

Hawai'i Federation of Jr. YBAs
2020 ~ 2021 Summer Serendipity

Hawai'i ■ Honolulu ■ Kauai ■ Maui ■ O'ahu

Editor: Manami Alspach



Table of Contents

- 01 ▪ Words of Wisdom
- 02-03 ▪ Letter from the President
- 04-05 ▪ Letter from the Editor
- 06-07 ▪ United of Hawai'i Update
- 08-09 ▪ United of Honolulu Update
- 10-11 ▪ United of Kauai Update
- 12-13 ▪ United of Maui Update
- 14-15 ▪ United of Oahu Update
- 16 ▪ Fed. Officer Candidates
- 17 ▪ Contact Information

Words of Wisdom

It's okay to try and fail and try and fail again, but it's not okay to try and fail and fail to try again.

- Alexa

Success is not the key to happiness. *Happiness is the key to success.* If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.

- Albert Schweitzer

Letter from the President

HII EVERYONE!!

Wow, I know everyone must say this, but I really can't believe this is my last message already. At the beginning of this year, I thought I would have some sort of in person meeting or activity with you guys, but nonetheless, it was an amazing year filled with opportunities. Thank you all so much for supporting me and keeping our organization fun and alive throughout this past year. I was able to learn so much, and I am so grateful to have held this position. I think one of my biggest takeaways is to always find a way to learn and to create your own opportunities. Watch the people around you to be able to learn from them and never be afraid to ask questions. We have the gift of being surrounded by people who can teach us so many things, from true gratitude and giving back to running proper meetings and discussions. Learn to be interested and curious about other people, what they do, and how things came about. People have some amazing stories to tell and you won't regret hearing it. For me, being excited to learn

Letter from the President

has made me so much happier and enjoy life more. I truly think it is so amazing to be able to take the knowledge and skills someone else learned from someone before them and have it passed on to me to apply to my own life. Every person has an impact on our lives and shapes us into who we are now. Also, remember to respect everyone around you, even those younger than you, because you might be surprised by other perspectives and the insight they have. You guys are THE BEST and never stop being YOU :))

Love you lots! <3

Kana Suzuki

Federation President
(United of O'ahu)



Letter from the Editor

Hey everyone!!

I can't believe that this is already my last Serendipity... Although it's not what we expected, this was a super fun and somewhat eventful year! Hopefully we can all see each other in person soon (maybe next Fed??).

Being Vice President this past year gave me lots of opportunities to mess with more technological stuff which was really fun, not to mention, helpful haha. But let me thank you all for giving me the chance to have this role in the federation, it was really a wonderful experience. Also, a quick shout out to Kana, Kokoro, and Jaimee for being awesome co-Fed officers and Aunty Joy for always guiding us and having our backs.

I've gotten to know a lot of you, both Juniors, Advisors, and Reverends, throughout the years, and I want to thank you all so much for creating such good connections with me and each other that I know will last for a lifetime! I truly wish that we could have seen each other more -in person- this year but we'll just have loads

Letter from the Editor

more fun from now on to make up for it!

Unfortunately, this will be my last year as a Jr.YBA member because I'll be graduating next Spring (T . T). So, I plan to make it an eventful one (get ready for the next convention, Hawai'i United is hosting lol). Speaking of which, "Thank you" to the United of Honolulu for putting together such a fun-filled and enlightening convention! Definitely one for the books!

I hope everyone is doing great and are living life to the fullest. Seniors; congrats on graduating and good luck in college! Have fun! Everyone, have a great summer and see you at Fall Fed!

In Gassho,
Manami Alspach
Fed.Vice President
(United of Hawai'i)



United of Hawai'i



Hello everyone!

I hope everyone reading this is staying healthy and well and having fun at convention!! It's been a hectic year but we've all done a great job in supporting each other.

We have been busying ourselves with Feed the Hungry projects and honoring our 2021 graduates during this last month. We'd like to give a big congratulations to the graduates of the other uniteds as well!

As things are beginning to reopen and restrictions lessen, we hope to go back to more in-person projects more often than this past year. I hope you all continue to stay safe and take care of yourselves!

In Gassho,

- Laethan Chanhmany
United of Hawai'i : President





United of Hawai'i



United of Honolulu



Hi Everyone!

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer break! The United of Honolulu has been working hard to prepare for the 64th Jr. YBA State Convention.

At the end of May, we met in person for the first time in over a year! We conducted the Color A Smile Service Project, where we colored drawings that will be mailed to people in nursing homes, troops overseas, and more. After, we had a meeting to finalize Convention planning, and went to Shaka Shaka for a boba! It was great to see and converse with everyone in person.

At the beginning of June, a couple of Juniors met to; print and bind the booklets, pack the registration packets, and send everything out. I



United of Honolulu

think the Convention shirt, booklet, and tote bag turned out amazing! We hope you enjoy the registration packet, and most of all, this convention!

