



The Padma



November 2021

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.

COVID-19 News Update

Temple Planned Reopening - November 7, 2021

For more information, please read the President’s Letter on page 10. For the latest status of the temple and to learn more about our reopening guidelines and permitted activities in each tier, visit our COVID-19 update page:

<https://berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/covid19>

Thank you to the BBT COVID-19 Response Committee for their constant vigilance and care. They help to keep our temple and its members safe! Committee members are: Rev. Kuwahara, Bradley Menda, Rumi Taylor, Judy Kono, Robin McGuire, Jeff Nagafuji, and Ryan Matsuda.

The October issue of the Wheel of Dharma featured a story about Jane Imamura, the iconic daughter of Mrs. Shinobu Matsuura, and the wife of Rev. Kanmo Imamura. They were noted figures in the history of the Berkeley Buddhist Temple. At Jon Kawamoto’s suggestion, we are reprinting the article in this issue of the BBT Padma. Please read the full article on page 14. Do you recognize a few faces in this photo from a study session at the Imamura home?



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



Many thanks to all who assisted and participated in the 110th Anniversary Event. We hope all of you enjoyed the Bento and the presentation and for those who purchased furoshiki, we hope that they are coming in handy.

We offer our gratitude for the time and miles put in by the drivers including Emi and Aki Nakao, Dennis Sakurai, Grant Din, Joyce Okimoto, Patty Fujiwara, Sandra Takeda, Akemi Hamai, Denise Lapidus, Pat H-N, Tina Iwasaki and David Lyon, and Pat Takeda who helped us to deliver more than 50 bento to our Keiro members.

Thank you, Noreen Fukumori, for your creativity in designing the furoshiki we were able to offer our Sangha.

Thanks also to Reverend Kuwahara and our Temple President, Bradley Menda, for your contributions to the video as well as your help in broadcasting the video and to Karen Kaldunski-Kato and Vernon Kato for compiling and editing the presentation so well!

We are grateful for the bento provided. In case any of you enjoyed the bento and are considering an event, please reach out to Chef Royce Mori at Island Grinds Catering (<https://www.islandgrindscatering.com/contact>)

The work of the Fundraising Committee, consisting of Karen Kaldunski-Kato, Robin McGuire, Pam Matsuoka, Ron Hiraga, and Dennis Sakurai helped to bring many disparate ideas into a cohesive whole.

Here's to another 110 years! We look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Donations to
the Temple
are always
appreciated!



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to donate
now!

November 2021

the Padma



BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

2121 CHANNING WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 7:00p Meditation	4	5	6
7 Daylight Savings Time Ends 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family & Shotsuki Memorial Service 10:15a Virtual Yoga	8	9 7:00p Executive Committee Meeting	10	11	12	13 <i>Padma Articles Due</i>
14 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family Service	15	16 Padma Newsletter Production	17 7:00p Meditation	18	19	20 4:00p Virtual Transgender Day of Remembrance Memorial Service
21 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family Service 10:15a Virtual Yoga	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:30a Virtual & In-person Dharma Family & Ho-on-ko Service	29	30 6:30p Virtual Dharmanar		Berkeley Buddhist Temple (510) 841-1356 berkeleybuddhisttemple.org info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org facebook.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple youtube.com/berkeleybuddhisttemple		



Dates to Remember

O	Sun	Livestream
	24	Eshinni/Kakushinni Service
C	Oct	
T		
O	Thu	Virtual
B	28	BBT Dharmanar
E	Oct	
R		
N	Wed	Virtual
O	3	Evening Meditation
V	Nov	
E	Sun	In-Person & Livestream
M	7	Shotsuki Memorial Service
B	Nov	Virtual Yoga
E	Wed	Virtual
R	17	Evening Meditation
	Nov	
	Sat	Virtual
	20	Transgender Day of Remembrance Memorial Service
	Nov	
	Sun	In-Person & Livestream
	21	Dharma Family Service
	Nov	Virtual Yoga
	Sun	In-Person & Livestream
	28	Ho-on-ko Service
	Nov	
	Thu	Virtual
	30	BBT Dharmanar
	Nov	

