

CHICAGO
OKINAWA KENJINKAI

P.O Box 94
Elk Grove Village, IL 60009

www.chicagookinawakenjinkai.com



Spring 2022

www.chicagookinawakenjinkai.com

CHICAGO OKINAWA KENJINKAI NEWS LETTER



Spring 2022

President's Message



Linda Asato, President

Happy New Year to All Members and Friends! Happy Year of the Tiger!!

We hope this message finds all of you doing well and in the best of health. Many of us hoped that the Covid virus would be gone by the end of last year but unfortunately the Omicron variant surfaced and spread with such speed causing more fear and dread in our communities. However, as we enter 2022, we can be hopeful again that things have settled down as we look forward to the months ahead.

For the 2021 World Uchinanchu Day in Chicago, a dynamic 55 minute video was produced by our Vice President, Minori Yamaki and featured performances by the Chicago karate, sanshin and traditional dance groups, the Chimu Don Don performance group of St. Matthew's Church along with several artists from Okinawa who donated their time and energy to make the video possible. The film was available on our website in December. The original in-person viewing that was scheduled for March 6, 2022 was canceled but for those of you who missed it in December, we will present the video at our New Year's party on Saturday, April 9th. In closing, last year gave us time to reflect on things we can be grateful for, our family and friends but above all, our health. Let's be kind to one another and appreciate what we have.

---Linda Asato, President

\$1000 KENJINKAI SCHOLARSHIP

This year the Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai is offering a \$1000 scholarship to a high school student who submits a complete application by April 30th, 2022. The successful applicant will be a qualified individual who shows the most potential in helping us meet our goals of preserving the culture and traditions of Okinawa.

Applicants should be current high school seniors accepted to an undergraduate program at an accredited college or university. Students attending the first year of college will be considered only if there are no qualified high school seniors.

Details and applications are available on our website, www.chicagookinawakenjinkai.com or from one of the officers.

We encourage you to apply early – Good Luck!



(Clips From World Uchinanchu day
Chicago's Performance Stage: Yuiden)

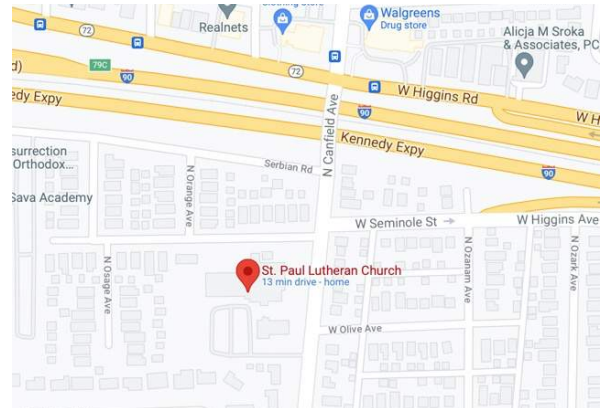
2022 NEW YEAR'S PARTY - NEW LOCATION!

Last year, due to the uncertainties with Covid, the New Year's Party was canceled. This year, although some uncertainties still remain, we decided to have the New Year's party in person since most people have been vaccinated. However, please be aware that this is a fluid situation and the party may be canceled at any time.

We are pleased to announce the party will be held at a new location, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Chicago. The facility offers easy access, ample parking and a spacious hall for dining and mingling. The party this year will feature:



Date: Saturday, April 9th, 2022
Location: St. Paul Lutheran Church
5650 N. Canfield Ave.
Chicago, IL 60631
Time: Doors open at 11:00am
Lunch: 12 noon
Cost: Members – Free
Guests: \$10 per person



- Video presentation – 55 min. video of the Yuiden program from World Uchinanchu Day in Chicago
- Election of Officers
- Raffle prizes
- Line Dancing and more
- Fun Quiz and other games with prizes
- Pot Luck Buffet – please bring a dish!
- Hot and cold beverages will be provided

*All persons entering the facility must be fully vaccinated and show vaccination card at check-in.

**Members and guests must wear masks at all times except while dining.



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Membership Dues



Once again, we are collecting membership dues for 2022 and ask that you send in your application and fees as early as possible. We would like to remind everyone that we are a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and your donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. We will issue a receipt for donations \$100 and over upon request.

Membership benefits include:

- Spring and Autumn Newsletters
- Free admission to annual New Year's Party with Pot Luck buffet lunch
- Free admission to summer picnic and discount on bento lunchbox
- Free admission to Chicago World Uchinanchu Day event in October
- Opportunities to apply to \$1000 Scholarship program and Junior Study Abroad
- Opportunity to be a part of the Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival in Okinawa
- Free Okinawan traditional dance and sanshin lessons
- Member's Directory.

