

Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji Mission
902 University Avenue Honolulu, HI 96826

Nonprofit Organization

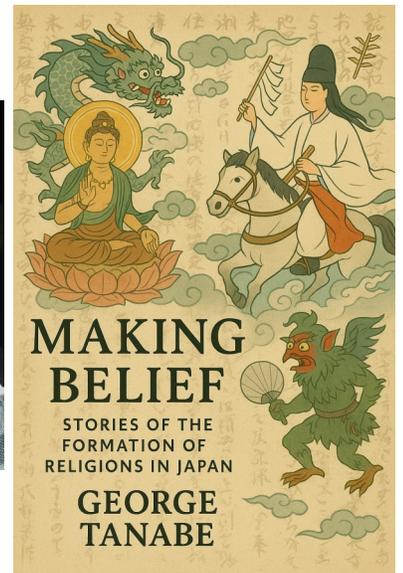
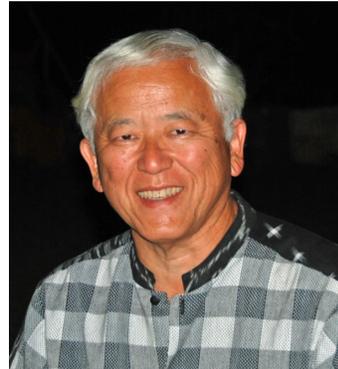
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SPRING SEMINAR

Date: April 25, 2026
Time: 9:00 - 11:30am
Place: Moiliili Hongwanji
Speaker: Dr. George Tanabe
Topic: "The Power of Stories in Japanese Religion"



George Tanabe was born and raised in Waialua, Hawaii. He graduated from University High School, [Willamette University \(B.A.\)](#), [Union Theological Seminary \(M.Div.\)](#), and [Columbia University \(M.A. and Ph.D.\)](#). From 1977 to 2006, he taught in the Department of Religion at the University of Hawaii and is currently Professor Emeritus. He is President of BDK Hawaii and Chairman of BDK America, and [has published with university presses at Harvard, Hawaii, Columbia and Princeton](#). For his work as a consultant to the U.S. Navy on the recovery of the *Ehime Maru*, the Japanese government honored him with the Foreign Minister's Award (2007) and the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun (2012). In 2024, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii named him a Living Treasure of Hawaii. George and his wife Willa (Professor Emerita of Japanese Art History) published *Japanese Buddhist Temples of Hawai'i: An Illustrated Guide* (UH Press). His first novel, *Miki's Mad*, was published in 2024 by Deuxmers Publishing. He still lives in Waialua.



The White Way

Mo'ilili Hongwanji is the center of Shin Buddhist spiritual growth, learning, and compassionate service to our Community.

Temple Office: (808) 949-1659 mhm@moililihongwanji.org www.moililihongwanji.org
Project Dana: (808) 945-3736 info@projectdana.org
www.facebook.com/MoililiHongwanji/ www.instagram.com/moililihongwanji/



Mentor, Motivate, Innovate and Inquiry: Shinnen Enkai Recap

Rev. David Fujimoto

As we look at the new year, we reflect upon the make up of the Sangha to recognize past accomplishments, acknowledge the challenges we will encounter, and mindfully chart a path forward. With the Dharma as it's guide, this journey should be nurtured by the principles of mentorship, motivation, innovation, and inquiry, which serve as the foundation for continued growth.

Drawing inspiration from the Teachings of Shinran *Shōnin*, "When I consider deeply the Vows that Amida Buddha made, I see that they are intended for me", we are encouraged to realize our individual potential and to uplift one another through gratitude and compassion. Mentorship, defined as the recognition of each individual's inherent worth, guidance rooted in kindness, and the empowerment of others, is central to fostering wisdom, unity, and a supportive network within our community.

Valuing the unique contributions and talents of each member inspires positive and compassionate action. By adapting cherished traditions to align with contemporary society, the temple ensures that the Buddha's Teachings remain both relevant and inspiring for future generations.