TAIKO 2021



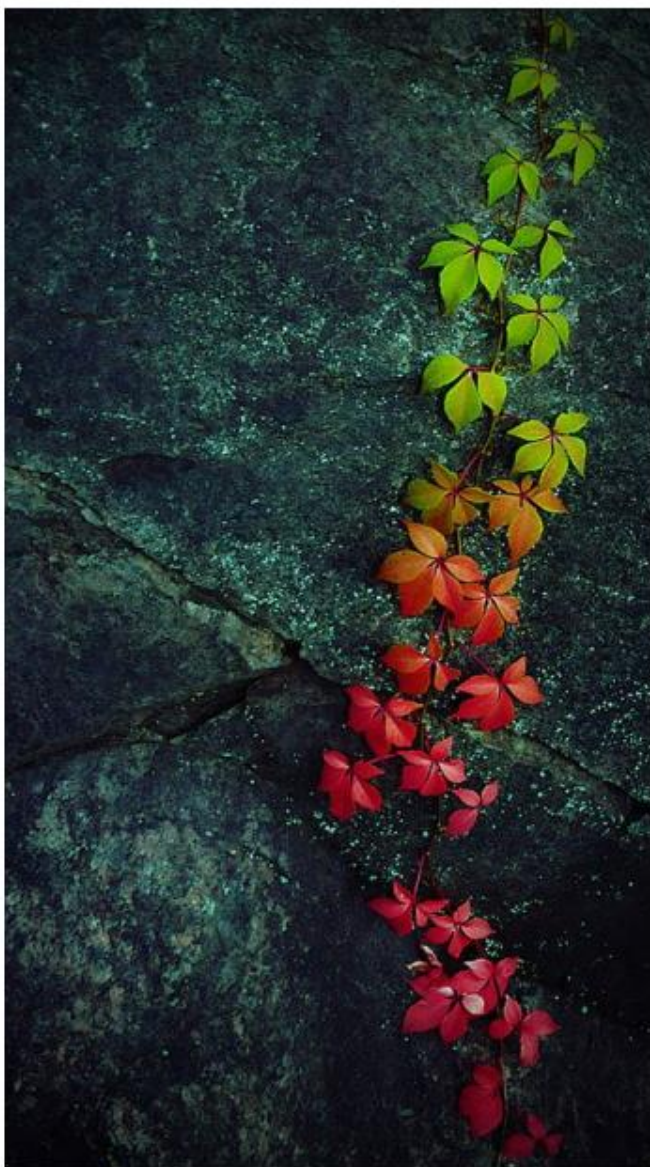
Taiko class has started !

The participants have been enjoying the lesson taught by our new, energetic instructor, Koh, who has 15+ years' experience. The class takes place Sunday afternoon at the temple courtyard. New session starts every 4 weeks. If you are interested in joining, contact us at:

info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Evening Meditation & Discussion



Wednesdays:

9/15, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3,
11/17, and 12/1, 2021

7 - 8PM

Zoom

RSVP:

<https://engage.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/meditation>

Questions:

info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org
(510)841-1356

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

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Virtual Tera Yoga



Sunday:
11/7, 11/21, and 12/5

**Immediately after the
service**

Zoom

No sign up required

Link:

<https://engage.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/yoga>

Questions:

info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org
(510)841-1356

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!



TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE MEMORIAL SERVICE

**Saturday, November 20th
4pm PDT/7pm EDT**

hosted by

Berkeley Buddhist Temple & Buddhist Temple of Marin
with a special presentation from BBT Dharma School.

By holding this service, we are expressing our love and
support for the transgender community and that we
will not forget our transgender family.

Online service accessible via



facebook.com/
BerkeleyBuddhistTemple



tinyurl.com/
YouTubeBBT

For questions or further info, contact Rev. CJ Dunford:
Rev.Sokugan@gmail.com



BBT
Dharmanar
Monthly Online Study Session

OCT. 2021
TOPIC

**Living with
Grief and
Compassion**

Join us for BBT's monthly study session. October's topic is "Living with Grief and Compassion". Rev. Kuwahara, Rev. CJ, and John Mullins will give their presentations from their own perspective. Then we will discuss it after.

Thu. Oct 28, 6:30 - 8PM

RSVP here:

<https://engage.berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/dharmanar>





President's Letter



October 2021 COVID-19 Update Temple Planned Reopening November 7, 2021

Dear Temple Members and Friends,

The health and well-being of temple members is of utmost importance to the Board of Directors. We have been fortunate that both Alameda and Contra Costa counties have seen a decrease in COVID-19 community transmission and have moved from the CDC's Red-High Transmission tier to the Orange-Substantial Transmission tier. I am finally happy to announce that the temple's Coronavirus Response committee and temple leaders are planning to resume in-person Sunday service under our

Orange reopening guidelines. Please note that we will continue to livestream our Sunday services for those who wish to attend virtually. Details about our reopening guidelines are below:

Berkeley Buddhist Temple Orange Reopening Guidelines

Sunday Dharma Family Service: In-person (indoors and outdoors) with precautions as well as Live Streamed

- Capacity Indoors: 25% (24 in the Hondo, 22 in the Social Hall)
- Reservations: Online reservations required for **indoor** seating
- Social Distancing: 6 feet distance with designated seating
- Screening: Prior to entry, all participants will be screened for known signs/symptoms of the virus
- Masking: all participants will be required to wear a mask while on temple grounds
- Chanting/Singing: Chanting by the minister is permitted. Attendees will not be permitted to chat or sing indoors.
- Tea Time/Coffee Social: At this time consuming food/beverages will not be permitted. Participants will be asked to leave the temple grounds at the conclusion of Sunday service.

Dharma School: In-person activities permitted. Please contact Dharma School staff at dharmaschool@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org for the most up to date class schedule.

