



# The Padma



March 2024

Berkeley Buddhist Temple Newsletter

Web-Edition

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## Guidelines

The Padma welcomes articles from sangha members.

Articles should be around 500-600 words typed. Word documents are best; PDF documents are discouraged.

Please include your name, a title for the article, and include any photos. Cite references if quotes are used.

Articles will be reviewed for content and length, and should contain information relevant to Buddhist teachings, the Berkeley Buddhist Temple, and/or the Buddhist Churches of America. Publication will be at the discretion of the editorial board.

Email submissions to [padma@BerkeleyBuddhistTemple.org](mailto:padma@BerkeleyBuddhistTemple.org)

Sun. March 17<sup>th</sup>

## Spring Ohigan Service & Potluck



Join us in celebrating the Spring Equinox.

### **March Dharma Message Theme**

#### **Transition, Aging, Six Paramitas**

The theme for this month's Dharma messages aligns with the special Spring Ohigan (Vernal Equinox) service on Sunday, March 17th.

The equinox is the time when day and night are of equal length.

Quoting from the Kokoro website, *"this period is thought to be when the world of the living and the world of the dead become close. This changing of the season becomes a time for personal reflection and for remembering and honoring the dead."*

Ohigan also translates as "crossing over to the 'other shore'".

Our Vision  
A Community Where Our Spiritual Life and True Self Can Be Realized

Our Mission  
To Live A Life Of Joy In The Nembutsu And Share The Dharma With Others

# March 2024

# the Padma



**BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

**2121 CHANNING WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
<p><b>Berkeley Buddhist Temple (510) 841-1356</b>  <b>berkeleybuddhisttemple.org</b>  <b>info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org</b>  <b>facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple</b>  <b>youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple</b></p>						<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>9:30a Virtual &amp; In-person Dharma Family &amp; Shotsuki Memorial Service 1:30p Taiko Class</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00p Virtual Meditation</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00a Virtual Yoga</p> <p>6:30p (February) Dharmanar</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	
<p>10</p> <p>9:30a Virtual &amp; In-person Dharma Family Service 1:30p Taiko Class</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00p Board of Directors Mtg</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00a Virtual Yoga</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p><i>Padma Articles Due</i></p>	
<p>17</p> <p>9:30a Virtual &amp; In-person Dharma Family &amp; Ohigan Service 12:00p Spring Seminar</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Padma Newsletter Production</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00p Virtual Meditation</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00a Virtual Yoga</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	
<p>24</p> <p>9:30a Virtual &amp; In-person Dharma Family Service</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00a Virtual Yoga</p> <p>6:30p Virtual Dharmanar</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	
<p>31</p> <p>9:30a Virtual &amp; In-person Dharma Family Service</p>							



# Future Dates to Remember

M  
A  
R  
C  
H

Sun 3 Mar	<b>Livestream &amp; In-person</b> 9:30a Shotsuki Memorial Service
Wed 6 Mar	<b>Virtual</b> 7:00p Meditation & Discussion
Thu 7 Mar	<b>Virtual</b> 8:00a Yoga 6:30p BBT Dharmanar (Topic: Dying, Parinirvāṇa, Impermanence)
Thu 14 Mar	<b>Virtual</b> 8:00a Yoga
Sun 17 Mar	<b>Livestream &amp; In-person</b> 9:30a Ohigan Service (*followed by potluck) 12:00p Spring Seminar – Actively Dying
Wed 20 Mar	<b>Virtual</b> 7:00p Meditation & Discussion
Thu 21 Mar	<b>Virtual</b> 8:00a Yoga
Thu 28 Mar	<b>Virtual</b> 8:00a Yoga 6:30p BBT Dharmanar (Topic: Transition, Aging, Six Paramita)

## \*Spring Ohigan Service & Potluck

Please check your toban month for your lunch offering and tasks.

Jan, Feb	- Salads	Jan	- Serve
March	- Onigiri & Rice Dishes	Feb	- Set Up
All Other Months	- Main Dishes	March	- Clean Up

Spring Ohigan luncheon will be in BBT Social Hall.  
Please bring lunch offerings to Social Hall kitchen.



