

Sister-City Relationship Established



The city of Chigasaki and the City and County of Honolulu share common climates and culture. They both are blessed with abundant natural beauty and residents that enjoy surfing, hula, and aloha shirts which promote the “Aloha Spirit”. The goal of this relationship is to deepen the mutual regard, respect and understanding between two cities, and to pass this relationship on to future generations.



Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell being greeted by the children of Chigasaki at the welcoming ceremony.



Just after the signing at Mission Memorial Auditorium

History of Sister-City Signing

ていつ 締結までの道のり

The Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce set up the Aloha Committee in 2003 aimed at revitalizing the local economy by involving young people. One of its first proposals was to suggest the wearing of aloha shirts as the City’s official summer wear, advocating slower life-styles and greater ecology-consciousness within the community.



The following year, 2004, the committee organized the first aloha festival in Chigasaki, called Aloha Market, at which various Hawaiian goods and hula dance were introduced in collaboration with the Oahu Tourist Bureau (now the Hawaii Tourism Association). The instant success of this aloha festival quickly established it as a mainstay of Chigasaki’s festival calendar and saw it grow in popularity and recognition year after year. In 2005, Mayor Hattori wrote a personal letter of thanks to both the Mayor of Honolulu and the head of the Tourist Bureau of Oahu in appreciation for the previous year’s collaboration.

These two initiatives prefaced the efforts to establish a sister-city relationship which concluded successfully on October 24, last year. Not only have the two Administrations agreed to a sister-city relationship but so, too, have the two Chambers of Commerce, which is the first time that Honolulu has agreed to a “sister-chamber” affiliation.

Looking back, wooden surfboards made in Hawaii appeared in Chigasaki in the 1920s, and one such board has been preserved. These days, Chigasaki beach attracts many surfers, but the advent and growth of surf shops and surf clubs was not until the 1960s. The recognition that Chigasaki and Honolulu share common climates and cultural backgrounds related to beaches perhaps hastened the agreement between the two cities.



Population Statistics じんこうとうけい 人口統計

	Chigasaki (Pop: 238,030)	Honolulu County (Pop: 953,207)
Age Groups (yrs)		
Under 18	16.7%	22.1%
18-64	59.4%	63.4%
65 & Over	23.9%	14.5%
Median Age	44 years	41 years
Race		
Asian	99.9%	43.9%
Mixed Race		22.3%
White		20.8%
Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander		9.5%
African American		2.0%
Other	0.1%	1.4%

Honolulu City Pop: 390,738

Have Your Say

The next issue of Chigasaki Breeze will consider the future of the sister-city relationship with Honolulu, and how we can ride the wave to deeper mutual respect and understanding.

Do you have any ideas or opinions?

Please let us know at:

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Charting the Path to Sister-City Affiliation

ていつ 締結の経緯

On October 15, 2013, three associations, namely Chigasaki City Tourism Association, the Chigasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Chigasaki Aloha Shirt Committee, submitted a proposal to the mayor of the City of Chigasaki to establish a Sister-City Relationship with the City and County of Honolulu, State of Hawaii, the United States of America. Then, in April of last year, a committee was set up to promote the Sister-City Relationship, comprising members of the above associations as well as the International Association of Chigasaki and Bunkyo University.

The committee members lent their support to and participated in many festivals in Chigasaki, such as the Spring Citizens’ Festival, the Shonan Festival, Chigasaki’s Aloha Market, the Chigasaki Cup Shonan Festival Amateur Surfing Contest, and the World Invitational Hula Festival in Japan, to advertize the initiative to as many Chigasaki citizens as possible. In addition, when the mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Mr. Kirk Caldwell, accompanied by his wife, came to Chigasaki in August, we hosted the Welcome Ceremony in front of City Hall as well as the Welcome Party at their Guest house on the Chigasaki seafront.

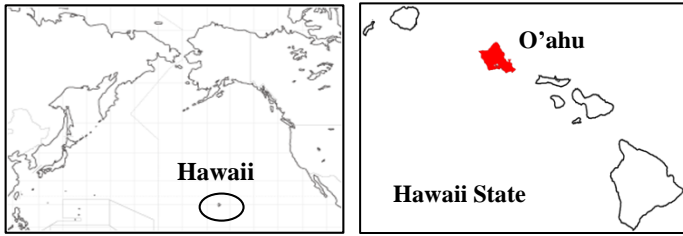
We believe these events must have been very attractive to the mayor and his wife because, not long after, on October 24, 2014, the two cities formally agreed to establish the Sister-City Relationship, which was earlier than we had expected and only one year after the original proposal.

As for the committee set up to promote the sister-city affiliation, it will shortly be renamed and many Chigasaki citizens will be invited to participate and contribute moving forward. Thus, we hope and expect that the reorganized committee will hold many fruitful discussions in the future to further expand the wave of exchange with our new sister city.

