



Mission: To further friendly relations among the Chinese and various Chinese societies in the State of Hawai'i to promote projects of benevolence, charity, and cultural awareness; and to promote the welfare of the Chinese community.

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Warm Greetings from President Ivy Yeung

Dear UCS 'Ohana,

As we close out this quarter, I find myself reflecting on how far our Society has come—not only in these past few months but also through the generations that came before us. In this issue, you'll find a special article on the history of the United Chinese Society. Reading it is a reminder that UCS has always been more than an organization—it has been a bridge between past and present, carrying forward the voices, traditions, and dreams of our community in Hawai'i.

That legacy has been alive and well in recent months as we finished strong with a full slate of meaningful events: our Annual Picnic, Talk Story sessions, Chinatown Clean Up, and UCS NextGen Speed Networking. Each gathering was unique, but the common thread was clear—our community shows up with heart ❤️, dedication, and joy.

Looking back on these milestones, I'm reminded that we are not only celebrating culture—we are actively writing the next chapter of UCS history together. Our NextGen leaders continue to bring fresh energy while learning from the wisdom of those who came before them, ensuring that continuity and care remain at the heart of what we do.

As we move forward, let us honor the foundation built by generations past, nurture the bonds of today, and continue shaping a future where our Chinese heritage remains vibrant in Hawai'i.



Do Jie, Xie Xie and Mahalo Nui Loa, 🙌

Ivy Yeung

Calendar of Events – follow us on Instagram @unitedchinesesocietyhi

February 22 10:00am	<i>Member's Educational Seminar Topic: Community Update on 'A'ala Park</i>
March 13 6:00pm	<i>Member's Educational Seminar Topic: Community Update from Avalon Group Hawaii</i>
March 22 1:00pm	<i>NexGen Presents Member's Cultural Workshop Topic: An Afternoon of Poetry with Wing Tek Lum</i>
April 26 10:00am	<i>Member's Cultural Workshops Topic: Calligraphy</i>
11:30am	<i>Topic: Chinese Tea Culture and History</i>
July 12	<i>Member Talk Story</i>
August 17	<i>Family Day Picnic at Kapiolani Park</i>
September 25	<i>NexGen: Speed Networking Event</i>
October 4	<i>Mid-Autumn Festival</i>
October 11	<i>Leaders' Roundtable Summit</i>
November 1	<i>Member's Educational Workshop/ Seminar Topic: Exploring Taxation: Updates</i>
December 5	<i>Installation Banquet</i>

Events and dates are subject to change and additions. For more information about any of these events, please visit the website, www.ucsofhawaii.com. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our office. Mahalo!

Upcoming Installation & Hall of Honor Ceremony: Mahalo 2024 honoree, Eddie Flores, Jr. & Congratulations to 2025 honoree Douglas Dai Lunn Chong



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A Look Back: The Early Years



The roots of the United Chinese Society (UCS) trace back to 1880, when early Chinese immigrants in Hawaii organized themselves into the Wah Yun Lin Hop Hui to provide mutual support and companionship. This group laid the groundwork for what would become a broader community effort. In 1884, the organization was formally chartered as

the United Chinese Society, marking the official founding of UCS as we know it today. A proud moment in UCS history came in 1886, when King David Kalakaua attended the grand opening of the Society's original clubhouse on North King Street. This event reflected the respect and recognition the Chinese community had earned in Hawaiian society. However, tragedy struck shortly after when the Chinatown fire destroyed the building. Without insurance, the Society faced significant loss, but through the resilience and generosity of its members, funds were raised to rebuild a stronger and more permanent home.

Over the years, UCS has evolved while maintaining its focus on supporting the many Chinese societies across Hawaii. The Society has played important roles as mediator, fundraiser, and liaison between the Chinese community and government or consular agencies. Through these efforts, UCS has helped preserve cultural heritage and promote goodwill, while honoring the autonomy and unique contributions of each member society.



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Today, UCS continues to cherish and support this diverse network of societies, recognizing the vital role they play in sustaining our shared heritage. Looking forward, UCS remains committed to fostering collaboration and respect among member groups to ensure the rich history and culture of Hawaii's Chinese community continue to flourish.