## Berkeley Buddhist Temple UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 6, 20

WED. 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Sign up at:  
<https://sanghaevents.info/meditation>

### MEDITATION & DISCUSSION

Join us for an evening of online silent meditation led by our minister, Rev. Kuwahara. Everyone is welcome and no prior experience needed. We will have a short discussion after. All are welcome!

MARCH 7, 28

THU 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Sign up at:  
[sanghaevents.info/dharmanar](https://sanghaevents.info/dharmanar)

3/7: Dying, Parinirvāṇa, and Impermanence  
3/28: Transition, Aging, Six Paramita

### DHARMANAR

Join us for BBT's monthly online study session. Rev. Kuwahara, Rev. CJ, and Rev. Tanis Moore will be presenting. Then we will discuss it after. Everyone is welcome!

2121 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

[info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org)

[www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/](http://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/)



## Impermanence is a part of life

Taking big or small steps to help  
you and your family prepare  
for the end of life

Sunday, March 17  
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Have you heard that we can ease anxiety by learning more about something that makes us uneasy?

Our panel of experts will gently share what they know about small and big steps that can make it easier to tackle arrangements best made before the end-of-life. We'll learn about paper-

work to consider, personal choices to ponder and how to share these with those dear to us.

You are invited to join our panelists who will present options and recommendations in each of their fields of expertise. We'll open the workshop for participants to ask questions of our panelists and wrap up with some refreshments.



**Social Work Services**  
Becca Opel  
*Mental Health Therapist*



**Estate Planning through  
Wills and Trusts**  
Debra Watanuki  
*Attorney at Law*



**Funeral Home  
Arrangements**  
Mark Frattini,  
*Chapel of the Chimes*



**Buddhism**  
Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara  
*Berkeley Buddhist Temple*

For more information: [info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org)  
For online participation: <https://sanghaevents.info/springseminar>

## Thursday Morning Virtual Chair Yoga



Berkeley buddhist temple



**Date:** 3/7. 14. 21. 28  
4/11. 18. 25

**Time:** 8:00am~8:20am

Join us for a gentle yoga session by Hitomi Kuwahara that you can do while sitting on a chair or couch without a yoga mat. No experience or registration needed. Everyone is welcome!

**Join on zoom:**

**<https://sanghaevents.info/yoga>**



Please fill out this form to joining the class.  
(You only need fill out once)

**Waiver form**



**Contact  
Donation**



## Waiver form

Hitomi Kuwahara online and in person yoga classes

### Personal Health Questionnaire

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please write below if you have any health concerns  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Participant Waiver & Release of Liability

If at any time during the class, I (Participant) feel discomfort or strain, I will gently come out of the posture. I understand that I may rest at any time during the workshop. I understand that it is important in yoga to listen to my body and respect its limits on any given day.

I, the undersigned, understand that yoga is not a substitute for medical attention, examination, diagnosis, or treatment; and that I should consult a physician prior to beginning any activity program, including yoga. I recognize that it is my responsibility to notify my teacher of any serious illness or injury before every yoga class. I will not perform any postures to the extent of strain or pain.

\*Participants under 18 years of age must also have this form signed by a parent or guardian.

I (Participant) am voluntarily participating in the Workshop(s) entirely at my own risk, with the awareness that there may be risks (physical, psychological, economic, death, etc.) associated; and I assume all related risks, known and unknown to me.

I accept that Hitomi Kuwahara is not liable for any injury, or damages, to person or property, resulting from my participation in any of the classes, including travel to and from the class(s). I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Hitomi Kuwahara against any and all claims, suits or actions of any kind whatsoever for liability, damages, compensation or otherwise, brought by me or anyone on my behalf, including attorney's fees and related costs, if litigation arises pursuant to claims by me or anyone else acting on my behalf.

