



CALENDAR LISTING

HONOLULU FESTIVAL TO LIGHT UP WAIKĪKĪ, MARCH 6-8, 2020

Multi-cultural performances, Grand Parade and spectacular Nagaoka Fireworks Show highlight the weekend of festivities and free events

- WHAT:** 26th Annual Honolulu Festival
- WHEN:** Friday, March 6 – Sunday, March 8, 2020
- WHERE:** Free cultural performances in four locations:
Hawai'i Convention Center, Ala Moana Center, International Marketplace
and Waikiki Beach Walk
- ADMISSION:** Free and open to the public (excluding a few invitation only events)
Please visit honolulufestival.com for more details.

HONOLULU – (December 26, 2019) – The Honolulu Festival, a celebration of Hawai'i's melting pot of cultures, will present a weekend of diverse performances, lively music, dance, and special presentations, before concluding with the Grand Parade on Kalākaua Avenue and Nagaoka Fireworks Show over Waikīkī, March 6-8, 2020.

Hundreds of performers from around the world and in Hawai'i will share their cultural heritage through music, dance, art and special presentation. Residents and visitors are encouraged to participate in the festivities, as the cultural performances and events are free to attend.

Presented by the Honolulu Festival Foundation and supported by the Hawai'i Tourism Community Enrichment Program and numerous corporate sponsors, the festival aims to promote cultural understanding and ethnic harmony among all people. This year's theme is ***"Making the World a Better Place for Our Future, From the Pacific to the World."***

With new special events and cultural highlights to offer attendees every day, the Honolulu Festival will showcase this year's theme in fostering a better understanding and appreciation for diverse cultures and customs of people worldwide.

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HONOLULU FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Educational School Tours (by invitation only)

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Hawai'i school students will get an exclusive behind-the-scenes peek at the Festival's many exhibits and activities as well as the opportunity to interact with visiting performers and artisans on a cultural field trip to the Hawai'i Convention Center.

Friendship Gala

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6:40 p.m.)

Featuring cuisine by some of Hawai'i's most renowned chefs and restaurants, along with amazing cultural performances, this event gives participants a unique taste of the cultural diversity of the participating regions.

Tickets for sale at honolulufestival.com/en/festival/gala/

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Japanese Film Festival

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

FREE film festival featuring internationally acclaimed movies including a new collaboration this year with Kyoto Animation.

NEW: Kyoto Animation Screening Tribute

Visit honolulufestival.com for showtimes

Honolulu Festival honors Kyoto Animation, a beloved and acclaimed animation house from Japan, with screenings of Eiga Koe No Katachi (A Silent Voice).

Eiga Koe No Katachi is a popular movie about teenage bullying. Released in 2016, the animated story won many accolades for the studio, including Best Animation of the Year in the 26th Japan Movie Critics Awards.

In addition to an emotional movie experience, festival patrons are also invited to pay their respects to the studio employees who lost their lives in the violent arson attack in mid-July.

Student Symposium in Honolulu

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A new event to the Honolulu Festival, the Student Symposium will give students the chance to present their studies on presentation topics of their choice, as it relates to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. All students can enter with no charge.

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Cultural Performances and Exhibits

Saturday, March 7, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 8, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cultural performances and exhibits will be held at four different locations: Hawai'i Convention Center, Waikiki Beach Walk, Ala Moana Center and International Marketplace. Admission is free to view the performances.

Additionally, the Hawai'i Conventional Center will showcase an array of cultural activities, arts, crafts, and exhibits for all ages to enjoy, including:

- **Sake & Food Fest:** Learn and experience Japanese Sake culture (Sake, Shochu, Awamori) and enjoy it with international cuisine.
- **Ennichi Corner:** Inspired by the traditional Japanese Saint's Day festival, the Ennichi Corner will offer customary games, crafts and traditions for children.
- **Craft Fair and Exhibitions:** A wonderful display of a variety of cultural art and exhibits.
- **Stage Performances:** Dance, music, and traditional arts performed by groups from all over the Pacific Region.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Japanese Film Festival

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

FREE film festival featuring internationally acclaimed movies including a new collaboration this year with Kyoto Animation for the screenings of Eiga Koe No Katachi (A Silent Voice) an award-winning movie about teenage bullying.

Grand Parade

Parade begins at 4:00 p.m. on Kalākaua Avenue

Following Sunday's cultural performances, the Grand Parade will make its way down Kalākaua Avenue. Cultural groups both local and guest countries will entertain the crowds as they dance, sing and perform demonstrations throughout the parade route along with eye-catching floats.

Nagaoka Fireworks Show (Nagaoka Hanabi)

Sunday, March 8, 8:30 p.m.

The cultural festival concludes with the spectacular Nagaoka Fireworks Show over Waikīkī Beach. Pyrotechnic display features massive glittering blooms inspired by Honolulu's sister city of Nagaoka, Japan. Fireworks will be shot from barges positioned in the waters at the midpoint off of Waikīkī Beach, illuminating the sky and providing viewers near the shoreline with unobstructed views.

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PHOTOS:



Link to Image: <https://imgur.com/yXGUhMV>

Caption: The iconic Nagaoka Fireworks Show will illuminate Waikīkī Beach.



Link to Image: <https://imgur.com/zjHiWsY>

Caption: Catch a glimpse of beautiful floats as they parade down Kalākaua Avenue in the Grand Parade.



Link to Image: <https://imgur.com/WfOlozf>

Caption: Various performance groups will take the stage showcasing the many cultures of the Pacific Rim region.

ABOUT THE HONOLULU FESTIVAL

Honolulu Festival's goal is to celebrate the cultural and ethnic ties of people from Hawai'i and nations worldwide. Honolulu Festival offers a vibrant weekend of live cultural performances, film, arts and more from March 6-8, 2020.

Performances will be presented at four locations, the Hawai'i Convention Center, Ala Moana Center, Waikiki Beach Walk and International Market Place. The festival culminates on March 8

with the Waikiki Grand Parade, starting at 4:00 p.m., and the spectacular Nagaoka Fireworks Show over Waikīkī Beach starting at 8:30 p.m.

Honolulu Festival activities are free and open to the public with support provided by the Honolulu Festival Foundation, corporate sponsors and Hawai'i Tourism through its Community Enrichment Program.

For more information about the Honolulu Festival and its schedule of events, please visit <http://www.honolulu festival.com/>. Follow updates about the Festival on Twitter and Instagram @HonFestival and become a fan of the Honolulu Festival Facebook page (<facebook.com/HonoluluFestival/>).

ABOUT THE HONOLULU FESTIVAL FOUNDATION

The Honolulu Festival Foundation supports educational and cultural programs for the benefit of Hawai'i's local schools, children, and the community-at-large through public outreach and charitable efforts.

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