



Reverend Eric Tatsuo Matsumoto Class of 1977

2024 Wall of Fame Honoree

Eric Tatsuo Matsumoto was the 16th Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i, the state's largest Buddhist denomination. He was the second youngest minister in the history of the mission to assume the title of Bishop.

Born and raised in Hōnaunau on Hawai'i Island, he is a 1977 graduate of Konawaena High School and a recipient of the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship. Matsumoto has a master's degree in Shin Buddhism from Ryukoku University of Kyoto, Japan. On Oahu, he served as a minister of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin and the Mō'ili'ili Hongwanji on O'ahu for over 10 years. He also served at Hawai'i Island temples in Pa'auilo, Honoka'a, Waimea and Kohala for close to 9 years.

A large emphasis for Matsumoto is world peace and harmony. His idea of a Buddhist themed musical resulted in the creation of the youth musical "Peace on your Wings" which brings the messages of peace and interdependence to people all over the world. With over 32 years of experience, he is the Vice President of the Hawaii Branch of the Society for the Promotion of Buddhism, a former president of the Hawaii Buddhist Council and still serving at the Aiea Hongwanji while heading the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists. HAIB is dedicated to supporting the Buddhist community in Hawaii and around the world to promote high standards of ethical and moral behavior for the advancement of Buddhist principles through social, economic, educational, cultural, and humanitarian programs and projects.