Signature of participant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parent/guardian certification and signature for participants under 18 years of age:

Parent/Guardian Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: send to Hitomi via email or mail

[mahadevi.moon@gmail.com](mailto:mahadevi.moon@gmail.com)

Hitomi Kuwahara 2121 Channing Way Berkeley, CA 94704



# Minister's Message by Rev. CJ Dunford



During my MA studies several years ago, before I started my Doctorate of Ministry degree at the Pacific School of Religion, I had the good fortune to take several classes with Rev. Dr. Dorsey Blake, who would become my primary advisor once I started my DMin just a few years ago. Dr. Dorsey's classes are all about cultivating religious leadership and the history of religious leadership primarily in the US, but also around the world. In his classes, we learn from Dr. Dorsey and his friends who were important leaders in the American Civil Rights Movement, we also learn from religious leaders who would become politicians and political organizers and about important historical religious leaders who, with much effort and support from their fellow comrades, would bring about important social change. For one of our classes, we learned about the life of Mahatma Gandhi and his movement of *ahimsa* or nonviolence which led to Indian independence from the British Empire.

For my article this month, I wanted to share my reflection on the 1982 film "Gandhi" which was a class assignment:

In the film, when Gandhi's friend was preaching about the ethics of the British Empire's rule of India, and many in his congregation walks out, I felt a personal connection with the idea of preaching against the "common sensibilities" of empire and how we as leaders must sometimes take unpopular stances because we have the obligation of preaching truth to a populace so blinded by privilege. Later when Gandhi speaks to people in India, there are a number of people who walk out during the speech, and people do not wholeheartedly accept his message. Both of these instances speak to the power of faith and courage. Courage to say and do what is right even if we might be criticized or punished for it, and faith in ourselves, faith in the teachings and life experience that guides our actions, and faith that we will be heard.

Leaders who wish to address a problem, who have a prophetic vision that challenges the empire of systemic violence will inevitably face the evils of complacency. Equally important as standing up to violence itself, we must find ways to address those who stand by or actively participate in systems that perpetuate violence and discrimination. Though he participates in empire, Gandhi's British priest friend finds ways to work within the system of empire to undermine it and to break down its power structures from the inside. The two of these perspectives allow us to see how change might occur for people: do we change oppression from within, by participating in and undermining such structures or do we come at it from without? This isn't to simplify Gandhi's position as merely an outsider, as he comes from South Africa to engage with the nation of his ancestors. He is an immigrant insider, and the liminality of his situation is really interesting. He is on the borders of several cultures and ethnic identities: Indian and South African, working with both Muslims and Hindus.

Yet, in spite of all of this, Gandhi seeks to bring people together. His message is one of unity in difference. I recall a point where he said: "I want to change their minds. Not kill them for weaknesses we all possess". He realizes that the answer to oppression is a united front of love. The second sentence in that quote sounds like something Shinran Shōnin might say about human

nature. Ven. Shinran expresses the essentials of Buddhism as the knowledge that we are all unenlightened beings, mired in our inherent limited perspectives.

Something else that really struck me about this film is how the British are portrayed. They remind me of the classic “evil Nazi” trope from many films set during World War II. It seems that evil has a very specific look, and it is fascinating how we choose to brand “evil”. During WWII, we (the empire of the USA) allied with the evil empire of Britain to fight other evil empires, but we often describe the Allies as the “good guys”. In many ways, evil is entirely relative, and yet the injustices of the Holocaust, the violent Japanese conquest throughout east and southeast Asia, the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are acts of intensely violent evil soaked in the blood and suffering of millions. This points toward the inherent problem of systematized violence that is empire. Buried deep within the nationalist, xenophobic, racist overtones of imperialism is the idea that we thrive on making value judgments on our fellow beings. Unification can be a powerful tool for oppression as well as liberation. We must choose wisely how to utilize unity tempered by diversity and nonviolence.

As Gandhi says: “an eye for an eye only makes the whole world blind.”

In gassho,

Rev. CJ



# “What Buddhists Call Ignorance”

by Diane Ames

My poor husband was just home from the hospital and starting to regain his strength when one of the Buddha’s four evils, disease, appeared on my balcony. As an interfaith gesture, he took the form of Pestilence, the Christian Bible’s First Horseman of the Apocalypse, riding his white horse. His banner bore the Covid symbol.

“What are you doing here?” I cried. “That Covid business is all over!”

“You say that when a week ago, you walked past the isolation rooms of Covid patients to get to your husband’s room in the hospital!” said the horseman. “But you just stopped seeing what you didn’t want to see anymore! Buddhists call it ignorance; psychologists call it denial. Well, you can’t deny me away! They just found several Covid cases here in the House of Methuselah Assisted Living Facility! There’ll be more tomorrow!”