Other Indoor Activities (besides Sunday Dharma Family Service): Not permitted

Outdoor Activities: Special requests from temple groups will be evaluated by the temple's Coronavirus Response committee. If approved, social distancing is enforced. Masking required if participants cannot maintain adequate distance from other participants.

Public health rules and regulations are constantly evolving. Our reopening guidelines will continue to be revised on an ongoing basis. We appreciate your patience, understanding, and flexibility as the temple adjusts to the requirements set forth to ensure that you remain safe at in-person events. For the latest status of the temple and to learn more about our reopening guidelines and permitted activities in each tier, visit our COVID-19 update page: <https://berkeleybuddhisttemple.org/covid19>

If you have any specific questions or concerns that you want addressed by the Coronavirus Response committee, please contact us at covid-19@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org. After being closed for in-person activities for almost a year and a half, I look forward to the opportunity to safely resuming in-person activities. I hope to be able to see you in-person or virtually in the near future.

Gassho,

President, Berkeley Buddhist Temple

COMBINED DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE & SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, November 7, 2021

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 *November*.

Yoshiko Adachi	Tetsuo Kurihara	Kiyoaki Shinoda
Heidi Asako Boley	Pham Thi Landegl	Shunji Shinoda
Isamu Doi	Nicole Lavigne	Wayne T. Sumisaki
Denise Tami Fong	Waikko Lindquist	Kazuyoshi Sumisaki
Nancy Louie Fujikawa	Haruno Marutani	Henryka Szudelski
Shizuko Fukada	Sumie Matsubara	Toshie Takahashi
Chie Fukunaga	Rebecca Joy Mayeno	Kazue Takahashi
Sumie Gluck	Masakazu Miyamoto	Yoshikazu Takahashi
Ayako Hino	Mitsuko Miyamoto	Ben Takao
Chiyo Hirose	Sadie Haruko Mizusaki	Chizuko Mae Tanaka
Eddie Kay Hitomi	George Morishige	Yukiye Terazawa
Rae Imamura	Hayao Nakagawa	Kimiko Toji
Haruko Inadomi	Shigeru Oki	Frank Masaru Tokirio
Isao Ishikawa	Shizuko Oki	Chio Tominaga
Sunae Ishino	Harry Kazuo Okino	Mitsuo Tominaga
George Ishino	Uhachi Okubo	Aileen Asako Tsukada
Seiichi Kami	Mary Haruko Ota	Kizo Umawatari
Sumiko Kawaguchi	Terrie Teruko Oto	Fumiye Uyeshima
Shizuko Kawakami	Tadahiro Sam Sameshima	Milton S. Wakayama
Misao Kitamura	Joseph Sasaki	Ben T. Wakaye
Hatsuye Konishi	Kunikazu Sasaki	Nellie Wralstad
Fusayo Kono	Joe Shimada	Tosao Yamada
Fujino Kosakura	Yasue Shimada	Miyeko Yoshimura
Ayako Kurakazu	Kayo Shinoda	Nobuko Yoshimura

Note: If there are any additions, corrections

, or deletions to the above list, please notify the Berkeley Buddhist Temple at 510-841-1356.



Do I Want to Become a Buddha?

by Rev. Kuwahara



The other day, I was talking with Hiroto, my 9-year-old youngest son. He shared a story he recently read in a fantasy book about an angry god who punished the other characters in the story. This is part of our conversation that followed:

Kiyo: Buddha doesn't get angry and punish others. Don't you think that's nice?

Hiroto: Yah.

Kiyo: Do you want to become a buddha, so you won't feel anger and punish other people anymore?

Hiroto: No. But Eight (my 13-year-old second son) should.

Kiyo: Why?

Hiroto: He is mean to me and scolds me. He is a bad guy.

I know this is just what happens between an older brother and a younger brother. Hiroto and Eight actually get along most of the time. But this short conversation with Hiroto brought these questions to my mind: "What does it mean for us to become a buddha?" and "As a Buddhist, do we really need to become a buddha?"

As a Buddhist minister, my primary responsibility and challenge is to inspire people to seek Buddhahood. The Berkeley Buddhist Temple has held services and developed programs to share the Dharma since its founding in 1911. The BBT sangha is a community of people who appreciate the Dharma and follow the guidance of Buddha. In learning about Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, we talk about Amida Buddha, the four noble truths, the Pure Land, the Primal Vow, Other Power, the "Easy Path of Practice", Nembutsu recitation, shinjin and so forth. The temple, the sangha, and the Jodo Shinshu teachings are integral and inseparable. They are the framework through which we seek Buddhahood.

What is a Buddhahood? One definition of Buddhahood is to be free from the three poisons: greed, anger, and stupidity (ignorance), the essential causes of all suffering. Liberation occurs when Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion are received and realized within us.

Liberation from suffering is one reason to want to become a buddha. To alleviate the suffering of others is another. This is why we choose this path, and why we desire the same for others.

