-

uted greatly to how

the U.S. Navy and

the U.S. government

approached receiving

the bereaved families,

handling the deceased

remains, and the deci-

sion to conduct a full

scale recovery effort.

These actions were

critical in reducing

negative feelings for the U.S Navy and

the U.S. government,

and contributed to

the good relations we

airfare from Japan to Hawaii. The scholarship is administered by the Japan-America Society of Hawaii (JASH). Those interested in the scholarship are directed to the website at www.jashawaii.org/cpas.asp.

# JASH Supporter Dr. George Tanabe Presented with Imperial Decoration

ong-time JASH supporter Dr. George Tanabe, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Religion at the University of Hawaii at Manoa was recently presented the Imperial Decoration Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon at a ceremony at the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu. The award recognized Dr. Tanabe for "contributing to the enhancement of mutual understanding between the United



Wearing the neck ribbon, Dr. Tanabe accepts the Imperial Decoration certificate from Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda at the Japanese Consulate.

States and Japan and the promotion of Japanese culture and values through research and studies in Japanese Religions." Specific citation recognized Dr. Tanabe's key work following the 2001 Ehime Maru incident when he advised the Amer-

enjoy with Ehime today. Dr. Tanabe closely worked with the Ehime Maru Memorial Association and the Japan-America Society of Hawaii during this period to provide advice and support. Our congratulations to Dr. Tanabe.

# Japan Expert Glen Fukushima Speaks with JASH Members

ASH welcomed Mr. Glen Fukushima, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress, a prominent public policy think tank headquartered in Washington, D.C., to Honolulu to speak with JASH members and guests on the topic "How Washington Views Japan: The Good Abe and the Bad Abe." Guests gathered at the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki, and over lunch were treated to Mr. Fukushima's analysis of the current Abe Administration and thoughts on the economic and security situation around Japan.

Mr. Fukushima had just attended the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland where Prime Minister Abe spoke, and had an exclusive meeting with Japan's Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida in Washington, D.C., so he was able to provide fresh, keen insights into the thoughts of these Japanese leaders.

Mr. Fukushima is also former President, American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, and former Deputy U.S. Trade Representative for Japan and China. JASH would like



Mr. Glen Fukushima addresses the crowd.

to thank both Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and the National Association of Japan-America Societies who provided funding to bring Mr. Fukushima to Hawaii as part of the distinguished speaker series.

## Hinamatsuri Celebration at the Consulate General of Japan



(l-r) JASH Director Ms. Betty Brow, Mrs. Michiko Shigeeda, and Tomodachi Chair Mrs. Kazuko Love in front of the Consulate's hinaningyo display.

n Thursday, February 27, Consul General Toyoei Shigeeda and Mrs. Michiko Shigeeda graciously opened their residence to the Japan-America Society of Hawaii's annual Tomodachi Hinamatsuri celebration in honor of Girl's Day. Hinamatsuri is traditionally celebrated on March 3rd by Japanese families in order to ensure their daughter's health and future happiness.

Tomodachi Chair Kazuko Love shared with the guests some back-

ground about the seven-tiered hinaningyo doll display. It is believed that the dolls possess the power to contain bad spirits and protect the owner from harm. It is also believed that if the dolls are not put away on the night of Hinamatsuri, the family will have trouble marrying off their daughter.

Opera singer Takamasa Yamamura, along with piano accompaniment by Misa Ninomiya, performed a medley of opera songs. Of note was the collaboration on Tadashi Yanada's Jogashima no Ame (The Rain of Jogashima) with



Guests enjoy an opera performance by Reverend Takamasa Yamamura.

traditional Japanese dancer Segawa Senka who danced wearing an appropriate rain-colored kimono to match.

Following this special collaboration, guests were able to partake in special refreshments prepared by the Consul General's personal chef and other dishes donated by the Tomodachi Planning Committee members. The Japan-America Society of Hawaii would like to send a special Mahalo to Consul General and Mrs. Shigeeda for hosting this special event. We also send out our special thanks to Mrs. Shigeeda for giving opening remarks and being a wonderful hostess. Thank you again to our performers Takamasa Yamamura, Misa Ninomiya, and Segawa Senka. Additional photos of this event are posted on our Facebook page.

## 2014 APCC Junior Ambassadors Selected



The newly selected 2014 Junior Ambassadors with volunteer chaperone Makua Dori Kim. 1st Row (L-R): Chelley Endo, Sunny Monaco, Misa Muranaka. 2nd Row (L-R): Andrew-Lee Smith, Diesel Kawano, Kala Handa, Dori Kim.

ASH selected six 11-year-old students (three boys and three girls) to represent Hawaii as Junior Ambassadors (JAs) at the 26<sup>th</sup> Asian-Pacific Children's Convention (APCC), which will be held in Fukuoka, Japan, from July 10 - 24, 2014. Hosted by the Fukuoka based NPO by the same name and supported by the Fukuoka government, the APCC promotes relationships between children from different countries with the goal of creating adults with a strong social responsibility for the world. A total of 230 children from 45 countries and cities throughout the Asia-Pacific region have been invited to participate this year. Hawaii is one of two cities in the U.S. that will send a delegation. The students will travel to Japan with JASH volunteer chaperone, Makua Dori Kim. The students will also participate in home stays with host Japanese families.