“You can’t show up now!” I wailed. “My husband is still so frail! Covid might kill him! And at my age, with my medical history, it might kill me!”

“Why do you think I picked a home for the ancient?”

“Well, get that horse off my balcony! We’ll will defeat you! We’re armed with up-to-date vaccinations, N95 masks, and commonsense precautions! And as for seeing what I don’t want to see, I can only try to do better, with Amida’s help.”







# Temple News & Announcements



First, we thanked our Dharma School teachers. Bradley Menda and Rev. Kuwahara with Akemi Hamai, Dani Hirokane Payton, Karen Kato, Irene Wells.

## January 28<sup>th</sup> – PARTY TIME !!

A packed crowd estimated to be over 250 people attended the BBT's New Year's celebration on Jan. 28. It was a party complete with a bounce house, delicious food, mochi, and the traditional mochitsuki, or rice pounding -- and energetic, thrilling taiko performances by Cal Raijin Taiko & BBT Taiko.

*(Photos courtesy of Jon Kawamoto)*



Marrie Yamashita and Sadako Kashiwagi



Cal Raijin Taiko

## February 2nd – College Welcome Night

On a rainy winter evening, BBT welcomed a group of over 50 students at the most recent College Welcome Night. Following a short service, an ice breaker, and activities led by the Berkeley Nikkei Student Union, attendees enjoyed an elaborate meal prepared from scratch by an intrepid kitchen crew working under the direction of Chef Alan Hirahara.

*(Photos courtesy of Alan Hirahara)*



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## Seattle Betsuin Arson Restoration Fund

The Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple needs our help! Please consider supporting them as they recover from [the tragic arson event](#). The Seattle Betsuin is accepting donations to help rebuilding efforts.

V

You can donate here: [seattlebetsuin.org/fire](http://seattlebetsuin.org/fire)

Donations can also be made via check. Please make checks payable to “Seattle Buddhist Church” and include “Arson Restoration Fund” in the memo line.

The address is: Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple, 1427 S. Main St., Seattle, WA 98144.

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## Satsuki Bazaar – Time to Prepare !!

### **Silent Auction Seeks Items Again This Year**

The committee is busy preparing for this year's silent auction again during the Satsuki Bazaar on Sunday, May 19. We are looking for items valued at \$50 and above that we can auction off in our in-person/online auction. Some of our popular items include artwork, home furnishings, custom clothing like kimono or yukata, gift cards for meals or services, sports tickets, and vacation stays.

If you have a business, it can help you find new customers. If you are a regular at local restaurants or businesses and you haven't seen them represented at our auction, please go ahead and ask them for a gift card donation!

You can drop off items in the Old Temple after service on Sundays or if they're large or you can't come to service, we can pick them up (email or call Grant Din at [grant@tonaidin.net](mailto:grant@tonaidin.net) or 510/499-7328). We will have a donation form at the temple where you can tell us the value of your item. Thank you!

Miki Adachi and Grant Din  
Auction Co-chairs

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Berkeley Buddhist Temple

# Dharma School Newsletter

March 2024



Thank you for your hard work, High School Students!

## Spreading the Light of the Dharma

The Dharma School's High School class has been planning their annual service on Sunday, February 18. Thank you to Karen Sensei for helping the high school students to prepare for their Compassion service!



Students Hiroto and Parker designed a stop-action Happy New Year shot for the Dharma School's video contribution to the National Council Meeting.

## Helping out the National Council Meeting

The younger students had fun making a video for the National Council Meeting to welcome everyone to the Berkeley Buddhist Temple. The video has a little bit of choreography, a little bit of narration, a little bit of photos, and a little bit of stop animation!

## March Schedule

3/3/2024	Regular Dharma School classes
3/10/2024	Day two of school-wide Clay Project
3/17/2024	Emiko Katsumoto Sensei leads the PS-5 students in Dharma School music; Karen Sensei leads the older students
3/24/2024	School-wide Field Trip - details to be announced
3/31/2024	No Dharma School classes (enjoy spring break)

## Your Family Is Always Welcome to BBT

Remember: ALL ARE WELCOME to the BBT Dharma School! Please refer to this quick [FAQs sheet](#) with general information about the Berkeley Buddhist Temple Dharma School. Parents, guardians, and grandparents are welcome to observe and/or accompany their children to class. Just ask to speak to Stacy, Karen, Irene, or Joyce before the Dharma Family Service.