Becoming a buddha is not like acquiring superpowers and becoming a righteous god. It is to become a being free from suffering and guiding those who still suffer toward liberation. Living life in Buddhist aspiration, we will experience an internal transformation arising from Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion. Transformed, we will live differently than before, and this world will change in a true sense. This is how the teaching of Amida Buddha brings change and betterment to the world.

In gassho (palms together),
Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara



More Climate Disasters

by Diane Ames



“Megafires, terrible hurricanes, more ‘extraordinary’ drought,” I lamented as I read the newspaper. “We’ll probably have another siege of smoke before the year is over. The scientists said all this would come, but it wasn’t supposed to come in my lifetime!”

“That’s the last hope of your generation, isn’t it?” said Death, galloping into the room in his New Testament guise, as a pale rider on a pale horse. “You thought that I would rescue you from the real horrors of climate change. How often do I hear old people say when they hear all the terrible climate predictions, ‘I’m glad I won’t be around for it.’ But although I always come too soon to suit you mortals, climate change, my ally, is outrunning even me.”

“Always a fountain of cheer, aren’t you?” I sighed. “By the way, if you’re galloping around dressed as the Fourth Horseman of the Apocalypse, where are the other three horsemen?”

“War and Famine are romping through the Middle East, aided by the global warming that human folly is still causing. And as you know, Pestilence has me doing a roaring business in your country, thanks to a disease I call the Wildlife’s Revenge. He’s still waiting at every door.”

“We have vaccines now!” I protested. “And don’t get too smug about climate change! It’s not too late for humanity to do something about it.”

“But you won’t!” proclaimed a little devil figure following the pale horse. “Human beings just aren’t capable of the kind of cooperation that’s necessary. You’re doomed!”

“I know that voice!” I said. “You’re Mara the Evil One, who brings despair.”

“And good morning to you,” replied Mara. “With Halloween approaching, I thought I’d go along with this Book of Revelations image of the pale horse ‘and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him,’ remember? It’s all in your unconscious, and I’m speaking from your heart, in which you know that the reason so little progress has been made against climate change is that human greed and ignorance and hate, (in other words, me), are in the way and always will be. You humans think you have a capacity for reason, but you are really ruled by your passions, in other words, by me. You will inevitably destroy yourselves.”

“Enough, Mara,” said a gentle voice from the west. “No matter how dark things may seem, there is still the Buddha nature in the world and in human hearts, just as there is always some faint sunlight on even the darkest day. Humanity has the capacity to save itself yet as long as people don’t listen to your voice of cynicism and despair and give up.”



The Enduring Legacy of Jane Imamura

Padma Editor's Note: The following article about Jane Imamura, who, along with her husband, Rev. Kanmo Imamura, were iconic figures at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple and pioneers in spreading the Dharma, was written by their eldest daughter, Hiro Imamura David. It appears in the October issue of the BCA's Wheel of Dharma monthly newsletter at: <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/wheel-of-dharma>. It is being reprinted in the Padma with the permission of Hiro Imamura David.



She and Rev. Kanmo Imamura Spread Buddhism in U.S. from 1940s to 1970s

WoD Editor's Note: This article pays tribute to Jane Imamura, the iconic BCA figure who, along with her husband, Rev. Kanmo Imamura, were pioneers in spreading Buddhism in the United States, especially from the 1940s through the 1970s.

Through countless causes and conditions, the Imamuras engaged the efforts of an international community of scholars and artists and influenced the interest in Buddhism far beyond Berkeley, where Rev. Imamura was the minister and Jane was the Bomori.

Jane Imamura, the eldest daughter of Mrs. Shinobu Matsuura, a major BCA figure herself, continued her mother's tradition in building a music tradition and was a key contributor to many BCA gathas that continue to be sung today. The article was written by the couple's eldest daughter, Hiro Imamura David, on behalf of the BCA Music History Subcommittee.

Jane Imamura's legacy continues today through her many gathas, the Institute of Buddhist Studies and musical programs that she inspired.

Jane Imamura's parents, Issei and Shinobu Matsuura, were Buddhist pioneers and their example helped to form Jane's development and outlook.

Jane was well-versed in her future role as Bomori from a very young age. Born in 1920, two years after her mother arrived as a young bride in America, she learned the art of selflessness, growing up in a temple, sharing her parents — not only with her siblings — but with the many children living in the Guadalupe Children's Home that was run by the Matsuuras.

She also developed an early appreciation of music and the Buddhist gathas. She and her siblings would gather around their mother as she played the piano and sang, teaching them songs and gathas.

The turmoil that enveloped the world during Jane's early years delayed her parents' many plans. It was not until 1931, when the Matsuura family returned to the United States after two years in Japan, that Jane began piano lessons.

She practiced on a piano that came with the Matsuura's rented accommodations in Fresno, where Rev. Matsuura was the minister. She progressed quickly and was soon able to master a Beethoven sonata of considerable difficulty. Shinobu splurged on a \$100 piano during the hardships of the Great Depression.