Family: \$25. Individual: \$15

Please send application in the news letter and check to:
Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai, P.O. Box 94, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009
Or on our website via Paypal at www.chicagookinawa-kenjinkai.com



MEET THE CHICAGO OKINAWA KENJINKAI OFFICERS



PRESIDENT: Linda Asato
773-593-4009
lhasato1@gmail.com



VICE PRESIDENT: Minori Yamaki
yamakimr1@hotmail.com



SECRETARY: Doris Uehara
847-340-0435
doris.uehara@kintetsu.com



TREASURER: Michiko Ishikawa
Mishikawa817@gmail.com



GOODWILL AMBASSADOR
Ikuko Nichols
773-383-9913
nichols_i@sbcglobal.net

MEET THE PERFORMANCE GROUP LEADERS



Eisa Taiko and Okinawan Dance
Mitsue Koch 773-706-0813
mk51@att.net



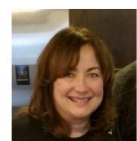
Chicago Okinawa Karate
Yujiro Uza 972-351-6405
uzadojo@yahoo.com



Okinawan Sanshin
Mayumi Seino 630-303-7005
mseino@hotmail.com



Ukulele Group
Kathy Serikaku 630-213-4343
or
Linda Asato 773-593-4009



Performance Group Contact
Kathy Nichols
kathleen_nichols@hotmail.com

Video Viewing is canceled



The video viewing presentation for Chicago World Uchinanchu Day originally scheduled for March 6, 2022 at New Trier High School has been officially canceled due to the Covid situation and current high school policies. As a result, we will present the video at our New Year's party which is scheduled for Saturday, April 9, 2022 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Chicago.

Please check our website, www.chicagookinawakenjinkai.com for the latest updates.

Okinawa Emigrants Descendant & Asian Scholarship

The government of Okinawa has announced a scholarship program for exemplary individuals selected from descendants of Okinawan emigrants and in Asian countries. The international students shall receive education and training at universities, businesses, and institutions for learning traditional arts in Okinawa Prefecture. Students will be provided with opportunities to understand Okinawan history, culture, and customs, gain work experience at local businesses, and promote exchange with local people. The aim of the program is to cultivate human resources capable of serving as a bridge between students' home countries and Okinawa, foster the preservation of the Uchinā Network for the next generation and contribute to international exchange with Okinawa Prefecture. Deadline for receiving applications is March 10, 2022. Complete details regarding this program is available on our website,

www.chicagookinawakenjinkai.com.

Or

contact Linda Asato 773-593-4009 for further information.

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Contact : uzadojo@yahoo.com
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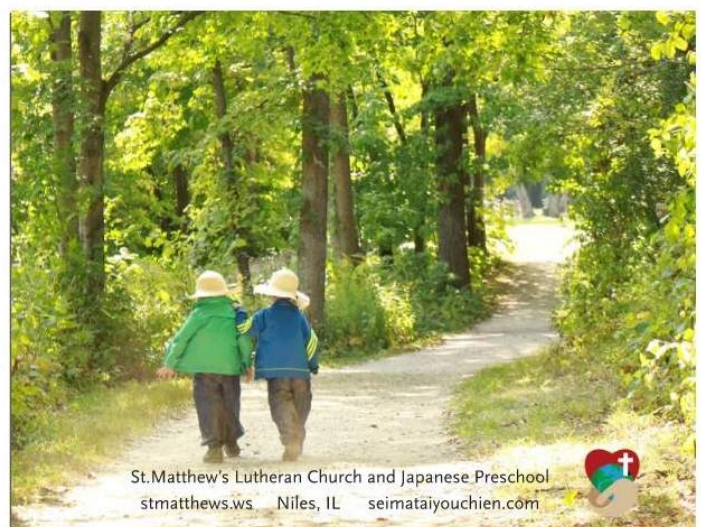
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7th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival

The Okinawan government has announced it will proceed with the 7th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival to be held in Naha, Okinawa in late October this year. However, due to the uncertainty of Covid, the Festival will be held in a hybrid format including online participation for those who will be unable to participate. The government will carefully assess the ongoing situation and further details of the event will be available in April 2022.

We will keep everyone posted as we receive information and updates from the government. In the meantime, please check our website for a link to the festival, www.wuf2022.jp.