*Namo Amida Butsu*



# BCA / CBE Announcements

BCA Center for Buddhist Education presents

## YOGA, BUDDHISM, AND A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Friday, May 24 - Sunday, May 26, 2024  
Jodo Shinshu Center, Berkeley



**Bob Matsueda**  
Yoga and Wellness Instructor;  
Yoga Therapist, Government of  
India, Ministry of AYUSH



**Bishop Marvin Harada**  
Buddhist Churches of America

**Rev. Bob Oshita**  
Retired BCA Minister  
Co-author, *Dharma Is Everywhere*



**Rev. Ken Yamada**  
Editor at Higashi Honganji's Shinshu  
Center of America and retired minister  
of Berkeley Higashi Honganji Temple

**Judy Yushin Nakatomi**  
Certified Minister's Assistant with Vista  
Buddhist Temple (BCA) and ordained in  
the Zen tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh



**Denise Matsubara Lapidus**  
Advanced Yoga Teacher (The  
Yoga Room), leading "Yoga Nidra"

**Alan Hirahara, Chef**  
Gourmet Vegan Cuisine



**Labonee**, Traditional Indian dance troupe  
**Suzi Ko**, Therapeutic massage  
Arts and Crafts

**Workshop space is limited.**

Registration will open on Feb. 5th  
<https://forms.gle/asUrK9pS9SchgEB87>



[cbe@bcahq.org](mailto:cbe@bcahq.org)

SAVE THE DATE...

## BCA YOUTH EVENTS



### BYR & FRIENDS REUNION EVENT

11/25/23 9am - 7pm  
Jodo Shinshu Center  
High School & College Age

### BYR - SEATTLE EVENT

5/24/24 - 5/26/24  
Seattle Betsuin  
High School & College Age

### BYR SUMMER RETREAT

6/23/24 - 6/29/24  
Jodo Shinshu Center  
High School age first time  
participants only



BCA YOUTH RETREAT PROGRAM  
Questions: [bkmizushima@bcahq.org](mailto:bkmizushima@bcahq.org)



# Bay District & Community Announcements

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 12PM PDT/3PM EDT  
ANTIOCH, CALIFORNIA

# MAY WE GATHER

A NATIONAL BUDDHIST MEMORIAL CEREMONY  
FOR ASIAN AMERICAN ANCESTORS

JOIN US  
FOR THE  
**2024**  
PILGRIMAGE

MAYWEGATHER.ORG #MAYWEGATHER2024

Registration: <https://www.maywegather.org/register>



UPCOMING ONLINE GATHERING

# OKAERI

WE MEET ONLINE  
EVERY 2ND  
SUNDAY OF THE  
MONTH!  
4-5:30PM (PT)



A digital space for  
Nikkei LGBTQ+  
community  
members of all  
ages and  
backgrounds.

# CONNECTS!

REGISTER AT: [okaeri.org/connects](https://okaeri.org/connects)



Little Tokyo  
Service Center

Okaeri is fiscally sponsored by LTSC

We are excited to uplift Okaeri Connects! a monthly virtual support group available in English and Japanese, hosted by Okaeri, a Nikkei LGBTQ+ community organization. They are the only group in the nation to offer bilingual support curated specifically for Nikkei LGBTQ+ individuals. Head to [okaeri.org/connects](https://okaeri.org/connects) to register for their monthly sessions, and sign up for their newsletter [here](#).

“Okaeri Connects is for LGBTQ+ Nikkei/Japanese folks to find each other and create affirming spaces by sharing our personal experiences and stories. We believe that building relationships, being seen, and connecting ourselves within our big Nikkei world can improve the quality of our lives.”

