

Sakura



Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce



A Message From the 58th HJCC President

Aloha fellow members of the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of the 2007 – 2008 Board of Directors, we are grateful for having the opportunity to serve as your Officers over the next year.

As the new President, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest thanks and well wishes to the 2006 - 2007 Board of Directors, who through their dedication and hard work made this past year a huge success. Through their guidance and patience, I have learned a lot from each one of them over the past year and will use these tools to strive to make this next year even more successful and rewarding for you.

I want to personally thank each new Officer for volunteering their time and energy to be a part of this new Board of Directors Team. With a great mix of experience, fresh ideas, and tremendous energy that makes up the new Board, I have the utmost confidence that as a team we will be able to steer the chapter in a manner consistent with its rich heritage and long-standing traditions.

We are already off to a great beginning with several community service projects and social activities during the past two months and plans in the works for several networking events and our Goodwill Tour to Japan next month. Our focus this year is on “Strengthening Our Relationships”. We are beginning by strengthening our relationships with our members, thus we can then in turn strengthen our relationships with the people, organizations, and businesses that have helped the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce thrive year after year.

We look forward to seeing you at many of the chapter and Cherry Blossom Festival events over the next year.

With warm aloha,

Justin George

58th HJCC President

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Presenting the 2007-2008 Board of Directors



Chairman of the Board

Jonathan Murai

Jon is a Structural Engineer at KAI Hawaii, Inc., and has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington. Look for him decked out in purple when UW plays UH on December 1st!



President

Justin George

Justin is a Tournament Manager of Sony Open in Hawaii, Turtle Bay Championship and the SBS Open, and has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from the University of Hawaii.

In his spare time Justin enjoys golfing, sports, jogging, poker and eating all kinds of foods.



Executive Vice President & General Chair

David Kaneko

David is a Senior Environmental Scientist with the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Hawaii, and has a Masters in Environmental Science and Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. In his spare time David enjoys tennis and surfing YouTube.com.



Treasurer

Wedge Lee

Wedge is a graduate from Mid Pacific Institute and is the owner of Craftco. In his spare time Wedge enjoys golfing and fishing.



Secretary

Kris Miyamoto

Kris is a Provider Relations and Contracting Representative with Kaiser Permanente Hawaii. She is also a graduate of Maryknoll High School and holds a Bachelor's in Sociology at the University of Hawaii. In her spare time Kris enjoys tasting new foods, shopping, running and spending time with her two puppies, Kimo and Kai.



VP International Relations

Allen Dale King

Allen is a Manager at Momoyama Restaurant and holds an Associate Degree in General Business from Glendale Community College. In his spare time Allen enjoys hula, hiking and going to the gym.



VP Management Development

Patty Low

Patty is the Director of Promotions and Client Services for Hawaii Pacific Entertainment/Technology New Bytes and holds a Bachelor's in Sociology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. In her spare time Patty enjoys playing tennis, golf, singing karaoke and playing with her two dogs Pepper and Charlie.

Presenting the 2007-2008 Board of Directors (continued)



VP Membership Development

Dustin Horie

Dustin is a Civil and Trust Litigation Attorney and holds Bachelor's in Biology and a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Hawaii and a Law Degree from the University of San Diego. In his spare time Dustin enjoys playing tennis.



VP Community Development

Cheryl Shintani

Cheryl is a Sales Accounting Analyst for ALTRES, Inc., and holds a Bachelor's from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a Master's in Business Administration in Accounting from Chaminade University. In her spare time Cheryl enjoys baking, cooking, shopping and traveling.



Director at Large

James Kaneshiro

James is the Assistant Vice President and Manager of the ATM Product Management Department at First Hawaiian Bank. He holds a Bachelor's of Science in Finance from Santa Clara University and is also a graduate of Punahou High School. In his spare time James enjoys golfing, scuba diving and traveling.



Young Business Roundtable

Darren Ota

Darren currently works for Bank of Hawaii as a Business Banking Officer. He graduated from Konawaena High School and received his Bachelor's Degree in Finance from Santa Clara University. In his spare time Darren enjoys working with plants and dog-sitting.



Historian

Rattana Soubandith

Rattana is a Certified Real Estate Appraiser for Pacifica Real Estate Appraisals, LLC. She holds two Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Management and a Master's in Business Administration both from Hawaii Pacific University. In her spare time, Rattana enjoys dancing hula, reading, volunteering in the community and spending time with family and friends.



Queen's Advisor

Brenda Nomura

Brenda is a Japanese Teacher and World Language Department Head at Leilehua High School, and is a graduate of Pearl City High School and the University of Hawaii. In her spare time Brenda enjoys being with friends and her Dalmatian- Maggie.

A Word from the 55th Cherry Blossom Queen

Since the wonderful night of March 31st, the 55th court and I have kept our theme strong "Unity in Spirit." As one unit we have shared many exciting moments together. Up and down the west coast, we have visited our 3 sister cities in the mainland. Our first trip was to San Francisco, where we experienced our first parade through Japan town, went sight-seeing, and met so many wonderful people.

Seattle was the first coronation we were able to witness, as a new court was brought into the family or "ohana," as the hospitality committee has now come to embrace. Our final mainland trip to Los Angeles was most recent, as we said good-bye to yet another court, but welcomed a new court beginning their exciting journey.

A journey that is exemplified by the many wonderful volunteers and the HJJCC board and its members that help us learn more about our communities and the Japanese-American culture. Not only have I learned about the Japanese-American culture here in Hawaii, but have experienced the strong knit unit on a nation-wide level, meeting so many willing volunteers from around the world. Various community service projects like the American Heart walk, the Japanese Women's Society – Adopt-A-Mom, reading to preschool students, working with the Arthritis foundation and the MDA group, have brought the 55th court and I together, as a unit, to learn much more about our community and our heritage.

We look forward to more events and journeys to come as we prepare for our Japan trip in October. Thank you on behalf of the 55th court and I for this wonderful opportunity.

Sincerely,

Richelle M. Nakata

55th CBF Queen and Miss Congeniality



Welcome New HJJCC Members

June

Mami Goto, Marc Hirai, Blaine Kauwe, Tiffany Mitani, Dyan Mitsuyama, Cory Nakamura, Tianne Yamashita

July

Whitney-Reigh Asao, Andrea Chan, Reid Chung, Sarah Honda, Jerry Ishibashi, Kim Ishibashi, Tracie Ishikawa, Kara Iwasaki, Derrick Iwata, Jeanelle Kikawa, Brandon Kim, Sidney Komatsu, Lareina Koyama, Jodi Nagata, Jason Nakayama, Regan Onikama, Ian Oyama, Liane Oyama, Sidney Sakamoto, Ryan Sanada, Chelsea Soares, Wendy Yamamoto, Taryn Yano

September

Jeff Stockton, Casey Nakano, and Rodney Batara

Getting Out and Volunteering in the Community

Are you interested in helping out in the community? Then come out and join your fellow members at one of our community service events! It is a rewarding experience that benefits YOU, HJJCC and the lives in the community we touch. Contact our VP of Community Development, Cheryl Shintani at HJJCC@hotmail.com with a subject heading "Community Development" for upcoming events and be sure to check your emails weekly for any new updates . Here are just a few community events HJJCC members volunteered at in the past couple of months.



American Heart Association Walk- August 4, 2007



Waikiki Community Center- August 10, 2007



Fashionista's Market- August 18, 2007

Announcements



Welcome "Brennin Jarrett Shintaro Lee, Born on July 7th, 2007 at the Queens' Medical Center, 8lbs, 1oz, and 19.5 inches! Congrats to Neysa Park being a first time mommy to now her "new boss Brennin"



Congratulations to our past 2006-2007 Chairman of the Board, Lori Fujikawa-Casey for being named as one of Pacific Business News "Forty Under 40" list of young business professionals in the State of Hawaii for 2007. Lori is an Agent for Prudential Financial Planning Services, a division of Pruco Securities, LLC.



In July of this year, Desiree Yamamoto joined PacRim Marketing Group, Inc. as their Marketing & Client Services Manager. Supervising the Integrated Marketing Solutions Department. Desiree is managing the Japanese marketing and public relations efforts for a variety of luxury retail, travel and entertainment clients. PacRim Marketing Group, Inc. is an international marketing firm dedicated to connecting clients with Pacific Rim markets. Please contact Desiree at dyamamoto@pacrimmarketing.com or at 949-4592 ext. 826.



Justin George and Cathy S. Cruz-George were married at Ko Olina on July 29, 2007

If you would like to share a special announcement with your fellow HJJCC members, please email us, at HJJCC@hotmail.com with a subject heading "Sakura Announcements" and we will try our best to announce it in our next Sakura newsletter.

Birthday Wishes to Our Fellow Members

August

Lyndsey Haraguchi-Nakayama
 Kim Hanaoka
 Clint Hamabata
 Audrey Ida
 Corey Nakamura
 Sarah Honda
 Chris Kanemura
 Lance Oba
 Dean Uyeda
 Steven Kaneko
 Deborah Noji
 Brenda Nomura

September

Lance Yoshihara
 Brandon Miyagi
 John Standberg
 Traci Okubo
 Shane Arakaki
 Derrick Iwata
 David Kaneko

Wishing our members a
**Happy Birthday, please wish
 them a Happy Birthday when
 you see them at one of our
 events.**

October

Len Fukushima
 Scott Kamiya
 Aaron Kanemaru
 Robb Taone
 Ash Tsuji
 Andrew Stewart
 Lori Casey-Fujikawa
 James Weisman
 Merissa Uchimura
 Devan Inouye
 Dustin Horie
 Kim Ishibashi
 Ian Oyama
 Toby Tamaye
 Charis Taniguchi
 Kylie Yamatsuka
 Heidi Kimura
 Darren Ota

Upcoming Chapter Events and Activities

The new Board has already began planning events and activities in the community for members of HJJCC in the following future. Here is a list of what is coming up with additional details on events coming to you later in our weekly emails.

September 30, 2007 (Sunday) Flavors of Technology, Sheraton Waikiki, 3:30 pm

October 3, 2007 (Wednesday) Series by Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce - Executive Forum: Leaders Growing Leaders- Speaker Rick Blangiardi, KGMB General Manager, 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

October 10, 2007 (Wednesday) Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce Chopsticks & Wine, Sheraton Waikiki, 4:30 pm

October 30, 2007 (Tuesday) Kahala Mall Halloween Contest, Kahala Mall Stage, 5:15 pm

November 29, 2007 (Thursday) Holiday Party, Honolulu Design Center with HJCC

December 9, 2007 (Sunday) Easter Seals Hawaii Gingerbread Festival, Neal Blaisdell Center, 7:30 am to 12:30 pm

For more information on these events please call, 949-2255 or email us at HJJCC@hotmail.com

Chapter Snapshots



Visitor Industry Charity Walk-05/19/2007



Lantern Festival-05/28/2007



2007-2008 HJCC Board Elections-05/30/2007



Odawada JC's Aloha Party-06/09/2007



MDA Summer Camp-06/12/2007



YBR - Robin Campaniano-06/20/2007



Karaoke Mixer with Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce-06/25/2007



Karaoke Mixer with Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce-6/25/2007



Consul General Iwatani Farewell-07/11/2007

Chapter Snapshots (continued)



Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce Installation Banquet-07/14/2007



Consul General Iwatani Farewell Reception-07/20/2007



HJCC Installation Banquet-07/25/2007



Bon Dance-07/28/2007



Heart Walk-08/04/2007



Waikiki Community Center Gala-08/10/2007



MDA Telethon VIP Booth-09/03/2007



MDA Telethon VIP Booth-David Kaneko at the Pledge Center-09/03/2007



Consul General of Japan Toshio Kunikata and Mrs. Kunikata Welcome luncheon- 09/11/2007



**Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber
of Commerce**

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The Jaycee Creed

We believe:

That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life;

That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;

That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;

That government should be of laws rather than of men;

That the earth's greatest treasure lies in human personality;

And that service to humanity is the best work of life.

About the Sakura

The Sakura is a quarterly publication of the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce. For information on our activities or to become a member, please contact us via one of the ways above. We are always looking for new members to participate in our community service projects while having fun at the same time.