The recent announcement of the closure of Waiialua Hongwanji offers an opportunity for reflection on its lasting legacy. This moment imparts important lessons in resilience, the forgiving attitude necessary to let go, and the significance of honoring memories while nurturing a vision for the future. As the community transitions to celebrating the ongoing vibrancy of the temple in a new form, we are encouraged to cultivate wisdom, compassion, and joy by nurturing the talents that reside within the sangha.

Moilili Hongwanji should continue to nurture and serve as a dynamic spiritual home, YOUR spiritual home, shaped by present challenges and emerging opportunities. Each time we enter the Hondo, we should embrace and examine our practices, embrace compassionate change, and thoughtfully consider the questions "Why are we here?" and "What legacy shall we leave behind?" Change, in this context, is regarded as an opportunity for renewal, and the empowerment of new leaders is essential for ensuring the enduring vitality of the Dharma. In that spirit, there needs to be a change in mindset to celebrate what we have and not lament the losses.

As with many ministers approaching retirement and even considering our own membership, the necessity of equipping and encouraging the next generation of leaders become ever more apparent. The temple aspires to stand as a beacon of tradition and innovation, adapting to the evolving needs of its community while honoring a profound legacy. The enduring strength of the sangha is rooted in resilience, unity, inclusivity, and mutual support—qualities that are continually nourished by the lessons of the past, the wisdom of elders, and the teachings of Shinran Shonin. Together, the community is called to embrace change, celebrate achievements, and sustain the vibrancy of the sangha for generations to come.

REPORT TO SANGHA

From the Moiliili Hongwanji Board of Directors
March 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2026 started off with New Year's Eve and New Year's Day services, a nice way to say goodbye to 2025 and hello to 2026!

The **temple mochitsuki** on January 4th was a hit! So many people came to watch Alan Nakasone pound mochi while Ernie Morikubo turned the mochi in the usu. A few tried their hand at pounding but soon realized how hard that was. Mahalo to Alan and Ernie for the cultural experience! But mochitsuki wasn't the only way to make mochi that day. Lily Masuda and her helpers made mochi with electric machines so there was plenty of mochi for everyone to eat—and lots of toppings donated by temple members! Our social hall was packed with people trying out mochi with fruit, peanut butter, kinako and much more. We hope many of them will come again during the year!

One week later, temple volunteers participated in the **JCCH Ohana Festival**, preparing and selling Japanese New Year's specialties like ozoni, kobumaki and sekihan. We are grateful for hard-working volunteers like Arlyne Takiue and Brian and Sandi Yamagata (and their sons) for their expertise in preparing the New Year's treats.

ANNUAL MEETING AND SHINNEN ENKAI

On February 15, the **Shinnen Enkai** (New Year's party) was well attended by temple members, who came to enjoy good food, entertainment by the Dharma School and retired ministers, and the company of other temple members, some we haven't seen in a while. It was also a celebration of Moiliili Hongwanji's **120th anniversary**. To commemorate this milestone, Ann Nakata prepared a display of photos from our archives—a look back in history. The display is still up on the social hall walls so please take a look.

The **Annual Meeting** was held prior to the party to report to sustaining members about the state of our temple. We're happy to report the temple is doing well and has elected a **new President, Martha Samson!** Martha is originally from Texas but has been a member of Moiliili Hongwanji for more than 40 years. She has also been a volunteer with Project Dana almost since its founding by Shimeji Kanazawa and Rose Nakamura.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR RENT NEXT DOOR

The building next door will be completed soon and ready for occupancy. The property will be managed by Savio Realty, which is taking applications for those interested in renting an affordable housing unit. Applicants must meet income qualifications for a studio apartment. If you or a family member or friend are interested, leave your name with the office and we'll get you more information.