[okaeri.org/connects](https://okaeri.org/connects)



**A Tasting Event** to support J-Sei's senior services and cultural programs



**2024 Flavors of Spring**  
DELICIOUS SAMPLINGS BY LOCAL CHEFS WHO REPRESENT THE BAY AREA'S RICH CULINARY SCENE, WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND A SILENT AUCTION

Friday, March 29, 2024  
Bloc15, 252 2nd St, Oakland  
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Tickets \$150 per person

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!!!**  
SAVE ON YOUR TICKET PRICE!  
Purchase for \$125 by February 23  
Price increases to \$150 on February 24

 Purchase event tickets online at [bit.ly/6228522](https://bit.ly/6228522) or mail check payable to J-Sei, 1285 66th St, Emeryville, CA 94608 in envelope postmarked by March 25.  
For more information, contact Tiffany Nguyen at [tiffany@j-sei.org](mailto:tiffany@j-sei.org) or visit [www.j-sei.org](http://www.j-sei.org).

### EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

Flavors of Spring - Friday, March 29  
Buy your ticket for \$125 until February 23rd.

## J-SEI - Upcoming in March

### EVENTS:

- **Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi and Mine Okubo**

*Art Talk by ShiPu Wang – Saturday, March 2, 2 pm (Hybrid)*

- **TOPAZ COLLAGES: One Family's Experience**

*ARTIST TALK with Jeanie Kashima – Sat, March 16, 2 pm*

- **Book Launch: The Poet and the Silk Girl, a memoir by Satsuki Ina**

*Sunday, March 24, 2 pm (Hybrid)*

- **I Would Meet You Anywhere – A Book Talk with Susan Kiyo Ito**

*Saturday, March 30, 2 pm (in-person)*

### CRAFTING Classes

- **Boro Inspired Collage with Sashiko Stitching**

*Two Tuesdays, 1 to 3 pm (choose March or April)*

For more information visit the J-Sei website:

[J-Sei](#) | [Community](#) | [Care](#) | [Culture](#)



SAVE THE DATE

**2024 Cherry Blossom Festival Parade on Sunday, April , 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024**



The Buddhist Church of San Francisco is organizing a BCSF contingent to march in the 2024 Cherry Blossom Festival Parade on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1 PM. The Buddhist Church of San Francisco (BCSF) is inviting all affiliate organizations, groups, sangha members, friends and other temple members to march together under the BCSF umbrella. It will be a beautiful show of unity to commemorate the diversity of our sangha to the City and County of San Francisco and the Japantown District residents.

Two points to join the parade:

Civic Center/SF City Hall - Gather by 12:30 PM

Sequoia Senior Center (Post between Gough and Laguna) - Gather by 2 PM

More information to come.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 415.637.2276 or [Richard@leftwichevents.com](mailto:Richard@leftwichevents.com).



**Showing: April 21st @ 2:00 PM**  
**TICKETS NOW ON SALE**

"Carving the Divine" is a documentary film by Mr. Yujiro Seki. The film presents a rare look into the 1400 year old tradition of Butsuzo, the woodcarving of Japanese Buddhist statues and images. It follows the lives and training of those craftsmen and women who struggle to preserve the tradition in modern Japan today.

The Buddhist Temple of Alameda, Rhythmix Cultural Works, and the Buddhist Churches of America Art Committee have joined efforts to present the film on **April 21, 2024 at 2:00 PM** at the Rhythmix theater at 2513 Blanding Avenue in Alameda just 1/4 mile from the Buddhist Temple of Alameda.

The incredible works and efforts presented in the film will heighten your own appreciation of the artistry and craftsmanship that goes into the temple images that we see at our temples here. Please join us for this very special event.

"Carving the Divine" is more than a movie about amazing wood sculptors of Japan. To me, the movie is about the Master-Apprentice or the Master-Disciple relationship, and how this is still being transmitted in the traditional manner... stern, but yet ultimately kind, in training the apprentice to be a true artist in both skill and spirit."

Rev. I. Iarvin Harada, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America

Filmmaker, Yujiro Seki has worked passionately to make his film available to as many people in the world as possible. He has stated, "I'm persistent because I know you will fully enjoy 'Carving the Divine'. This is not just a film. Through this work, I will challenge you to confront your true self. I will challenge you to think about what it means to be alive and what is the purpose of your life! Yes, I will give you one hell of a good time!"