This year, JASH received a total of 31 applications

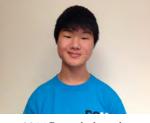
from Oahu and Hawaii. After a day of interviews and group workshops, the final six JAs were selected: Chelley Endo (Aina Haina School), Kalaokahikina "Kala" Handa (Kainalu Elementary), Diesel Kawelo (Island Pacific Academy), Malia "Sunny" Monaco (Aina Haina School), Misa Muranaka (Iolani School), and Andrew-Lee Smith (Aina Haina School).

The students will spend one Saturday each month preparing for their trip to Fukuoka. The required workshops are designed to develop teamwork skills and build students' knowledge about Japan, Hawaii-Japan ties, cultural etiquette, and other countries sending delegates to the Convention. Each delegation is required to give a cultural performance unique to that country or region. The Hawaii delegation will be performing a hula to the song *Waikiki Hula*, taught by chaperone, Makua Dori Kim. All travel and workshop costs for this program are borne by APCC and JASH.

## 2014 APCC Peace Ambassador selected

or the Asian-Pacific Children's Convention (APCC) this year, an additional delegate was selected to represent Hawaii. Jae-Sun Brown, a 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Punahou School, will be serving as a Peace Ambassador at the Convention. He was the only PA selected from Hawaii and will be joining 40 other Peace Ambassadors who have been selected worldwide.

Jae-Sun was a Junior Ambassador in 2008 Jae-Su and has since been active with Bridge Cub Hawaii (BCH),



2014 Peace Ambassador Jae-Sun Brown

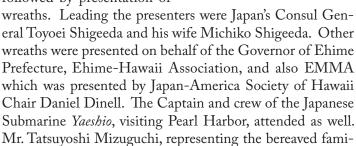
attending several of the Rainbow for Japan Kids camps over the past few years. He was selected as one of eight participants on a trip to the Tohoku region in the summer of 2013. JASH received a grant as part of the TOMODACHI Initiative and sent eight BCH members last summer to reconnect with the Japanese children they met here in Hawaii and to assist with volunteer recovery efforts in the Tohoku region.

Continued on page 11



# Bereaved Families Visit Hawaii on Ehime Maru Incident Anniversary

everal bereaved families of the Ehime Maru students and crew and representatives of Ehime Prefecture and Uwajima City arrived in Honolulu to pay respects to the deceased at the Memorial located at Kakaako Waterfront Park. A small private ceremony was arranged by the Ehime Maru Memorial Association (EMMA). Reverend Irene Matsumoto of Palolo Kwannon Temple led the audience in prayer, followed by presentation of





Bereaved family members pay respects at the Memorial.

lies, addressed those who came to show their respects and thanked the volunteers who clean and maintain the memorial.

This year, members of the newly-established Ehime Kenjinkai attended the ceremony, with its President Richard Matsu presenting a wreath in memory of the victims. Later, Mr. Matsu and several members of the Ehime Kenjinkai attended a dinner reception held for the bereaved families and

volunteers who clean the memorial. EMMA arranged and hosted this reception.

The Ehime Maru Memorial Association, associated with the Japan-America Society of Hawaii, maintains the memorial, assists the bereaved with annual memorial services, and promotes Ehime-Hawaii relations through educational and cultural programs. More information can be found on the JASH website at www.jashawaii.org/emma.asp.

# EMMA President Attends Memorial Service at Japanese Navy Sailors' Grave



EMMA President Ed Hawkins next to Consul General & Mrs. Toyoei Shigeeda at the Makiki Japanese Sailors' Memorial.

hime Maru Memorial Association (EMMA) and JASH President Ed Hawkins was invited to the annual memorial service for Japanese Navy sailors at Makiki

Japanese Cemetery in Honolulu. The service was conducted by the Hawaii Meijikai, formally established in 1958 and composed at that time of members who were born in the Meiji era, took on the task of caring for the memorial at Makiki and conducting an annual memorial service. In attendance were the Consul General of Japan in Honolulu, Toyoei Shigeeda and his wife Michiko Shigeeda, along with representatives of the Japanese-American community to include the United Japanese Society (UJS) and various Kenjinkai. Meijikai President Noboru Hayase welcomed the attendees, which was followed by a Shinto service performed by priests of the Shinto Federation of Hawaii. Consul General Shigeeda offered remarks followed by Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force Liaison Officer Commander Hiromasa Takahashi and Mr. Clyde Matsumoto of UJS. In his remarks, Mr. Hawkins honored the service and sacrifice of the sailors interred, and thanked the Meijikai members and other volunteers present for cleaning the Ehime Maru Memorial and for working to promote the important U.S.-Japan relations.