NEW TEMPLE PARKING RULES

The building next door is not required to provide parking for tenants, but that doesn't mean they won't have cars and may be tempted to park in front of the temple or in our makai parking lot. To avoid problems, the temple has posted signs warning about private property and towing of unauthorized vehicles

New rules for parking at the temple will be implemented very soon. If you'd like to park in any of our parking lots, you'll need a **parking permit** and follow rules about how to enter temple property. For safety reasons, we advise pedestrians to avoid walking on the driveway to and from the makai lot. The new parking rules will be in place from April. Please contact the office for more information.

RENTAL OF TEMPLE FACILITIES

If you need a place to hold a party or other gathering, contact the office at 808-949-1659 about renting our social hall or annex. **Rental fees are reasonable** (\$30/hour for sustaining members; \$50/hour for non-members). Some of our renters have recurring activities. The Moiliili Sewing School is a long-term tenant, holding classes every day. Others like United Self Help, Oahu Jewish Ohana, a choral group, and a hula halau use our facilities weekly or monthly.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

March 22 (Sunday) – Betsuin Spring Bazaar – 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Hawaii Betsuin.

March 28 (Saturday) – Moiliili Card Trade Show – 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at MHM Social Hall. Jayden Takiue and friends are hosting the show at the temple social hall and donating all vendor fees to MHM!

April 3-5 (Friday-Sunday) – YESS Camp (for ages 13-23) – at Kona Hongwanji. Deadline: March 25.

April 18 (Saturday) – BSC Spring Festival – Saturday, April 18, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Buddhist Study Center. Theme: “Appreciating Our Ohana.” Featuring: intergenerational workshops, entertainment, food, games, activities.

April 25 (Saturday) - Spring Seminar with Dr. George Tanabe - 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at MHM.

June 18-24 (Thursday-Wednesday) – YBICSE (for college-age youth) – Japan tour – cost TBD.



Mō'ili'ili Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association

(MH BWA) Submitted by: Susan Okano, President

This Year of the Horse is galloping full speed ahead. The BWA officers and directors met in January to plan what promises to be an exciting year. The year began with the women preparing, assembling and delivering 15-20 lunches for the senior members of MHM and BWA as part of our C.A.R.E. (compassion and respect for elders) Day Project. That same day was also Buddhist Dana Day in which monetary donations from BWA members and friends are being sent to Honolulu United BWA for selected social welfare agencies. MH BWA held its first meeting of the year in February during which members approved a \$500 contribution towards the upcoming PBA taiko event.

MH BWA supports the temple and serves the community through volunteering, fundraising, and community service activities. It currently has 42 active and nine associate members. Interested people, including men, are welcome to join Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji BWA.





GUIDED BY OUR DARUMA-SAN

“Nana korobi yaoki” is a Japanese proverb meaning “fall down 7 times, get up 8. Daruma dolls are designed to represent this proverb. Even if they are knocked down many times, they return upright each time, never giving up. The Capital Campaign Team has our own Daruma-san which we used to set our goal by painting in one eye at the beginning of our Campaign three years ago. Although our Campaign has ended on February 15, we still have high hopes of achieving our goal. When that happens, Daruma-san’s second eye will be painted in with much gratitude.

Your contributions over the past three years have made a meaningful difference and a huge impact in getting closer to our goal of \$500,000.00. Our updated contributions as we go to press is \$ 439,546.59. We are in our final stretch! With everyone’s continued effort, generosity, and support, we are determined to give our Daruma-san his other eye! That will be a day of celebration!

Any future contributions labeled “for the Capital Campaign” will be humbly accepted and added to the TOTAL. Let’s make it happen in 2026, as we commemorate Moilili Hongwanji’s 120th Anniversary. SINCEREST ALOHA and THANK YOU SO MUCH!

The Capital Campaign Team, Nancy Shimamoto, Joanne Kealoha, Reverend D. Fujimoto,

Rona Fukumoto, Robin Meade, Martha Samson, Emma Kie, and Iris Wasa Uehisa

Renovating News:

Temple renovations progress report:

- a. Building Design Plans by Electrical engineers were received by Architect and sent to Third Party Review for detailed analysis before submitting plans to City Department of Planning and Permitting for building permit.
- b. Hurricane Accordion Shutters for Hondo windows have been scheduled for installation in late February.

