



## The Buddhist Temple of Chicago

# August 2023

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### Online Guest Speaker,

**Rev. Ken Yamada  
August 20 Sunday**

11am Akegarasu Memorial  
See Facebook for more  
information the week  
before the event



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### Our BTC Treasures and their creations:

Ruth Abbinanti – turquoise & white beaded bracelet

Michio Iwao – bird pins

Ritsuko Inouye – quilt

Ikue Matsuda – towel Ms. Rabbit

Shizue Susie Nakanishi – Mr. Frog

Fumiko Takata – painting and colorful clay flowers

Jennie Watanabe – Japanese doll

Betty Yoshioka – knitted deer

### Japanese Creativity Exhibit by Dr. Alice Murata

Many nice Japanese inspired crafts were on display at the Buddhist Temple of Chicago Exhibit this year. The highlight of the show was the queen size Japanese quilt made by Jenny Watanabe. Other unique pieces made by people affiliated with BTC were the wonderful quilt pieces by Ritsuko Inouye. Each piece has a story to tell. Ritsuko's kimono quilt is made for birthdays. If it is the celebrant's 88<sup>th</sup> birthday the number of fabric pieces in the kimono is 88.

Mr. Frog was made by Shizue Nakanishi, colorful clay flowers and painting by Fumi Takata, Jane Ike worked in clay to make the delightful friends' candleholder. Also exhibited were Ruth Abbinanti's lovely turquoise bead bracelet, Michio Iwao's wood bird pins, Betty Yoshioka's knitted deer, precious jewelry by Frances Paltzwaltdt and the cute towel rabbit by Ikue Matsuda.

Heiwa Terrace residents shared their treasures- Japanese bag and runner by Kaye Shimosaki, Japanese designed pillow by Chiemi Miyajima, and pink and blue baby blanket by Kazuko Nukuto. BTC participants in the Heiwa craft group at various times include Susie Shizue Nakanishi, Fumi Takada, Emiko Ishikawa, Shizuko Akitomo, Donna Ogura. Ruby Tsuji, Betty Yoshioka, Carol Koizumi, Jane Morishige, and Frances Patzwaltdt.

Also available for viewing included samples of Japanese sashiko (Japanese embroidery), kumihimo (Japanese braids and cords), bunka embroidery, kaminingyo (paper doll), kimikomi ningyo dolls, tsumami chirimen flowers and origami.

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On display were many Japanese bags, knitted and crocheted blankets, cards, and many, many lovely balls. There were items used in daily living like pot holders, eye glass holders, Kleenex holders, aprons, place mats, and dish towels.

Unusual creations were, the pretty soap flower sculptures, pasta flower hanging, and various unusual jewelry pieces. Distinguished artists treasures included Akemi Nakano Cohn's Remembrance #9, katazome embroidery, picture and scarfs, Donna Kato's beautiful items made with Kato clay, a process she invented, and Art Towata's dragonfly pendant.

Gigantic thanks to Gwen Kato, Frances Patzwaladt, Chiemi Miyajima, and Kaye Shimozaeki for lending items for this exhibit. Thanks to Sara Zhang, Jane Ike, Jane Morishige, Stan Oda, and Drea Gallaga for helping to set up and take down this exhibit.

Thanks to Calvin Ishida, Jane Morishige, and Wayne Nakayama for donations to the Silent Auction. Thanks to Sara Zhang and Glen Fujiura for helping with the Silent Auction.

Huge thanks to Bill Bohlman and Gary Nakai for helping in so many, many ways that made it possible to have exhibit and Silent Auction.



#### **Scheduled activities – subject to change**

Weekly services – Sundays 11am - in-person, Facebook Live August 6th

Second Sunday Children's Dharma School service – On break for summer

Qigong (Chinese exercise) – Tuesdays 11am - online Zoom and in-person

Sunday Meditation 9:30 - On break for summer

Thursday Meditation 7:15pm – On break for summer

Aikido (martial art) – Sundays 3:30pm – in-person only

Asoka Society (social gathering) – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 1pm – August 19

The above activities are open to the public and free (donations appreciated).

If you are interested in the two activities below, please leave your contact information and the group will set up an appointment for you to visit them.