Upon the family's return to Guadalupe in 1935, Jane began her music lessons with Muriel Fisk, a successful and well-respected teacher in the Santa Maria Valley. Jane's exemplary exam grades, given by the National Music Teachers Association, confirmed the promise she showed. Mrs. Fisk organized a choir at the Guadalupe temple, and Jane learned the art of choral training and conducting.

When Jane left Guadalupe to study music and composition at the University of California at Berkeley, Mrs. Fisk stayed in touch with her. In Jane's senior college year, Mrs. Fisk helped her transfer to the Chicago Musical College to study piano with the famous teacher and president of the school, Rudolf Ganz.

But Jane's formal musical education came to an abrupt halt with the mass relocation and detention of Japanese Americans that followed the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

She returned from Chicago to Guadalupe, and she watched as her father was arrested and carted off by FBI agents — one of thousands of Japanese community leaders arrested nationwide — on suspicion of being a possible security threat. Her father's parting words to her were: "Go to Berkeley and marry Rev. Imamura. Be happy!"

The esteemed educator and sage, Rev. Joen Ashikaga, had arranged a previous meeting between Rev. Kanmo Imamura and Jane. The first meetings were cordial and the two decided to continue a lively correspondence as Jane moved to Chicago and Rev. Imamura continued his duties as the new priest at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple.

But the relocation orders after Pearl Harbor changed their plans for a longer courtship. In 1942, with her father's words ringing in her ears, Jane defied a travel ban and took a bus to Berkeley to visit her older brother, who was studying there. Rev. Imamura and Jane were wed soon thereafter.

Rev. Imamura was spared arrest, though records showed he was under careful surveillance by authorities.

He and Jane joined the rest of the Matsuura family at the Tulare Assembly Center. At the center, displaced internees were fearful and in despair. Rev. Imamura was the lone Buddhist priest among the almost 3,000 internees.

He immediately formed a Sangha. Hundreds of internees participated in the services. Shinobu Matsuura taught Sunday School and gave lectures in Japanese. Jane, though feeling ill from her first pregnancy, gathered what would be the biggest choir she would ever conduct. She managed to also perform in spontaneously organized concerts.

The family's move to the federal internment camp in Gila River, Arizona, was a trying ordeal. Thankfully, Rev. Imamura was joined by three other Buddhist priests and they formed an active Sangha, complete with YBA, Sunday School, services for the Issei and even 500 mimeographed service books.

Every type of ceremony was held at Gila River, from Hanamatsuri, weddings, births, and sadly, funerals. Jane, in her growing role of Bomori, organized music for services and events. Two children, Hiro and Ryo, were born during those camp years.

In 1945, as the camps were gradually closed, the Imamuras moved to the Senshin Buddhist Temple in Los Angeles, the first Buddhist hostel. It was at the Senshin hostel, with soon to be ordained Arthur Takemoto, that they worked under difficult circumstances to help a steady stream of former internees as they left the camps, looking for a home and work. The hostel had been set up with the generous and tireless help of Rev. Julius Goldwater, a dedicated Buddhist who had kept in contact with the Imamuras throughout the internment. Takemoto's parents and his future wife, Kazumi Sanwo, joined the staff during this effort.

After a year, most temples in California had set up their own hostels, and the Imamuras, now a family of five, returned to the Berkeley temple.

The following years were vibrant and highly productive. Throughout the United States, Buddhist temples thrived with increased membership and activity.

The Berkeley Buddhist Temple had a small congregation, but being located nearby UC Berkeley, a major educational institution, the temple attracted many students from Buddhist families. The temple grounds were a complex of buildings that housed not only the priest and his growing family, but eventually, a women's and men's dorm for university students.

Jane would become house mother to the dorm members as well as tending to her many duties in the temple and to her family. Once the Imamuras moved from their one-bedroom accommodation in the back area of the temple into a modestly small, but comfortable house on the same property, Jane accepted a

baby grand piano given to her by Mrs. Fisk.

That piano was used by Jane to teach a whole new generation of Buddhist pianists. Although the purpose of the piano lessons was to create a group that would be able to play at temple services, many of the students went on to become accomplished players and teachers.

Jane and Kanmo were of like mind and vision. As progressive activists, they welcomed the support they met among an energized post-internment community.

A Buddhist Study Center was initiated in 1949, holding lively seminars and classes on Buddhist thought from all sects and cultures. The temple publication, Berkeley Bussei, flourished, and included articles from prominent scholars and artists. Interest in Buddhism spread beyond the Japanese community. Iconic figures such as Alan Watts, Jack Kerouac, poets Philip Whalen and Gary Snyder joined the study classes and contributed articles to Berkeley Bussei.

Jane established a permanent choir in 1948. The choir performed new and traditional gathas. Jane encouraged the composition of new works to reflect the growing diversity of the Buddhist community.