Past President Victor Lim reflects, "I am so proud to say that this current UCS 2.0 is so different from what the UCS was ten years ago. Just look at the Annual Picnic—it is very

inclusive with the number of local Chinese societies growing as well as total participants, old and young. UCS members are taking the lead and partnering with so many other societies to make it a huge success. Transparency, accountability, and serving our Chinese Community at large is very evident with our officers and board members."

Immediate Past President Mona Choy adds, "As UCS looks to the future, my hope is that we continue to build on this strong foundation by engaging the next generation of leaders. Our heritage is something to be celebrated and passed on, and by fostering unity and collaboration among all our societies, we ensure that UCS will remain a vital part of Hawaii's Chinese community for generations to come."



In Memoriam

We honor the lives and legacies of two of our former presidents who passed away this year: Mr. Yuk Guy Yee (President, 2004) and Colonel Lawrence Siu (President, 2002). Their dedicated leadership and enduring contributions to the United Chinese Society of Hawai'i will always be remembered with deep gratitude and respect.

UCS Member Talk Story: Sharing Experiences and Building Connections



On July 12, UCS members came together at the UCS Hall for an engaging Member Talk Story event. The gathering provided a meaningful opportunity for members to connect, share stories, and welcome new faces—including new member Kevin Chang, who shared, "Mahalo to the UCS for an invitation to my first gathering in almost 3 decades. It was good to see members both new and old. I have always valued the societies as a place to reflect on our sense of self and community in many ways. I hope our young people, Chinese and hapa like myself, will re-engage and/or find the curiosity to further their aspirations and celebrate their culture as members of a Hawaiian and global community."

Best Cultural Connection Award



UCS proudly presented the *Best Cultural Connection Award* at the “Dr. Sun Yat-sen & Hawai‘i” Youth Painting Exhibition, held at the Mission Memorial Auditorium on August 13, 2025. UCS President Ivy Yeung presented the award to Kayley Yong-Yi Yu, a 9th grader at Waipahu High School, for her outstanding painting that beautifully illustrated Dr. Sun’s connection to Hawai‘i.

The exhibition was part of an international commemoration marking the 100th anniversary of Dr. Sun Yat-sen’s passing and invited student artists across Grades 6–12 to explore his historical ties to the islands through visual art. Kayley’s piece stood out for its thoughtful depiction and cultural resonance, earning recognition among many strong submissions.

UCS extends its heartfelt congratulations to Kayley and all participating students. We look forward to sharing more of their creativity and cultural insights with our community, both locally and abroad. Kayley and the other winner’s artwork will be displayed at the Sun Yat-sen museum in Zhongshan, China.



2025 Annual Family Day Picnic

On August 17, a strong showing of members and their families gathered at Kapiolani Park for the UCS Annual Family Day Picnic. Attendees enjoyed a variety of games, including favorites balloon toss and pick-up. UCS NexGen set up a popular booth featuring Chinese calligraphy and coloring, adding a creative touch to the festivities. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make the event a success!



*2025 UCS Annual
Family Day Picnic*





UCS



Annual



Family



Day



From Co-Chairs Cy Feng and Robert Yu: *On behalf of the Picnic Committee, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for the UCS Picnic. Your presence, energy, and enthusiasm made the day truly special. We are grateful to the donors, supporters, volunteers, and participants who helped bring our community together to share food, laughter, and great memories. Events like this remind us of the strength and joy in our UCS and Chinese family, and we look forward to many more gatherings ahead!*



Chinatown Cleanup



On August 23, UCS members rolled up their sleeves and joined the Chinatown Cleanup, helping to beautify our community with fresh paint and care. A special mahalo to Marsha Au-Maxwell for chairing this meaningful event and guiding our efforts. Our UCS crew did a fantastic job, and we're proud to support keeping Chinatown vibrant and welcoming for all.



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UCS NexGen: Speed Networking Event

The United Chinese Society's NexGen Program hosted a successful Speed Networking event on September 25, 2025, drawing an enthusiastic group of mentors and participants from a wide range of sectors and societies. The evening offered a unique opportunity for multi-generational connections, mentorship, and the sharing of wisdom across industries and experiences.