Iaido (martial art) – Mondays 7:00pm

Kokyo Taiko (drums) – Friday evenings, Sunday afternoons

#### **Obon Service – Sunday, August 13 at 11am**

At Obon time, we honor our loved ones and each year we list those who passed away since the previous year's Obon. These are the names that will be displayed as Hatsubon ("First Obon"):

09/07/2022 Tatsuya Hirotsuka

12/25/2022 James Falconer

12/27/2022 Fumiko Kuwada

01/13/2023 Mutsue Horikoshi

01/13/2023 Josephine Sagami

02/20/2023 Michio Iwao

04/07/2023 Alice Maruyama

04/29/2023 Rev. Yukei Ashikaga

05/09/2023 Setsuko Ando

05/16/2023 Etsuko Mizuuchi

05/30/2023 Betty Uyekawa

06/11/2023 Nora Matayoshi

06/11/2023 Sachiko Kodama

06/18/2023 Toshio Yamauchi

07/16/2023 Harry Sakai

07/17/2023 Herbert Yamashiroya

## **Natsu Matsuri Returns by Bill Bohlman, Temple President**

After a four year absence, Natsu Matsuri returned as a complete event. Last year we had the food aspect but not the other parts. This year along with the food we had vendors, performances and a cultural display. The reason we could do all this is simple: a dedicated sangha.

During the week before the festival the temple was transformed from its usual layout into one that accommodated the Natsu Matsuri activities. Walls were moved, a stage was built, chairs and tables were set up. By the time the weekend rolled around everything was in place.

Early Saturday morning preparations began. In the kitchen a group of volunteers were busy chopping and preparing all the ingredients for the chicken dinners, inari and udon. Throughout the morning they worked diligently to make sure that everything was ready for Sunday. Outside, the chicken crew was busy building the grill pit while waiting for the chickens to arrive. Finally, at 11 AM, the chickens arrived and the crew swung into action. Almost 700 chicken halves were trimmed, bagged and bathed in our special teriyaki marinade.

Sunday was the big day. Team Teriyaki arrived early and began the process of cooking the chickens. Rack after rack was filled with chickens and began their march down the grill pit. Inside the kitchen was in full swing. Pot after pot of rice eventually became inari at the skilled hands of some of the temple ladies. Working efficiently they produced over 350 servings of inari each with three pieces. Throughout the day the kitchen turned out order after order of chicken and udon.

This year, the festival attendees got to watch some wonderful exhibitions. Taiko did interactive audience participation. Aikido, Iaido and Kyudo demonstrations showcased these forms of martial arts. Throughout the day people enjoyed the beautiful items for sale by the vendors and the cultural exhibit of Japanese Creativity.

Natsu Matsuri this year was as successful as we could have hoped. However, each year it becomes harder to have the staffing we need. Unfortunately we do not have many younger people involved with the festival. As is the case with the temple in general we need the next generation to step forward. With gratitude to all those who helped, and with hope for the future, thank you for your dedication.

The Buddhist Temple of Chicago is seeking to hire a part-time office manager. Must work at location four days a week. Duties include clerical tasks, light janitorial work, receiving deliveries and handling correspondence (phone, email and letters). Will be overseeing work by other staff and volunteers. Requires proficiency in using MS-Word and Excel. Some familiarity with Japanese language and customs is a plus.

If interested, or for more information, email: [budtempchi@aol.com](mailto:budtempchi@aol.com)  
or call 773-334-4661



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### AUGUST 2023 Calendar

Events may be canceled or moved:

Check [www.facebook.com/budtempchi](https://www.facebook.com/budtempchi)  
for the most up-to-date changes.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11am Qi-Gong	2	3	4 Taiko* 7pm	5
6 11am Monthly Memorial 3:30 Aikido	7 Iaido* 7:00pm	8 11am Qi-Gong	9	10	11 Taiko* 7pm	12
13 11am Obon Service 3:30 Aikido	14 Iaido* 7:00pm	15 11am Qi-Gong	16	17	18 Taiko* 7pm	19 1pm Asoka
20 11am Akegarasu Memorial 3:30 Aikido	21 Iaido* 7:00pm	22 11am Qi-Gong	23	24	25 Taiko* 7pm	26
27 11am Regular Service 3:30 Aikido	28 Iaido* 7:00pm	29 11am Qi-Gong	30	31		

\*Iaido and Taiko require appointments made in advance