Stay safe!

- Naho Umitani
United of Honolulu : President



United of Kauai



Hello everyone!

United of Kauai has been doing the best we can right now with our current situation. These days we've had multiple meetings where we talked about what we will be doing. We were finally able to clean one of the temples by recycling all the old cans and plastic bottles.

Now, we will be saying goodbye to two of our members Mason and Isabella as they go off to college. We plan to hold a small pizza party for them to celebrate what they have done. There isn't much we can do but during the summer we plan to help clean some beaches. This school year is finally

United of Kauai

over and soon some people will leave for college and others will stay in high school. I hope that everyone can have a fun and relaxing summer break.

Thank you!

- Taryn Ramil
United of Kauai : President



United of Maui



Aloha all!

Hello all, I hope you all are doing well. I know most of us were stressing with finals and AP testing but finally school is out for the summer. Most us will finally get to relax and many of us are heading off whether it be to vacation or college. We have three graduates this year, Tani and Kai, from King Kekaulike and Kokoro from Lahaina Luna. Congrats to all of the graduates and hope the best for you all. Not too much else has happened for our United besides meetings every month.

Mahalo!

- Jaimee Yokoyama
United of Maui : President





United of Maui



United of O'ahu



Hi everyone,

I hope you are enjoying your Summer Break! Situations here on Oahu are starting to seem more optimistic as we move into Tier 4. As many of us are getting vaccinated, we can hope to return to a new normal. For the past two months, the United Jr. YBA of Oahu continued to meet virtually on Google Meets. Although we didn't do much since the last Federation, here are a few activities our United has done.

In May, a few members of our United participated in the Statewide Dharma School Meeting to help bring back Dharma Lessons to our United when we come back in person. We also finished our Convention Resolution Discouraging Fast Fashion, which we have



United of O'ahu

been brainstorming and drafting for the past three months. We can't wait for you to read it! In June, we started to prepare for the Convention by applying for contests and officer positions. In celebration of our graduating seniors, we also began planning gifts. We hope to plan something special for them at our first in-person meeting in July.

お疲れ様でした。(Thank you for your hard work!)

In Gassho,

- Chad Okawa
United of Oahu : President



Fed. Officer Candidates

2021 - 2022
FEDERATION OFFICER
CANDIDATES

MANAMI ALSPACH
from the
UNITED OF HAWAI'I

of
Kona Hongwanji Mission

* * *

WHY TO VOTE FOR ME :

1. "I have been in Jr. YBA for 5 years & just served as Fed. VP!"
2. "I am responsible and have a strong sense of leadership!"

FUN FACT :

blah





CHAD OKAWA
from the
UNITED OF O'AHU
of
'Aiea Hongwanji Mission

* * *

WHY TO VOTE FOR ME :

1. "I have familiarity with editing Newsletters; Assistant Editor/Distributor for 'Aiea Hongwanji Jiko Newsletter"
2. "I have familiarity with communicating with outside sources"

FUN FACT :

Chad is a self-taught
Shinobue player

UNITANI FOR SECRETARY
SECRETARY NAHO UNITANI
UNITANI FOR SECRETARY
FOR SECRETARY NAHO
UNITA
R SECE
HO U
SE
HO
DR
NA
R
AHO
SECE
AHO U
SECRET
MITANI FOR SECRETARY



NAHO UNITANI
from the
UNITED OF HONOLULU
of
Moili'ili Hongwanji Mission

* * *

WHY TO VOTE FOR ME :

1. "I was the secretary for two years in my United!"
2. "I am responsible and very organized!"

FUN FACT :

Naho works part-time at a cake store in Ala Moana!

KANA SUZUKI
from the
UNITED OF O'AHU
of
Pearl City Hongwanji

* * *

WHY TO VOTE FOR ME :

1. "I have been past United Secretary, United VP, Fed VP, & Fed President"
2. " I am organized and good at note taking"

FUN FACT :

Kana can (very barely) ride a skateboard



REASURER JAIMEE YOKOYAMA FOR T
JAIMEE YOKOYAMA FOR T
A FOR TREASURER JAIMEE
YOKOYAMA FOR TREASURE
E YOKO
P TREA
E YO
REF
OK
RE
YA
TR
KOY
ASU
OYAMA
DR TRE
ASURER JAIMEE YUKOYAN

JAIMEE YOKOYAMA

from the

UNITED OF MAUI

of

Pearl City Hongwanji

* * *

WHY TO VOTE FOR ME :

1. "I have the experience of being the treasurer this last year"
2. "I also know how to deposit a check"



To Be Continued...

***THANK YOU FOR AN
AWESOME YEAR
&
SEE YOU IN THE FALL!***