Dorm members Kimi Yonemura (Hisatsune), Ricky Ito, and Hiroshi Kashiwagi wrote new lyrics for gathas. In the early 1950s, an Issei priest, Rev. Joshin Motoyoshi, chaired a committee to create the first service book entirely in English.

Jane formed the BCA Music Department with fellow Bomoris, Yumi Hojo and Chizu Iwanaga. Choirs flourished in many temples. At crowded annual Young Buddhist Association conventions, as many as nine choirs would participate. There was even a children's choir in Berkeley that recorded newly composed children's gathas.

After the new Berkeley temple was built in 1955, the social hall was often overfilled with audiences at lectures, concerts and for special performances such as that of Hiroshi Kashiwagi's play, "Kisa Gotami," which featured Mary Tagumi and young Cal student, George Takei.

Jane, who was fully engaged in her rewarding and challenging life as Bomori, did not return to college to complete her music degree. But she never lost her love of the piano repertoire. In her busy schedule at the temple and looking after her family of six, she made time to have occasional lessons with excellent teachers.

For a time, she met with a violinist from the San Francisco Symphony to play sonatas. Her daughter, Hiro, following Jane's musical path, performed throughout the United States and parts of Europe as a concert pianist. Hiro noted that the repertoire Jane easily mastered on the piano was so difficult, she herself struggled to play it. Jane had the gift of perfect pitch, which coupled with natural ability, allowed her to play anything by ear.

In 1957, the Imamuras retired from the Berkeley temple and moved to their new private home. Jane continued to meet with the temple choir and Rev. Imamura continued his work with the Buddhist Study Center.

Jane took a job at the UC Berkeley Music Department. She quickly became an indispensable coordinator of department activities, overseeing the practice rooms and student concerts, and hosting weekly teas where faculty and students mingled. She hosted many musical gatherings during those years. Talented students, many who eventually went on to international acclaim, gathered at the Imamura home to play music late into the night.

In 1967, Rev. Imamura was called to Hawaii to become Bishop of the large and active Hawaiian organization of Buddhist temples, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Jane and Kanmo moved to Honolulu, back to the Honpa Hongwanji that Kanmo remembered from his childhood and young bachelor days.

Jane became Bomori on a new, larger scale, with many official and public duties that she carried out in her innovative style. She naturally encouraged an active music program in the temple, not only as choir director, but in giving music lessons to the students of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii School.

The full-time school — the only established Buddhist school in the United States at the time — had a student body of 300 children from kindergarten through sixth grade, as well as English classes for foreign students.

Jane also taught Japanese songs as part of a program at the Fort Gakuen Japanese language classes and the Rakuen Club for senior citizens. Rev. Imamura promoted the establishment of a new Buddhist Study Center based on the Berkeley model. All of the programs thrived with Jane and Kanmo's active participation.

In 1974, because of Kanmo's increasing ill health, the Imamuras decided to retire and returned to Berkeley. After a long fight with a debilitating illness, Rev. Imamura passed away in 1986.

To honor her husband's remarkable life, Jane turned her devoted attention to writing a book, "Kaikyo." Temple music continued to engage her. In 1989, she joined the BCA's Ad Hoc Music Committee, whose purpose was to commission the composition and publication of new gathas. The response to this project was widespread and rewarding.

New gathas by American composers Lou Harrison and Shinji Eshima, along with Linda Castro, Dii Lewis, and others, joined standard works by Chizu Iwanaga, Yumi Hojo — and Jane's own compositions.

Eshima, a successful contemporary composer of moving, dramatic works, many with significant political, social import and some based on Buddhist chants, is Jane's nephew.

A new, revised BCA "Shin Buddhist Service Book" was published in 1994.

In her last private years, Jane gave way to dementia. But she miraculously remained able to sit at her piano and lovingly play complex works by Chopin.

She passed away in 2011, having touched and inspired multitudes.



Dharma School

Berkeley Buddhist Temple

Dharma School Newsletter

November 2021



Dharma School students express gratitude to our Keiro Kai elders in the sangha!

Joanna Ho Author Visit

Thanks to the Buddhist Church of Oakland, our Dharma School students were able to meet and listen to the insights of Bay Area educator and author, Joanna Ho, in October. We learned about world-renowned musician and cultural ambassador Yo-Yo Ma and his important message of building bridges, not borders.



Re-Opening the Dharma School

At last, the Dharma School is excited to announce that we will be holding some classes in person again! For now, we will alternate between in-person and Zoom classes. Please refer to the accompanying calendar. For the in-person classes, we will institute the following safety protocols:

- Masks at all times
- Hand sanitizer and/or hand washing
- Open windows
- Air filters
- Temperature checks
- Food and drink permitted outside only

November Calendar

Note: Please refer to this calendar to know which Sundays are in-person or on Zoom. Use this email if you need the Zoom link: bbtdharmaschool@gmail.com.