Our Speed Networking event mentors comprised of current UCS Trustees and Emeritus Trustees, Mr. Stanford Yuen (Lung Doo Benevolent Society), and Mr. Stephen Wong (Wong Kong Har Tong) who shared about their professional and community leadership experiences. Around twenty young professionals attended the event and represented a diverse group of industries and organizations, including Chinese Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Program, See Dai Doo, Oo Syak Gee Lu Society. The Speed Networking program started with a "get-to-know" signature icebreaker activity, speed table sessions, and fellowship over food.



The event was guided by the vision of NexGen Chair Kendrick Chang, whose leadership brought together a diverse and engaged crowd. “We hope to continue offering more opportunities to connect our rising leaders in the Chinese community with our longtime leaders to facilitate continuity and shared responsibilities across our UCS organizations,” said Chang. UCS extends its sincere appreciation to Kendrick for his dedication and foresight in creating such a meaningful evening.

We also recognize and thank last year’s NexGen Chairs Jill Fukumoto and Ivy Yeung for laying the groundwork and providing support for this year’s success.

The NexGen Committee also extends its appreciation to Mechanics Bank (fka Home Street Bank) through Emeritus Trustee Mona Choy and Oo Syak Gee Lu Society for providing financial support to the NexGen Program.

The overwhelmingly positive response to the event highlights the importance of fostering intergenerational dialogue and building bridges within our community. UCS looks forward to supporting future NexGen initiatives that continue to empower, connect, and inspire.



China National Day Celebration

On September 21, 2025, the United Chinese Society (UCS) proudly served as a Platinum Sponsor for the celebration of China's National Day and the 76th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. This year's event, hosted by the Leong Doo Benevolent Society, brought together community members, leaders, and friends to honor Chinese culture and heritage. As one of the founding organizations of this annual celebration Hawai'i, UCS is grateful to continue this tradition of unity alongside our partner organizations.



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👍 COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS 👍

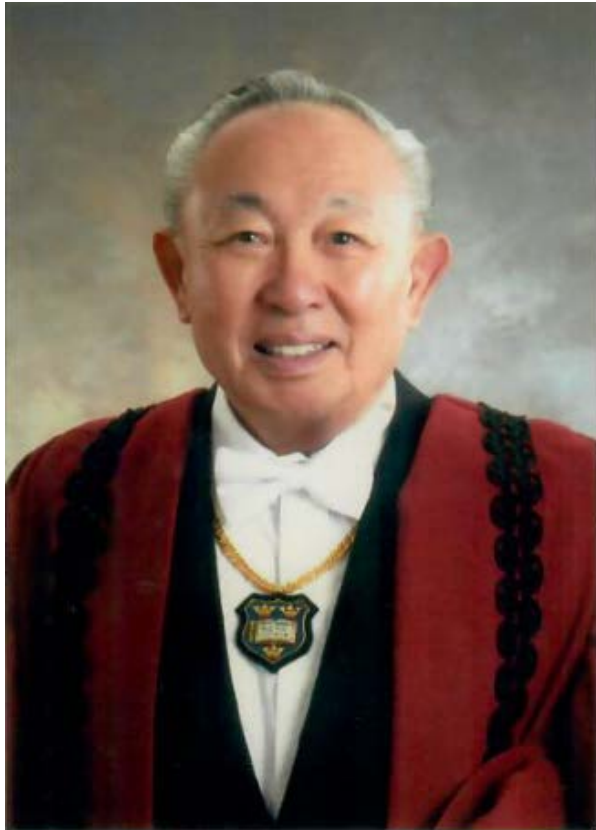


Above (L-R) (Photos 1–2) Peter Ma represented UCS at a joint presentation honoring the U.S. Flying Tigers and Lillian Liao's operatic experiences during wartime China, highlighting the deep gratitude of Kunming's people for American support. (3) NexGen members catching up (4, 6) UCS joined the Leong Doo Benevolent Society on August 2 to commemorate its 118th anniversary, celebrating alongside President Kenneth Lei and fellow community members. (5, 7) The same evening, UCS attended the Oo Syak Gee Lu Society Banquet, where President Debbie Chun graciously welcomed guests for an evening of fellowship and connection. (8) UCS welcomed Director James Fang and a delegation from the Guangdong Economic Development and Trade Promotion Office on August 12 (9) Pictured with Linda Louie at the Hawaii Chinese Civic Association 100th Anniversary Imperial Chinese Garment Exhibition.