Mr. Seki is an Award-winning Director, Cinematographer, Editor, Subtitle Translator, and Writer, and Producer. He will join us via ZOOM from Japan at the end of the film showing to share his reflections and to provide a Question and Answer period for those of us who are able to attend. Don't miss this rare opportunity. TICKETS ON SALE NOW. <https://rhythmix.my.salesforce-sites.com/ticket/#/events/a0S1K00000QjDVSUA3>

Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto  
Buddhist Temple of Alameda  
BCA Art Committee



# COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

*Sunday, March 3, 2024*  
*9:30 AM*

Live Stream: <https://www.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharma-live>

The following persons will be remembered during the Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial service) for  
*March.*

Ryoichi Roy Anzai	Yutaka Matoba	Marie Shiromoto
Thomas Arima	Naoya Matoba	Fusao Tagumi
Kimiyo Sakurai Bloom	Frank T. Matsui	Fujiye Takaha
Toshiko Ehara	Glenn Matsunaga	Tametarō Takahashi
Satoru T. Fujikawa	Yoichiro Matsunaga	Wataru Takahashi
Keiko Imagawa Fukui	Seizo Mayeda	Haruko Takemori
Masao Handa	Aiko Miike	Akira Takemori
James E. Hansen	Ben Morita	Tsuneyo Tanaka
Mary Fumiko Haraguchi	Dean M. Muranishi	Hisayo Tasaki
Jinichi Hashizu	Yukito R. Nagahisa, Sr	Masako Terazawa
Toki Hataye	Denji Nakabayashi	Yukino Terazawa
Kiyoshi Hayate	William Nakatani	Tomeko Tsuchihashi
Tom Tamotsu Hataye	Frank Takazo Nishikai	Gregory Jun Unno
Shizuo Hiramoto	Tamako Yamagishi Nishikai	Katsumi Unoki
Junian Hirooka	Tokuo Nitta	Naoki Wakaye
Willy Osamu Ide	Hayaji Oda	Waki Wakaye
Kusuo Jimmy Inadomi	Kazuko Oda	Kyujiro Waki
Sumi Irikin	Masami Oda	Kyo Waki
Mitsue Ishizue	Misao Hiramoto Okano	Mary Chiseko Wakida
Thomas T. Kimura	Minoru Oki	Tomo Watamura
Richard Shinto Kurakazu	Akira Okita	Osamu Sam Yamauchi
James Kurata	Masae Onizuka	Ann Toyomi Yamoto
Rev. Haruyoshi Kusada	Chiyome Sakamoto	Michizo Yokota
Henry Hiroo Kuwada	Tokutarō Sato	Hatsuyo Yokoyama
Amy Kuwada	Etsu Sato	Kiyoji Bill Yokoyama
Chiyo Kuwai	Judd Masami Sato	Takashi Yoshimura
Shizuo Matoba		

Note: If there are any additions, corrections, or deletions to the above list, please notify the Berkeley Buddhist Temple at 510-841-1356.



# Membership & Toban

## **Membership Pledges 2024** (Receiving Period: 1/13/2024 – 2/1/2024)

The temple would like to gratefully acknowledge the following members for their generous contributions:

Devon Akiyama	Detlev Gempf & Lorraine Nobuye	Vernon & Karen Kaldunski Kato
Lia Kato	Maya Kato	Gary Oda
Dii Lewis & Joyce Oishi	Yuki & Eugene Otake	Ron & Carol Tanaka

Lia Kato and Maya Kato are Vernon & Karen Kato's daughters. They are back to the temple as members! Please give them a warm welcome when you see them at the temple.

If you have any questions, please contact the Membership Team at [membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org](mailto:membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org) or 510-841-1356.