From the Renovation Committee Report for February 2026

Shinnen Enkai - February 15, 2026



The Year of the Fire Horse was greeted with a Shinnen Enkai New Year's Luncheon on February 15, 2026. Shinnen enkai turned out to be a combination of Valentine's Day & Chinese New Year. There were rose bud candy kisses made by the *Jaycees* and Chinese good luck candies by *Cheryl Yasunaga*, on the tables. Flowers decorated the tables, put together by *Ann Nakata*. The gathering drew a capacity crowd in the temple's social hall with over 100 families & friends in attendance.

After the service, there was Installation of New Officers. We would like to thank outgoing president *Joanne Kealoha* for her many years of service and welcome *Martha Samson* as our incoming temple president.

Arlyne Takiue & committee planned the following: An ono catered lunch followed by a Silent Auction, chaired by *Cynthia Ogasawara*. Thanks to everyone's donated items, we successfully grossed over \$1000! Entertainment highlighted the second half of the day. As an ice breaker, *Eric Kagawa* & *Roy Masuda* shared their contagious laughter and gave away Happy Pills! Then with the suggestion of *Rev. Fujimoto*, "Dreams," written & composed by Eddie Kamae, started the program. Instrumentalists *Eri Kikuchi* & *Erika Bar-David* of Hawaii Betsuin joined in on the keyboard and violin. *Rev. David Fujimoto* played the sanshin. The musicians and singers, ably led by *Alan Nakamoto*, harmonized beautifully.

Eri & *Erika* both sang and played "Oshogatsu" and "Sukiyaki." The songs added to the New Year festivities. The *Happy Strummers*, singers & dancers sang & danced hula to "When We See the Golden Sun". The *Dharma School* hyped the audience with "What It Sounds Like" from KPop Demon Hunters. Everyone lit up the room by waving their lighted stars. Sangha Singers by Moiliili's former ministers & friends, led in the singing of "Hotaru no Hikari," or "Glow of a Firefly," accompanied on the piano by *Francis Okano*.

It was a celebratory Year of the Horse program, beautifully done by talented entertainers. Don't miss next year's Shinnen Enkai!



White Way Radio

Change is Good!

You must've heard by now that this is the 50th anniversary of MHM's White Way Radio Broadcast. Under Rev. Ryoshin and Thomas Okano and President Michio Morikubo, we began this 50 years ago. We struggled with cassette tapes, reel to reel tapes, compact disks and needed to invite our speakers to join us in our upstairs Sound Room just to tape a 10 minute broadcast for the radio each week. *Perseverance ruled!!!* With today's new technology, it's a different story. Our announcers use their individual cellphones to record the beginning and end of each broadcast and sends the message directly to the office. The speakers can do the same. Next, special thanks to technician Richard Oka who joins the speakers' message and announcers' talk together. This digitized message is then transmitted directly to the Radio Station without stepping one foot outside of the office. *Amazing!!!*

Today we wish to thank the new crew of volunteer announcers: Nancy Shimamoto (chair), Noriyo Morikubo, Lynn Nakata, Cynthia Ogasawara, and Raymond Takiue, Jr. *Great job!!!*

Tune in to KZOO 1210AM each Saturday morning from 7:45 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. for Moiliili Hongwanji's "The White Way" radio broadcast of English-language Dharma messages. If you missed it or wish to hear it again, go to Moiliili Hongwanji's website and look under "Buddhist Teachings." (shared by Donna Higashi)





Project Dana Caring for the Caregiver March 2026 Announcements

Caring for the Caregiver Training Workshop

Date	Saturday, March 7, 2026
Time	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Location	Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji Mission Social Hall, 902 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96826
Topic	Caregiver Burnout, Self-Care, and Project Dana Services This training workshop is a great opportunity for caregivers to deepen their learning around: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caregiver burnout and self-care • Community-based education and engagement • Awareness of Project Dana's services
Featuring	Mernie Miyasato-Crawford, LCSW/Volunteer Counselor, Shelley Paet, Caring for the Caregiver Program Specialist, University of Hawaii, Manoa Interns

Free workshop for **CURRENT CAREGIVERS** who meet the following criteria:

- Caregiver provides unpaid care to an individual at least 60 years old.
- Individual receiving care lives in the community and not in a nursing home or care home.