11/7/2021	In-person	Activity for Transgender Day of Remembrance Service on Nov. 20. High School meets separately.
11/14/2021	Zoom	Additional time for Transgender Day of Remembrance, if needed. Irene leads a Bodhi Day presentation preview. High school meets separately.
11/21/2021	In-person	ALL-SCHOOL: Students rehearse and record a Bodhi Day presentation.
11/28/2021	Zoom	ALL SCHOOL: Additional time for Bodhi Day recording, if needed



Membership

2021 Membership Pledges (Receiving Period: 9/18/2021 – 10/15/2021)

The temple would like to welcome new members and gratefully acknowledge their generous contributions:

Stephen Palacios and Nina Sabouri.

The temple would also like to welcome a new college member: **Saya Abney**

Here's a little bit about Saya Abney (they/them):

I am a 4th year undergrad at Berkeley majoring in ethnic studies and data science. I'm an out of state student from Atlanta, Georgia. I'm excited to join the temple - I've found my faith in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism relatively recently, but while my mother's family belonged to Tsukiji Honganji in Japan, I've never lived somewhere with a temple nearby. I heard about the Berkeley Buddhist Temple through the partnership with the Berkeley Nikkei Student Union for a welcome event. I'm looking forward to being a part of the Berkeley Buddhist Temple community and having the opportunity to practice and learn more about Jodo Shinshu with others.

Thank you for your welcome, I am looking forward to starting services and meeting other members!

Thank you all for your generosity and continuing support!

If you have any questions, please contact Mimi Kagehiro at membership@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org or 510-841-1356.



Community Outreach



Team captain: Tara U

Raising funds for: 2021 Buddhist Action to Feed the Hungry Pacific-Mountain Online Gathering

BBT has partnered with Buddhist Global Relief for several years on their Walk to Feed the Hungry. Founded by students of the American scholar-monk Ven. Bhikku Bohdi in response to his essay, "A Challenge to Buddhists", BGR is Buddhist relief organization focusing on the problem of global hunger.

BGR scheduled two online Dharma gatherings in October. The Pacific/Mountain U.S. gathering was held on October 2nd. Rev. Kuwahara was one of the featured speakers.

The Eastern/Central U.S. gathering will be held on October 30th at 1:00 PM EST/10:00 AM PST. Featured teachers will include Roshi Joan Hoerberichts, of Heart Circle Sangha, Ridgewood, N.J.; Ven. Khenmo Drolma, of Vajra Dakini Nunnery; Ven. Myokei Shonin, of Myoken-Ji Temple, Nichiren Buddhist Sangha of Texas; Rev. Greg Snyder, of Union Theological Seminary; and Rev. Doyeon Park, of Buddhist Council of New York. If you are interested in viewing this event, register here:

<https://www.buddhistglobalrelief.org/buddhist-action-2021-events/>

This year, because in-person walks were not possible, the BBT Community Outreach Committee created a group fundraiser.

Please join BBT in supporting Buddhist Global Relief's work!

<https://www.buddhistglobalrelief.org/campaigns/bbt/>



BCA Art Exhibit 2021

Welcome to our first ever BCA Virtual Art Exhibit!! We are very happy to have you here. This event will run September 19 – 26, the length of our week long Ohigan observance. You are invited to stroll through our galleries more than once and with different friends to enjoy the efforts of our talented Sangha members.

Art is not entertainment. Art is expression and communication. We are opened to a world beyond words. Art gives voice to body and heart. It is a voice that is usually asked or relegated to defer to the brain. We are allowed to share in intimate dialogue and to glimpse connection to the infinite. Intimate yet infinite is the realm of the Nembutsu. We are provided access to expressions of sacred space and connected spirit. It is our hope that you can come to appreciate these vibrant expressions of self. Enjoy your visit.

Rev. Joshin Dennis Fujimoto
Buddhist Temple of Alameda
Enmanji Buddhist Temple

As you may be aware from announcements in previous editions of the Padma, the BCA solicited entries for their first ever Virtual Art Exhibit in September. Among the many submissions, the Berkeley Buddhist Temple was represented by the amazing artwork by the following members:

- ❖ **Zora Uyeda-Hale** – images 002a, 002b, 002c, and 003
- ❖ **Art Mayeno** – images 045a, 045b, and 045c
- ❖ **Kai Fujioka** – image 046
- ❖ **Edythe Vassall** – images 055a, 055b, 055c, 055d, 055e, and 055f.