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Above (L-R) (10) Ivy and Kendrick Chang supported the Trust for Public Land and Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii at the Battle of Bao on August 23 at Aala Park. (11) On September 13, UCS was present at the Kwangtung Community Honolulu Lin Yee Hui Banquet, a festive gathering hosted by President Ken Po Lock. (12-13) On September 21, UCS took part in the 100th anniversary celebration of the Chinese Catholic Club, honoring the contributions of President Malia Kai and the organization's legacy. (14-18) Members gathered at the UCS Hall for the General Membership Meeting on September 30.



Dr. Tseu is pictured in academic regalia as a member of the Board of Regents, University of Oxford, UK, England.

Celebrating Community: Insights from Dr. Lawrence K.W. Tseu, DDS, FAGD

Catching up with Hall of Honor recipient Dr. Lawrence K.W. Tseu, DDS, FAGD — our 2023 UCS Hall of Honor award winner. An accomplished dentist, philanthropist, and community leader, Dr. Tseu's generosity and lifelong commitment to uplifting others continue to inspire. We are deeply grateful for the chance to reconnect with him and be reminded of the importance of giving back, sustaining our community, and learning from those who have paved the way before us.

Q1. What does being part of Hawai'i's Chinese community mean to you, especially reflecting on your upbringing and experiences?

As a youngster growing up in Hawai'i in the 1930s and 40s, there were many different ethnic and immigrant groups who lived side by side, practicing our individual cultures and traditions in order to survive and feel comfortable among ourselves. Assimilation into the American way of life came later. In many ways, this mirrored what happened in New York City when migrants first arrived from Europe in the 18th century. Because of this, I have always felt a strong loyalty to support and maintain my Chinese cultural upbringing by being active in the Chinese community.

Q2. Looking ahead, what are your hopes for the future of the Chinese community in Hawai'i?

I have noticed that younger generations are becoming more Westernized and, in some ways, less connected to their cultural roots. Parents play a vital role in guiding their children to take pride in their heritage and to carry forward our values and traditions. Without that encouragement, our culture can too easily be lost over time.

Q3. What advice would you share with younger generations about leadership, giving back, and carrying our culture forward?

Dedicate your time and energy to sustaining your cultural heritage. Technology and modern life will always be there, but don't let them distract you from the richness of your roots. Learn your traditions, live your values, and share them with others. That is how we ensure our culture continues to thrive.

Q4. What does being recognized in the UCS Hall of Honor mean to you personally?

Throughout my lifetime, I have been honored by many organizations and societies—locally, nationally, and even globally. To be recognized by the United Chinese Society with the Hall of Honor Award is, to me, the most prestigious of all the awards I have ever received. UCS is deeply respected by all ethnic organizations in Hawai'i, and I will always cherish this award as one of my greatest honors.

We mahalo Dr. Tseu for his wisdom, generosity, and lifelong commitment to uplifting others.

Member Society Updates

A Better Chinatown Association

A Better Chinatown Association (ABCA) launched the Founder's Club Member fundraising campaign for the Chinatown Arch on August 1. Support from the Chinese community and local organizations has been tremendous. If you made a pledge, please send in your payment. ABCA will officially kick off the main fundraising campaign from November 15 to December 31.

Peter and Tony Shi donated 100 red lanterns, which ABCA plans to install before the holidays.

Michael Brown has been invited to paint a mural at the former American Theater, the site where Dr. Sun Yat-sen delivered his famous speech rallying support to overthrow the Manchu government. ABCA also plans to designate the location as a historical landmark.

Peter Shi received a scale model of the Chinatown Arch from China. ABCA expects production of the arch to begin in China this November, with construction in Hawaii scheduled for early 2026.

I want to thank everyone for their support. I am very excited that the Chinatown Arch is being manufactured in China. I expect it to be completed and shipped to Hawaii by January, 2026. Installation should start in February and completion before Summer of 2026.

I started several projects including installation of red lanterns and Year of the Horse banners at Kekaulike Mall. Mark Brown is working on a mural showing Dr. Sun Yat-sen giving a speech. Alan and Sylvia Ho ordered two brass lions for the arch. The programs to attract local community and tourists will start by the end of summer, 2026.