[Committee member, Takeo Ishii]

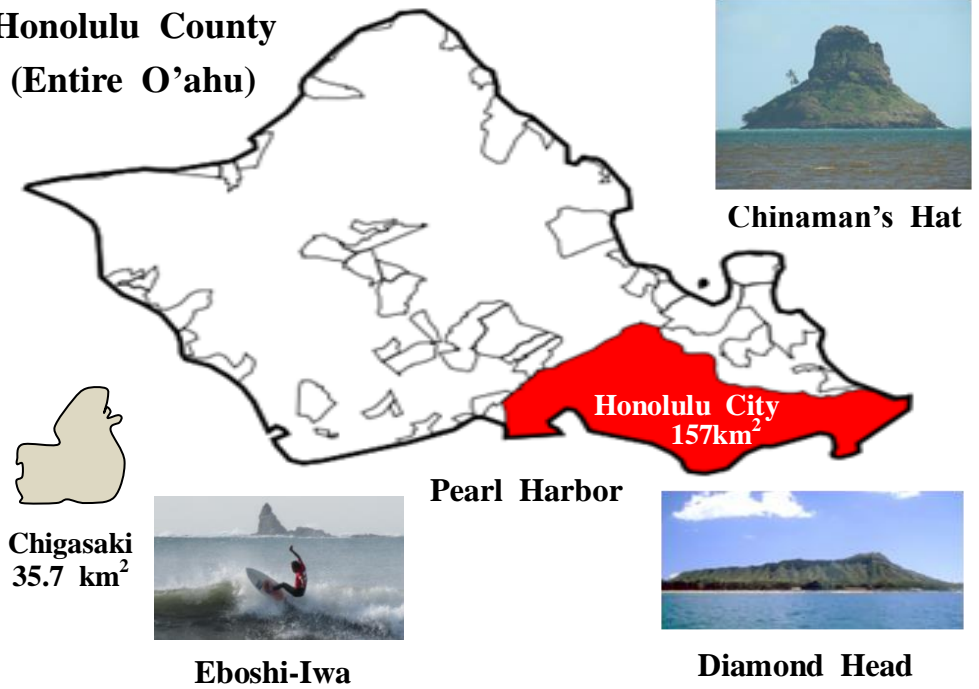


Where is Honolulu?



	Chigasaki	Honolulu
Number of Households	97,518	308,490
Land Area (Honolulu City)	35.7 km ²	1,560 km ² (157 km ²)
Population Density (Honolulu City)	6,662/km ²	564/km ² (2,152/km ²)
Average Daily Temp.	15.9°C	25.3°C
Annual Rainfall	1,577 mm	464 mm

Honolulu County (Entire O'ahu)



Chigasaki

History Timelines

Honolulu

Human history starts on northern plateau ~30,000BC. By 6,000BC, camping lifestyles have been adopted, and by 4,000BC, settlements have appeared in the western lowlands. By 200BC, settlers are making metal tools and living in fort-like settlements surrounded by moats. Over the next 500 years, an agrarian society is established, with farmers cultivating rice.	BC	
County office sited in north western hills. Yamato court in western Japan gradually becoming more influential.	AD 300	Marquesas people sail to Hawaiian Islands.
	650	
	c. 700	Polynesian migrants arrive in Hawaii.
	800 - 900	Tahitian migrants start moving <i>en masse</i> to the archipelago.
Ancient Chigasaki ruled by senior vassals of Kamakura Shogunate. Battles between powerful families occur repeatedly in the area over the next 400 years.	1000 - 1100	Settlement/self-sufficient society sited at present-day Honolulu.
	c. 1200	
Tokugawa family and vassals control Chigasaki and its vicinity. Chigasaki's major industries consist of farming and fishing.	c. 1600	
	c. 1800	In 1778, James Cook lands on Kauai Island as first European. Sandalwood becomes a major export. In 1804, King Kamehameha I establishes his court at what is today Waikiki, and takes six years to make Hawaii, in its entirety, his domain.
Around 1870, Meiji government replaces Tokugawa shogunate as local governing power. Chigasaki Station begins passenger service on the Tokaido Line, the nation's busiest line in 1898.	1840 - 1900	Hawaii becomes a constitutional monarchy in 1840. Kamehameha III declares Honolulu his kingdom's capital in 1850. Chinese, then Portuguese, Japanese, and Filipino workers start working on plantations. Kingdom of Hawaii collapses and is annexed by the US in 1898, becoming a US territory in 1900.
Chigasaki Town formed from four villages (1908). Coastal areas attract recognition as a resort. Chigasaki becomes a city in 1947.	1900 - 1950	The City and County of Honolulu is established in 1907.
	1959	Hawaii gains approval as US's 50th State (the Aloha State), with Honolulu as state capital.
	1967	Sightseeing becomes the dominant industry of the state.
Chigasaki's popularity as a destination for marine leisure activities grows, attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors every summer.	1970s	In 1978, Hawaiian accepted as an official language.
	1989	Chigasaki's population exceeds 200,000.
	1996	Japanese visitors annual total exceeds 2 million for the first time.
	2014	Population of Chigasaki: ~238,000 Population of Honolulu: ~950,000

Aloha 'Oe — Farewell to You

アロハオエ — さようなら、あなた

The word *aloha* is well-known across the world, but few people know what it truly means. 'Aloha' combines the initials of five Hawaiian words: *akahi* (sympathy), *lokahe* (harmony), *'olu'olu* (joy), *ha'aha'a* (modesty) and *abonui* (patience). And the word *aloha* itself includes various meanings such as love, pride, wisdom, welcome, trust, hello, goodbye, thank you, and I love you. When people say *aloha*, it implies affection toward others.

Almost everyone has probably heard "Aloha 'Oe", the most popular Hawaiian song, about two lovers bidding farewell. The music and lyrics of this song were composed by Queen Lili'uokalani of the Kalākaua Dynasty, who was born in Honolulu on September 2, 1838, and reigned from 1891-93, the last monarch of the Kingdom of Hawaii. She also translated the Hawaiian lyrics into English by herself. Two verses from this song are shown on the right.

♪ Aloha 'Oe

Proudly swept the rain by the cliffs
As it glided through the trees
Still following ever the bud
The 'ahihi lehua of the vale

Farewell to you, farewell to you
The charming one who dwells
in the shaded bowers
One fond embrace,
'Ere I depart
Until we meet again