## Peace Ambassador...

Continued from page 9

Jae-Sun will help the current JAs as they prepare for their trip to Fukuoka and will plan to share the activities of Bridge Club Hawaii with other Peace Ambassadors from around the world in order to promote understanding and friendship and expand the network of worldwide Junior Ambassadors through the local Bridge Clubs.

The Junior Ambassadors and Peace Ambassador Jae-Sun

will spend one Saturday each month from now until July preparing for their trip to Fukuoka. The workshops are designed to develop teamwork skills and build students' knowledge about Japan, Hawaii-Japan ties, cultural etiquette and the 45 other countries and cities that will be sending delegates to the Convention.

#### Aloha Akita

s part of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of America-Japan Society of Akita, a charity event to help those affected by the tragedy of the Great East Japan Earthquake was held. More than 200 hundred people performed Hawaiian cultural music and dance. The people of Akita love Hawaii and its culture so it was decided to have a Hawaiian theme to attract a large audience and help to activate cultural exchanges and understandings of each country. JASH assisted with a letter from Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell.

Please see thank you letter from the President of the America-Japan Society at right.



 $\label{lem:approx} A\ \textit{hula performance at the Charity Hawaiian Event}, Aloha\ \textit{Akita}.$ 

Dear Mr. Edwin P. Hawkins President, Japan America Society of Hawaii

We would like to express our sincere thanks for your cooperation for our new challenge of Charity event "Aloha Akita" held in Akita on February 16th.

March 06, 2014

Because of your assistance we were able to make the event a successfully done. There were 9 groups performed Hula and Hawaiian music, about 280 performers were on our stage. In addition, more than 1800 audience were participated this charity event. This is much more than what we expected. We hope all the people who involve this event know and love more about Hawaii. We are sure those mind speed up cultural exchanges and so.

Thank you very much for your help of giving Mayors message. We could introduce his message to the audience. It really gave recognition of Hawaii through our event. We hope we can continue to host this kind of event next year also and more people get to know and love Hawaii

Seiichi Suda
President of the Akita America-Japan Society

## **JASH Welcomes New Board Directors**

wo leading members of the community have been inducted into the JASH Board of Directors. Mr. Teiji Murayama is the Vice President and Regional Manager, Hawaii Region of Japan Airlines (JAL), and Ms. Vicki Nakata is Vice President, Loyalty & Travel Products, Hawaiian Airlines. Both JAL and Hawaiian Airlines have been great supporters of JASH through the years. We welcome them as Directors!





## Calendar of Events

#### APRIL

Rakugo in English with Diane Kichijitsu, Orvis Auditorium

24 24th Annual Friendship Golf Classic, Hawaii Prince Golf Club, Ewa Beach

#### MAY

17 Visitor Industry Charity Walk, Waikiki

#### **JUNE**

Hilton 5:01, Hilton Hawaiian VillageWaikiki Beach Cleanup, Kuhio Beach

### **JASH Donor Recognition**

January- March 2014

Statesman \$5,000 - \$24,999

First Insurance Charitable Foundation

#### Counselor \$1,000 - \$4,999

Nagaoka International Exchange Association

#### **Diplomat \$250 - \$999**

Stafford Kiguchi

#### **Colleague \$1 - \$249**

Robert Huey Margaret Oda IMO Michael Leineweber Blair Odo Ruth Ono

Roberta Sullivan IMO Michael Leineweber Wayne Tamashiro



## Membership Updates

January- March 2014

#### New Corporate Member

First Canoe Strategies & Consulting Entrepreneur

#### Corporate Member Upgrade

Media5 Architecture Donor

#### **New General Members**

Mr. Jae-Sun Brown	Student
Mr. John Carroll	Individual
Ms. Chelley Endo	Student
Mr. Kalaokahikina Handa	Student
Mr. Diesel Kawelo	Student
Ms. Vickie Kim	Individual
Mr. Gary Meyers	Individual
Ms. Malia Monaco	Student
Ms. Misa Muranaka	Student
Ms. Ayako Sakuma	Student
Ms. Eiko Sakuma	Student
Mr. John Seymour	Student
Mr. Andrew-Lee Smith	Student
Ms. Cathy Tajiri	Family
Mr. Alan Yamamoto	Individual
Ms. Arisa Yoshida	Student

#### **General Member Upgrades**

Mr. Kenneth DeHoff	Sustaining
Mr. Stephen Dyer	Family
Ms. Deborah Hinkle-Funakawa	Sustaining

## **New Corporate Member**

#### First Canoe Strategies & Consulting

First Canoe Strategies & Consulting offers a range of high impact consulting services for companies, nonprofits, and academic institutions with an emphasis on areas that enhance productivity, increase profitability, and bring success. We specialize in advice on business development, building networks, strategic partnering opportunities, and leadership development.

We have a proven track record of working with companies from multiple sectors - high technology, renewable energy, education, construction, military, and health and wellness, to name a few.

First Canoe Partners are committed to ongoing service to their community by volunteering at various intervals to support more than 15 separate nonprofit organizations whose mission is improved standard of living and quality of life in Hawaii.

#### Japan-America Society of Hawaii