FINANCIAL REPORT YEAR 2021			
	EXPENSE	INCOME	BALANCE
PREVIOUS BALANCE(as of 12/31/2020)			\$ 8,804.15
Membership Fee Paid(Single 43 & Family 59)*		\$ 2,120.00	\$ 10,924.15
Donations from Members**		\$ 4,080.00	\$ 15,004.15
2021 Scholarship	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 14,004.15
2021 Picnic Bento Sales \$850, Raffle Sale \$643, Farmers Goods & T-Shirts Sale \$627.50		\$ 2,120.50	\$ 16,124.65
2021 Picnics Expenses (Bento, Prize, Drinks, Ice, Ice Cream, Rental Truck, Portable John, 2 Tents, Tables & Insurance)	\$ 3,288.30		\$ 12,836.35
2021 World Uchinanchu Day--Yuiden Event Total Income***		\$ 900.00	\$ 13,736.35
2021 World Uchinanchu Day--Yuiden Event Total Expenses	\$ 800.00		\$ 12,936.35
2021 Total Administration Expenses,(2 News Letter, Postage, Meeting Exp, Website fee , Paypal fee & PO Boxes fee)	\$ 1,887.18		\$ 11,049.17
Obituary Donation to Mrs. Urayama(Chicago Shimpo)	\$ 100.00		\$ 10,949.17
Visit Mr. Okada Japanese General consule & Youth leader from Brazil Exchange Meeting	\$ 139.31		\$ 10,809.86
State of IL Annual Report	\$ 125.00		\$ 10,684.86
2022 Picnic Site Deposit	\$ 200.00		\$ 10,484.86
2021 New Years Rental Cancel (Refund)		\$ 260.00	\$ 10,744.86
2022 New Years Location Rental Deposit	\$ 50.00		\$ 10,694.86
Newsletter's Business Ad (Income)		\$ 25.00	\$ 10,719.86
AS of 12/31/2021 Bank Statement Balance			\$ 10,719.86
Total Memberships is 276, Paid memberships is 102, so 37 % memberships Paid *			
Donations from Members** Under \$100-- Taeko Ayala & Katsuko Grigsby			
2nd Half 2021 New Members			
Monica Hsiu-Feng			

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Dr. Masahiko Matsushita, DC, DPhCS
Palmer Graduate Chiropractor & Japanese Acupuncturist

Asako Matsushita, CT, LMT
Licensed Massage Therapist, Grandmother is Okinawan



Address: 505 E. Golf Rd. Unit G, Arlington Heights, IL 60005
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Spring 2022

LECTURE SERIES - sponsored by the University of Chicago

RETHINKING “REVERSION” Okinawa, Japan, and the U.S. Fifty Years Later

May 15, 2022 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the “reversion” of Okinawa to Japan. To commemorate the occasion, the Japan Committee at the Center for East Asian Studies has arranged a series of performances and talks that reflect on the ongoing legacies Okinawa’s remarkable history, including the continuing presence of massive American military bases in what remains Japan’s poorest prefecture, the traumatic memories of the brutal 1945 Battle of Okinawa and the decades of U.S. military occupation that followed, and imperial Japan’s annexation of the islands in 1879.

Join us for these events, taking place throughout the 2021-2022 academic year, as we learn about the unique history and cultures of Okinawa, from the traces of the once independent Ryūkyū Kingdom to today’s fashionable tourist destination that is at the same time a hotbed of popular discontent.

Nov 4th 2021 | 5:00 PM (CT) Akemi Johnson - Author & Journalist

Feb 21st 2022 | 5:00 PM (CT) Ichiro Tomiyama - Doshisha University

Mar 28-29th 2022 UC Presents: Okinawan Traditional Folk Music and Dance (To Be Announced)

Apr 28th 2022 | 5:00 PM (CT) Gerald Figal - Vanderbilt University

May 5th 2022 | 5:00 PM (CT) Wendy Matsumura - University of California, San Diego ONLINE

For full details, please visit: <https://ceas.uchicago.edu/news/rethinking-reversion-okinawa-japan-and-us-fifty-years-later>


 New Member
 Renewal

CHICAGO OKINAWA KENJINKAI
 Membership Enrollment Form

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ E-MAIL: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL HOME: _____

Where is your hometown in Okinawa or Japan? _____

Please list all family members included in this membership as well as their ages here. Family members must be living at home or be in school or university to be on the same membership.

Name	D.O.B.	Name	D.O.B.

Can we add your name and address to our membership directory? YES NO
Would you like to receive the newsletter by email? YES NO

The Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai does not require its membership to sign any sort of acceptance from or waiver of liability when attending its events. In light of this fact, a member's participation at a public event where the Kenjinkai is performing or at an event specifically promoted by the Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai will constitute the members acceptance that their picture may be taken or published. Our belief is that by attending our picnic, New Years party, or any other event that we are associated with, a person may reasonably expect that their picture may be taken and published and with such knowledge will allow their use on our web site or in our quarterly newsletter. The Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai will only place appropriate photos from our functions and will accept no liability in their use.

Membership Dues are \$25 for Family and \$15 for Individuals

* This membership fee is based on the calendar year, membership must be renewed by May 31st.

Amount paid: \$ _____

Optional Donation: \$ _____

Total Amount Paid: \$ _____

Please make check payable to: Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai, Inc.
 Mail to: Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai, Inc. PO Box 94 Elk Grove Village, IL 60009