Seating is limited. Registration is required by Friday, February 27th.

**Please call or email if you are interested in attending or need more information about the workshop:
Shelley Paet, Program Specialist, (808) 945-3736, email: cgs@projectdana.org**

Project Dana Public Presentation Meetings

Meeting Date:	Wednesday, March 11, 2026
Time:	10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Location:	Zoom and Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i Betsuin (1727 Pali Hwy., Honolulu, HI 96813)
Topic:	“10 Health Habits for your Brain and Alzheimer’s & Music” – Caregivers will learn about healthy habits for your brain that can boost cognitive function, slow brain aging and reduce the risk of Alzheimer’s disease. The speaker will also discuss how music can be a wonderful therapeutic tool for relaxation, redirection, reminiscing, and social interaction.
Speaker:	Calvin Hara, Advocate for Alzheimer’s Association

Meeting Date:	Saturday, March 14, 2026
Time:	10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Location:	Zoom and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (94-821 Kuhaulua St., Waipahu, 96797)
Topic:	“Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i” – Caregivers will learn an overview of AILH’s services and the many programs that can support their loved ones in maintaining independence, strengthening self-advocacy skills, and accessing community resources. This session will help caregivers better understand available supports that promote safety, dignity, and quality of life for individuals aging in place or living with disabilities in Hawai'i.
Speaker:	Thomas Lum, Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i

*Zoom links will be provided by inquiry.

**Please call or email if you are interested on attending the Training Workshop and/or Public Presentations or for more information about the program:
Shelley Paet, C4C Program Specialist, (808) 945-3736, email: cgs@projectdana.org**

This training is funded under the Title III Older Americans Act, administered by the Executive Office on Aging, State of Hawaii through the Elderly Affairs Division, City and County of Honolulu.

RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU ENJOY CLEANING YOUR HOME

I believe that not many people like cleaning their homes so can you imagine cleaning a two-story temple? On Sunday, February 22, 2026, there were about 77 volunteers who stepped up to the challenge. We had many temple members, friends of temple members, community individuals, and about 17 young women and men from several different Jaycees Chapters who came out to assist us.

Luckily the weather cleared up, and the turnout was a huge success! There were 11 areas to clean: Hondo, O-Naijin, front porch-temple steps-elevator area, both sides of the temple lanais-all the railings, Nokotsudo-chair lift area, upstairs and downstairs male/female bathrooms, very large social hall, annex-sewing room, kitchen-kama area, temple grounds and the archive room. We started with a message from our minister, Rev. Fujimoto then around 9:10 am everyone had their assignments from wiping all the windows inside and outside, cleaning the fans, wiping down the walls, dusting the lights, washing all the screens, scrubbing the toilets, sweeping and mopping the floors, pulling weeds in the garden, cutting down banana trees, cleaning the glass of each niche in the Nokotsudo, wiping the shelves, cleaning the kitchen appliances and organizing everything in the kitchen and sorting through so many photo albums-archiving pictures, and straightening out the supplies just to name a few things that were done. Then around 11:30 am the lunch crew prepared and served everyone pizza, chili, Portuguese bean soup, salad and variety of chips/snacks and a variety of desserts that were devoured by everyone. A HUGE MAHALO to everyone who came out to our temple to help us clean, we could not have done it without each and every one of you!!! Hope to see you all in 2027...