Please take a few minutes to view and appreciate these pieces and the entire exhibit here:

[BCA Art Exhibit | BCA \(buddhistchurchesofamerica.org\)](https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org)



FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ~ REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK

CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA) Series – Japanese Seminar



日本語セミナー

2021年 10月23日

土曜日 午前11時～午後1時 (PACIFIC TIME)

本願のこころ

ワンドラ 睦



オレンジ郡仏教会 開教使
米国仏教大学院 (IBS) 非常勤講師

親鸞聖人によって開かれた浄土真宗は、あらゆる人びとが、阿弥陀如来さまの本願力によって、往生成仏し、この世に帰って迷えるものを救うためにはたらくという教えです。南無阿弥陀仏の名号を聞信するところに往生が定まり、報恩感謝の思いから如来さまのお徳を讃える称名念仏の日々を過ごさせていただきます。このセミナーでは如来さまが私たちのために誓われたご本願のおこころをうかがいます。

[オンライン登録 REGISTER ONLINE](https://forms.gle/ntiBzPzWdhxdxieH8)
<https://forms.gle/ntiBzPzWdhxdxieH8>

Saturday, October 23, 2021 11 am - 1 pm (Pacific Time) Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Mutsumi Wondra

CONTACT: cbe@bcahq.org (510) 809-1460

Click for [CBE Fall SOFA calendar & registration](#) [Donations](#) are welcome!

Visit www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education

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BCA Center for Buddhist Education Every Day Buddhism Committee Presents:



“The Three Poisons in our Life”

A Shin Buddhist approach to dealing with the three poisons

Lecture and Discussion

By Rev. Marvin Harada

Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America

October 30, 2021

11:00 am – 1:00pm (PT) Zoom



GREED, ANGER, IGNORANCE

Registration is Free:

Click to register <https://forms.gle/JFqMbpE7quPAVpXd9>

Donations gratefully accepted

Click to Donate <https://bca.kindful.com/> (Scroll campaigns to select CBE.

Donations are processed by BCA Endowment Foundation)

Visit buddhistchurchesofamerica.org email: cbe@bcahq.org or phone: 510.809.1460

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ~ REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK



CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA)

Click to view the
[CBE Fall SOFA calendar & registration](#)

Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu doctrine, practice, and culture

KOICHI'S KITCHEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2021

11 AM -1 PM (PACIFIC)



Guest Chef:

Koichi Mizushima

CBE Youth Program Coordinator
Minister's Assistant, Buddhist Church of Sacramento
Former owner/partner/chef of Japanese restaurants:
Kamon, Osaka Sushi, and Taiko Sushi

Menu:

Sushi Rolls... Just for Fun!

As the holiday season approaches, CBE celebrates temple culinary traditions with Koichi Mizushima. Treat yourself to a tasty, instructional, and entertaining virtual feast. Hone your sushi-rolling skills and enjoy well-seasoned talk-story.

Your sushi rolling will never be the same!

[Register online](#)

<https://forms.gle/RFAxvfArT4YZrAng>

CONTACT: cbe@bcahq.org (510) 809-1460

Click for [CBE Fall SOFA calendar & registration](#) [Donations](#) are gratefully accepted.

Visit www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education

v9-15



Faith & Science

Awakening Compassion for the Future

Saturday, October 30, 11am - 1pm PST on Zoom

We use energy everyday in many forms, usually without thinking, but it is important for us to consider the effects this has on us now and in the future. This event is meant to bring together the UN's Sustainable Development Goal #7, affordable and clean energy, with perspectives from science and various religions. By looking at this issue through the lenses of faith and science we can consider responsible and compassionate ways to create a viable future for everyone.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Miriam Hinojosa

Head of the Global Climate Action Unit, in the Energy and Climate Branch at the Economy Division of the United Nations Environment Program

PANELISTS

Dr. Palitha Kohona

Ambassador of Sri Lanka to China and former Permanent Representative to the UN

Dr. Zachary Markwith

Education Director at Islamic Networks Group (ING)

Rev. Don Castro

Founder of EcoSangha and retired Buddhist Churches of America minister

Rev. Dr. James Fredericks

Emeritus Professor of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University

Presented by the Jodo Shinshu International Office



To register, use QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/3rcqm49>

Services

Our regular Sunday program begins with a Chanting Service at 8:30am followed by a Family Service at 9:30am. A Dharma talk is available after the Family Service while Dharma School classes are convened for students.

Special Services

January 1 Service	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 Memorial	Hoonko	Shinran Shonin
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.

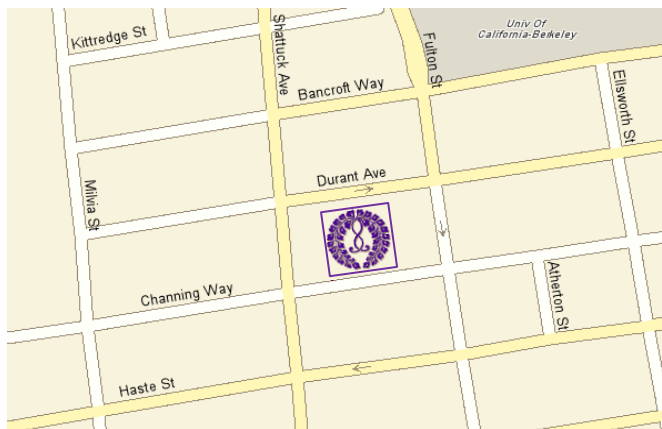
Whether you are here to satisfy a slight interest or to make a more personal connection, we wish you well and hope that you will be visiting us again soon.

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

berkeleybuddhisttemple.org

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