I am starting our final drive to raise money for the Chinatown Arch on November 15th. If you have not made a donation, please help us with your contribution.

— Eddie Flores, Jr.

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Organization of Chinese American Women (OCAW)

On Sunday August 24, 2025, 25 OCAW members and guests met at Palolo Chinese Home's Great Hall for a Buffet lunch and Tai Chi demonstration which included audience participation. The facilities they provided are outstanding.

Master Kevin and wife Mei Wang demonstrated how we could improve our health and balance. It was an invigorating slow motion exercises that helped our aging bodies to improve circulation and learn balance techniques and to ease our body of aches & pains.

Master Kevin teaches Tai Chi at Magic Island , Ala Moana Park on Friday & Saturdays from 8:30 to 10 am. (See picture). Tai Chi is not only for the old but also the young. We had Twin 5 year old boys participating. It was a very enjoyable day for all that came. The delicious buffet lunch was delicious!

Sharlene Chun

President Organization of Chinese American Women Hawaii Chapter (OCAW)



Associated Chinese University Women (ACUW)

ACUW – Cooking for Ronald McDonald House



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Hawaii

Deepest mahalos to ACUW members **Clarissa “Cappy” Sin, Lisa Osurman, Wendie Liu, Jenny Lee, Anna Chang, Shari Lee Huntoon, Aileen Mirchandani, Sandy Shiroma, Pat Hubbard, Betty Chang, Edwina Lee, and Ruby Jung** who on Sunday, September 7th, cooked dinner for the 40+ residents at two Ronald McDonald Houses in Manoa. After cooking chilis and stews on previous occasions, this time we provided a “comfort food” menu consisting of chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, green salad, pigs in the blanket and brownie/cookie “brookies” for dessert. It was an afternoon well spent helping these families with critically ill children come back from the hospital to a delicious home cooked meal!



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Chinese Women's Club of Honolulu

Chinese Women's Club of Honolulu had their fall General Members Meeting at Salt Lake City Chinese Restaurant on September 13.

We celebrated members' birthdays for this quarter. We had a special celebration for our oldest member Pauline Young for her 100th birthday at Oahu Country Club together with our Scholarship recipients lunch in June. Pauline is still an active member and is on the Board. She is Budget Chair and has contributed much to the club over many years.

We awarded four high school seniors college scholarships of \$1000 each to assist with their university studies.

President Roberta Wong Leung gave a demonstration of healthy Tai Chi Fingers exercises to improve our health. Our Christmas Installation lunch will be held on December 6 at Oahu Country Club at 11am to welcome our incoming President Sharlene Chun.



Ching Clan Benevolent Society



On August 13, the Ching Clan Benevolent Society was invited to attend the Dr. Sun Yat-sen & Hawai'i Youth Painting Exhibition Awards Ceremony at the Mission Memorial Auditorium. The awards ceremony recognized youth for their artistic talent in reflecting Dr. Sun Yat-sen's life. There were many talented students and all participants received a certificate and selected entries received a \$100 cash prize donated by generous donors and supporters. In addition, their artwork was displayed in Honolulu Hale in August and selected entries will be shown in Zhongshan, China. Partnering with the Mayor's Office of Culture & the Arts were The Dr. Sun Yat-sen Hawaii Foundation and CLEAH (Chinese Language Education Assn. of Hawaii).

Representing the Ching Clan Society was Vice-President, Dr. Juanita Ching Liu presenting the *Spirit of Youth Award* to Yuanyuan Zhang and Pearl Ching presented the *Most Inspiring Award* to Christine Wu representing Michele Choy who was out of town.

A small reception followed the awards ceremony.

The Ching Clan Benevolent Society took the opportunity to participate in the United Chinese Society picnic on August 17 at Kapiolani Park. The officers decided to join the UCS for its annual picnic each year because of what they provide. We enjoyed a delicious bento lunch along with hot dog, chips, watermelon, and dessert. There were many games and prizes for all ages to enjoy in addition to the many door prizes given away. It was a great day to sit back and enjoy the great company of many in the Chinese community under great weather! Sharlene Chun brought out her entire family. Other Ching Clan members attended the picnic but under different organizations they belong to. Much thanks to United Chinese Society for organizing this picnic and including many of the Chinese societies in Hawai'i.

(pictures on next page)



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