In Deep Gratitude, Cynthia Ogasawara



Nokotsudo Donations

Don & Joyce Arakaki	Linda Kameoka	Alvin & Hyo Jung Nakamura	Bert Tanaka
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Mahalo Temple Donations



Corrected Donations from the January 2026 issue

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Roy & Amy Abe	<i>IMO Stafford Yoneda</i>	<i>IMO Kiyoko Sato</i>	<i>IMO JoAnn Okubo</i>
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Wayne Ishizaki <i>IMO Takeo & Sarah Ishizaki & Family</i>	Alan Nakasato <i>IMO Myrtle C. Nakasato</i>	Glenn & Waka Sakamoto <i>IMO Kiso Sakamoto & Family</i>	Jeanne Watari Raymond & Elaine Yagi <i>IMO Masayoshi & Mildred Kanemitsu</i>
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Contact the office for Zoom link)

March 2026

- 1 9:00 AM Remembrance Service
- 8 9:00 AM Ohigan Service/ Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 15 9:00 AM Family Dharma Service/ Raymond Takiue
- 22 9:00 AM Family Dharma Service
- 29 9:00 AM Family Dharma Service/ Raymond Takiue

April 2026

- 5 9:00 AM CXD - HBC Hanamatsuri Service at Betsuin
- 12 9:00 AM Hanamatsuri & Remembrance Service
- 19 9:00 AM BWA Eshinni&Kakushinni Service/
Mrs. Wendie Yumori
- 26 9:00 AM Family Dharma Service

May 2026

- 3 9:00 AM Remembrance Service
- 10 9:00 AM Mother's Day Service
- 17 9:00 AM Gotan-e Service (Shinran's Birthday)
- 24 9:00 AM Family Dharma Service
- 31 9:00 AM Family Dharma Service

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

Moiili Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of:

Stanley Masashi Yamachi	10/13/2025	85
Trudy Tamiko Takayesu	10/14/2025	87
Michie Hamao	11/10/2025	96*
Mashiko Abe	11/13/2025	102*
Kenneth Minoru Takeuchi	11/30/2025	98*
Ulysses Matao Matsumoto	12/3/2025	82
Jean Toshie Kohashi	12/5/2025	78
Dennis Shizuo Oshio	12/24/2025	78

May the Onembutsu provide solace to family members during this time of sorrow.

* indicates Goji member

WHITE WAY RADIO

Join us on Saturdays for White Way Radio on KZOO1210 at 7:45 a.m. for inspiring messages from a variety of speakers. We are truly grateful for our White Way sponsors who make it possible to share the Dharma on the air every week. If you missed it go to www.moiililhongwanji.org, Buddhist Teachings.

March 2026

- 7 Rev. Thomas Okano/ Mrs. Jo-Ann Yokota
- 14 Rev. Shigenori Makino/ Ms. Donna Higashi
- 21 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto/ John & Laura Moriyama
- 28 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio/ MHBWA

April 2026

- 4 Bishop Takami Inoue/ Mrs. Wendy Nakanishi
- 11 Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara/ The Nakata Family
- 18 Ms. Emi Hashi/ Mrs. Karen Murakami
- 25 Ms. Maria Morales/ Mr. Arnold Matsuura

May 2026

- 2 Rev. Eric Matsumoto/ The Hirai Family
- 9 Ms. Linda Nagai/ The Yoshimura Family
- 16 Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata/ Mr.&Mrs. Sorakubo
- 23 Rev. Ai Hironaka/ Mrs. Iris Wasa-Uehisa
- 30 Rev. David Nakamoto/ Mr. & Mrs. Roy Abe

White Way Radio

Michie Hamao
Jeffrey & Renee Kaneshiro
Kie Family
Miyasaki Family
Morikubo Family
Michael & Wendy Sorakubo
Iris Wasa-Uehisa

Fall Ohigan

Thomas & Leatrice Sakamoto

White Way Newsletter

Kenneth & Janice Okamura

Mary Foster Fund

Hudson Fukuki

Eitaikyo

Thomas & Leatrice Sakamoto
Jo-Ann Yokota



Hoonko speaker - Rev Ai Hironaka



Project Dana Service



Junior YBA visit



Maria Morales



DJ Goyette



Kitty Wolfe



Board of Directors



Keirokai



2026 Living Legends - Cyndi Osajima, Wendy Nakanishi, Susan Okano & Gordon Kitsuwu