## **TOBAN**

Coordinators - Lena Yin & Pat Takeda

<b>February 2024</b>	<b>March 2024</b>
Chair – Akemi Hamai Cochair - Bob Matsueda  *Ames, Diane Fukumori, Naomi Gwaltney, Jon Hamai, Akemi & Amy Haruyama *Hamai, Lucy Hirokane Payton, Dani Horstein, Scott & Antonia Glenn *Kami, Frank *Kawakami, Keiko Matsueda, Bob & Ranko Yamada Nolan, Paul & Sara Jotoku Otori, Laurie Roueche, Akira Sakurai, Dennis *Shinsako, Glenn & Amy *Wakida, Alice *Yedlosky, Yae	Chair - Don Hamasaki Cochair - Judy Fujimoto Cochair - Barbara Hedani-Morishita  Flamenco, Jenna *Fujimoto, Bill & Judy Hamasaki, Don & Joanie *Hiraoka, Yo Ito, Amy Ito-Taylor, Dean & Lori Suzuki Kato, Vernon & Karen Kuwahara, Rev Kiyo & Hitomi Miyake, Ron & Janet Cordova Morishita, Leroy & Barbara Hedani *Oki, Sadao Okimoto, Joyce Tanaka, Rev Ken & Kimie Taylor, Rumi

*\* Denotes disabled and/or elderly. Toban optional.*



# Memorial Service Schedule



The following is a list of special service years.  
 If you have a departed relative who has passed away  
 in any of the listed years,  
 and would like to make arrangements  
 for a memorial service,  
 please contact Rev. Kuwahara at [\(510\) 841-1356](tel:5108411356).

## 2024 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
2023	1 <sup>st</sup> Year
2022	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year
2018	7 <sup>th</sup> Year
2012	13 <sup>th</sup> Year
2008	17 <sup>th</sup> Year
2000	25 <sup>th</sup> Year
1992	33 <sup>rd</sup> Year
1975	50 <sup>th</sup> Year
1925	100 <sup>th</sup> Year

## Services

Our regular Sunday program consists of a Family Service at 9:30am. An adult Dharma talk is given after the Family Service while Dharma School classes are convened for students.

### Special Services

January 1	Gantan-e	New Year's Day
February	Nehan-e	Nirvana Day
March	Ohigan	Spring Equinox
April	Hanamatsuri	Flower Festival
May	Gotan-e	Birthday of Shinran
July	Kangi-e	Obon
September	Ohigan	Autumn Equinox
November	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin Memorial
December	Jodo-e	Bodhi Day
December 31	Joya-e	Year End Service

A Shotsuki Hoyo (Monthly Memorial) Service is held the first Sunday of each month.

## Dharma School

Our Dharma School (Sunday School) has classes from preschool through high school. Our teachers are happy to discuss the appropriate level of spiritual enrichment for your student.

## Monthly Discussions

In our discussions, we strive to experience the Buddha-Dharma with our entire selves – with our bodies (quiet sitting and other forms of meditation), voices (chanting and other liturgy) and minds (study and discussion).

Our sessions focus on ways in which Buddhist teaching and practice can impact our everyday lives. Each session will take up a different topic and you are welcome to attend any or all sessions.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

## Visitor Information

Please feel free to ask any of our greeters for information. We are here to assist you with whatever level of participation you may be seeking.

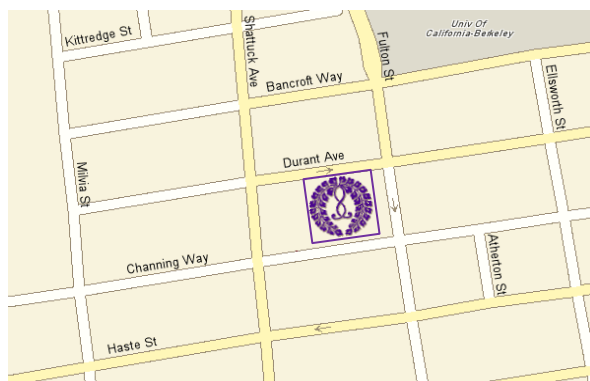
Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

## Membership Information

Membership is open to all who view the Temple as their spiritual home and seek the Buddha-Dharma.

Kindly complete a [Membership Form](#), have your name entered in the membership roll and support the Temple through a pledge and participation.

For more information about becoming a member, visit our [Registration](#) page, or contact our [Membership Chair](#).



### **Berkeley Buddhist Temple**

2121 Channing Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
10:00am – 1:00pm

[510-841-1356](tel:510-841-1356)

[info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org)

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[facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple](https://facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple)

[youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple](https://youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple)