

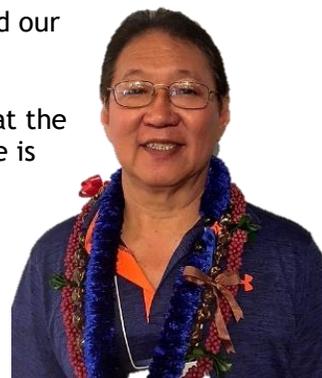


Honolulu Chapter 56 / [www.ikebana-hawaii.org](http://www.ikebana-hawaii.org)

Issue 101, February 2019

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all in the Year of the Earth Boar! To those who attended our New Year' Luncheon at Pearl Country Club, we were treated to beautiful arrangements with a red and white theme, a delicious buffet, and a most thought provoking guest speaker in Dr. Gaye Chan, Professor of Art History at the U.H. Manoa. While your Board had a busy and productive year in 2018, there is no letting up for 2019. On Feb 14, the Community Service Committee is conducting their high school outreach sessions at Sacred Hearts Academy with a Valentine Day's theme. Please contact Caroline Abe if you are interested in assisting. On Feb 17, the Program Committee is holding a Girl's Day Workshop at MCC. Sign up now and learn how to create a Hinamatsuri arrangement taught by Charmaine Yee-Hollison.



At this time of the year, we all like to think about how we can improve ourselves. One great way is to enhance your Ikebana skills by volunteering to make a centerpiece or exhibit arrangement for the next Luncheon in May. There is no better way to polish your skills than to share your arrangements with your peers. If you have not done so in the past, I encourage you to contact Charmaine for more information.

The Year of the Boar is said to bring us all prosperity and good fortune. Besides financial benefits, good fortune can also mean healthy families, good friends and enjoying life. So here's to cheering us on to an amazing year and wonderful Ikebana.

## SAVE THE DATE

The Programs Committee has two more exciting events in the works for March and May:

### **March 16, 2019 (Saturday)**

Come join us on a **Visit to Wahiawa Botanical Garden!** The Garden features a tropical rainforest, epiphytes, tree ferns, aroids, native Hawaiian plants, and more. We are making arrangements for a guided tour, to be followed by lunch indoors.

Details and registration form will be sent out very soon.

### **May 19, 2019 (Sunday)**

Announcing the next II luncheon for 2019: May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii



Please save the date for the final luncheon of the year at Natsunoya Tea House, 1935 Makanani Dr. from 10am - 2 pm. Come and help us celebrate a belated May Day in your oldest or "favoritest" muumuu or other Aloha attire and see our "favoritest" riji Karen Kirk demonstrate "Tropical Hanabi." Sky's the limit as Karen shares her vision and artistry in creating a large installation using tall, exotic tropical flowers.

## NEW YEAR LUNCHEON



Members and guests of I.I. Chapter 56 welcomed the 2019 New Year with merriment and feelings of new beginnings on January 20, Sunday at Pearl Country Club. The exhibits by: May Hiraoka-Tomita, Shisho Kikuta, Barbara Tinius, Charmaine Yee-Hollison, Karen Kirk, and Gail Atwater were stunning. Shisho's amazing large exhibition piece looked like a boar ready to jump off the table and run 'hog wilde'! Year of the Boar themed centerpieces were created

by: Caroline Abe, Jane Aquino, Evelyn Iha, Joyce Kaneshiro, Karen Kirk, Gale Kobayashi, Jonna Otta, and Charmaine Yee-Hollison. Lucile Lew did a beautiful firecracker arrangement for the registration table. With members wearing the colors of the Boar Year: Red, Orange, Pink and/or white, it was truly a colorful event in so many ways.



Our speaker, Professor Gaye Chan, U.H. at Manoa, Department Head, School of Art and Art History did a presentation on **Everything in Common**, a palette of: How we view and treat common areas; edible weeds; seed & food exchange, sharing and caring for each other bypassing a capitalistic system and Bale strap sustainable baskets. With all the information she offered it was a very thought stimulating program.

We would like to thank Helene Furuya, her husband Lincoln and Yukari Sato for covering the Ways and Means tables. To vendors Earl and Sue Shimabukuro and Gail Atwater our Kudos, as well as to the Program Committee: Susan Hirate, Lucille Lew, Jennifer Shintani and Bernie Cunningham thank you for your great teamwork. It was a most enjoyable day of conversation, laughter....renewed friendship through flowers.

Something we experienced together, and we had so much fun came in the form of a personality awareness activity. First Draw a Pig on a regular 8 x 11" paper. Better yet, do this in a small group or with a friend. Discover: What pig personality you exhibit? Members had so much fun discovering about themselves and their table mates that we want to share it with members who did not attend this event! Don't look at the following yet...completely draw your pig first.

- 1) Where is the pig located?
  - a) If at the top, you are an Optimist.
  - b) If at the bottom, you are a Pessimist
  - c) In the middle, you are a realist.
- 2) Which direction is it facing?
  - a) Right, you are innovative.
  - b) Left, you are traditional.
  - c) Faces the front, you enjoy arguing with others and creating drama.
- 3) Does your pig have many details, or few?
  - a) Few details: you might be emotional and naïve, are a bit of a risk taker
  - b) Many details: you are more cautious, and do not trust others easily



- 4) How many legs does your pig have?
  - a) 4 legs: means you are secure and stubborn
  - b) Less than 4: you are insecure, or are going through a major change in life
- 5) Does your pig have large ears or small ones?
  - a) Large ears: you are a good listener
  - b) Small ears: you are not a good listener
- 6) How long is the pig's tail?
  - a) Large or long tail: you have a good sex life

Thank you to all members and their guests who contributed to the event, of their generosity, time and talent! **Happy New Year of the Earth Boar to All!**



## OGENCHO

According to The Ikenobo magazine from September 2011, this historic bronze vase's name stems from Gencho, which is the first Day of the Boar of the 10th month according to the lunar calendar, when there is a harvest festival called the Inoshishi (boar) Celebration. On this day three Inoko (baby boar) Mochi are placed on a round offering stand to abolish all kinds of sickness and pray for prosperity. (The boar was viewed as a messenger for the mountain gods with mystical properties of his own.)

The Ogencho has an inscription recalling this round offering stand. The leg with the inscription is used in back on the soe side of the arrangement. The Ogencho is only used for traditional shoka arrangements, normally in the Gyo (curved) form, but owing to its origins as an offering stand it may also be used for the straighter shin form.



YOUTH OUTREACH



Ikebana International members hosted a Christmas workshop for the young students of Mo`ili`ili Community Center. Charmaine Yee-Hollison did an outstanding job of the creating the mugs that held candy canes and little stick snowmen with red carnations. The children were delighted with their masterpieces. We want to acknowledge the wonderful volunteers for this event: April Sasaki, Grace Kam, Joan Sasaki, Helene Furuya, Caroline Abe, Charmaine Yee-Hollison, Linda Sung, Carol Murakami and Gwen Nagata. The teachers were Grace Sekimitsu, Earl Shimabukuro, Karen Kirk and Gale Kobayashi, who performed very well.

If our members eat Oui Yoplait in a small glass containers please save them for a future MCC class. We thank you in advance.



WE REMEMBER ETHEL AOTANI

BY BETTE UYEDA

In December we lost a dear friend and strong supporter of our I.I. Chapter when Ethel Aotani passed away. Ethel was a long-time member of Ikebana International and served faithfully on our Board volunteering for many projects and using her Ikebana skills to spread friendship through flowers. She created beautiful arrangements for various exhibits and community service projects, taught Ikebana principles and skills to children and adults both here and in California where she lived for the last few years, and also conducted Ikebana demonstrations for different occasions. Ethel enjoyed sharing her love for Ikebana with others.



One of the most important contributions Ethel made to I.I. was spearheading our chapter's effort to secure our 501(c)3 non-profit status from the IRS. She chaired a committee including Jean Marutani and myself, which applied to the IRS for our tax-exempt status. We were not successful on our first attempt and we were ready to give up but Ethel would not hear of that. She convinced us to try again and provide more information to IRS to support our application. After hours of going over our I.I. records, reports, and minutes and rewriting our application, we resubmitted our papers and this time we were successful. This non-profit designation has enabled our chapter to receive foundation grants for our programs and has allowed our members to treat donations to I.I. as tax deductible charitable gifts. These benefits have been enormous for our chapter.

In 2011 when our chapter celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Ethel asked me to co-chair a committee with her to plan this important event. She was chapter president at that time and she pulled together a crew of enthusiastic volunteers to organize and execute the many activities of our celebration which included an Ikebana exhibit, demonstration, workshops, and luncheon.

Ethel also "gently pushed" I.I. to apply for a grant from the State Foundation of Culture and the Arts to support our Ikebana exhibit at the Honolulu Museum of Art in 2015. Although the process was complicated, we were successful and we received the funds to produce an outstanding exhibit. Because of her long-time volunteer work at the HMA, Ethel helped our chapter to establish a collaborative relationship with the museum to foster the study and appreciation of Ikebana. She was also instrumental in establishing an I.I. youth program to teach Ikebana to children. She was a woman with a vision!

But I think Ethel's most lasting contribution to I.I. was her support and encouragement of other Ikebana enthusiasts to continue their Ikebana studies and to serve this chapter. It was hard to say "no" to Ethel when she asked us to help or get involved. Karen Kirk remembers how Ethel mentored her to further her study of Ikebana and eventually supported and even "badgered" her to accept the I.I. presidency after Ethel. During Karen's presidency, Ethel remained a steadfast confidante offering her advice and guidance. Others have told me that she kept after them to get their Ikebana certifications and set higher goals for themselves in pursuit of their Ikebana education. All of Ethel's efforts have made our chapter stronger and produced leaders that can carry on the work of promoting Ikebana in our community.

What a grand lady Ethel was! We lost her much too early but her legacy as a lover of Ikebana will continue on through those of us whose lives she touched.



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Please send input for the April newsletter to Barbara Tinius by the end of March...

