

WUB Hawaii Chronology	
22	WUB Chapters
1993	Hawaii Uchinanchu Business Group (HUB) established at Business Study Tour to Okinawa.
1994	HUB volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
1995	HUB (Hawaii Uchinanchu Business Group) sets up Hawaii business exhibit section at 2nd Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival (Taikai) in Okinawa. HUB suggests at Economic Forum that a Worldwide Uchinanchu business network is possible. HUB volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
1996	Visited South America to attend 90th Anniversary of Peru's Uchinanchu Immigration to learn more about Uchinanchu worldwide. HUB volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
1997	East-West Center supports network project; President Kenji Sumida invites Bob Nakasone to join EWC. as a Visiting Fellow Mr. Yoshikazu Nakayama, an EWC alumnus & President of Ryukyu Bank, donates funds to EWC. 1st "Taste of Okinawa," JCCH - Okinawan cooks come to Hawaii to honor major donors for the Hawaii Okinawa Center and sponsored by the Bank of the Ryukyus Foundation. HUB becomes Worldwide Uchinanchu Business Association (WUB) 1st Worldwide Uchinanchu Business (WUB) Conference, about 80 people from outside Hawaii attends. Sponsored by EWC. 1st WUB Hawaii President: Roy Irei WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
4	Following Chapters established; Hawaii, Okinawa, Brazil, Argentina
1998	2nd WUB International Conference in Brazil; 90th year Brazil/Argentina immigration anniversary. 2nd "Taste of Okinawa," JCCH; Donation to HOC \$ 7,500 (?) WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2	Following Chapters established: Peru, North America
1999	3rd WUB International conference in Los Angeles/ Las Vegas 3rd "Taste of Okinawa," JCCH; Okinawan chefs; donation to HUOA WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2	Following Chapters established: Tokyo, Guam
2000	WUB Hawaii President: Steve Sombrero 4th WUB International Conference in Okinawa, just prior to G-8 Summit in Okinawa 4th "Taste of Okinawa" & Aloha Party, Queen Kapiolani; \$1,000 donation to Okinawa Centennial. WUB named as organization to promote Business networking in Okinawa 10-year business plan WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
3	Following Chapters established: Kansai, Europe, Bolivia
2001	5th WUB International Conference in Tokyo; proposed 1st Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference in Hawaii 2003 3rd Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival (Taikai), Okinawa

		5th "Taste of Okinawa" at Queen Kapiolani; Donation made to organize cultural groups \$2,898.
		WUB Hawaii expands role to become WUB Hawaii/ Okinawan Chamber of Commerce
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
	6	Following Chapters established: Canada, China, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong, Malaysia
2002		6th WUB International Conference in Bolivia
		6th "Taste of Okinawa" at JCCH; benefit for WUB (Negative proceeds) -\$??
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
	3	Following Chapters established: Mexico, Maui, Taiwan
2003		WUB Hawaii President: Wes Sakamoto
		7th WUB International Conference, Hawaii (sponsored by HUOA and WUB Hawaii); concurrent with 1st Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference (WUC)
		7th "Taste of Okinawa" Longevity Conference at HOC; Donation to 1st Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference \$2,000 plus \$2,000 from WUB.
		WUB Hawaii established WUB Travel Grant for young Uchinanchu to attend 2008 WUC in Brazil
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
		WUB Hawaii donates \$4,000 to HOC from WUC proceeds
	1	Following Chapters established: Philippines
2004		8th WUB International Conference in Argentina
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2005		9th WUB International conference in Kansai also participated in IDB in Okinawa
		WUB International signs agreement with ICC of IDB
		WUB East-West Center Scholarship program established
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2006		WUB Hawaii Interim President Bob Nakasone
		10th WUB International Conference in Peru, 100-year immigration celebration for Peru.
		8th "Taste of Okinawa," honoring "Jimmy" Inamine; 3 chefs from Jimmy's Restaurant; benefit for HUOA capital fund.
		WUB Scholarship 1st recipient - Mary Nakada (Peru)
		WUB Hawaii establishes \$1,000 travel grants to 2008 Brazil International Conference
		4th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival (Taikai), Okinawa
		John Tasato, Uchina Goodwill Ambassador, receives ¥1.0M OPG grant to establish WUB website
		WUB Hawaii donates \$5,000 to HUOA Capital Project from Taste of Okinawa proceeds
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2007		WUB Hawaii President Hiromichi Nago
		11th WUB International Conference in Shanghai, China
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2008		12th WUB International Conference, Brazil; 100-year immigration celebration for Brazil and Argentina concurrent with 2nd Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference (WUC).
		WUB International changes name to WUB Network
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up

2009	WUB Hawaii President Lloyd Arakaki
	WUB establishes WUB Endowment Fund for the Center for Okinawan Studies
	13th WUB Network Conference in Los Angeles
	WUB EWC Scholarship 2nd & 3rd recipients - Daniel Taminato (Brazil) and Marvin Uehara (Brazil)
	WUB Hawaii participates in Super Mixer at Aloha Tower with ethnic Chambers of Commerce.
	WUB Hawaii and Center for Japanese Studies sponsor Hawaii International Film Festival Spotlight on Okinawa films.
	WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2010	WUB Hawaii sponsors 14th WUB Network Board Meeting and "Pink House" retreat
	WUB Hawaii sponsors the 1st "Uchinanchu Talk Story" conference at the East-West Center inviting Hawaii Okinawan social and cultural groups.
	WUB Hawaii helps establish University of Hawaii Center for Okinawan Studies
	WUB EWC Scholarship 4th recipient - Janaina Mine Akikubo Nakamatsu (Brazil)
	WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2011	WUB Hawaii President Derek Kobayashi
	5th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival (Taikai), Okinawa
	15th WUB Network Conference in Okinawa
	WUB Scholarship 5th recipient - Elke Yamazato (Brazil)
	Miyako-Maui student exchange - Maiko Namihira escort
	WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2012	16th WUB Network Mini-Conference in Hong Kong
	Uchinanchu Talk Story II - Uchinanchu: The Next Generation "Diversity & Identity," East-West Ctr.
	WUB Scholarship 6th recipient - Michelle Taminato (Brazil)
	WUB Hawaii supports Miyako-Maui student exchange - Maiko Namihira brings 11 students
	Bob Nakasone receives Japanese Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays
WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up	
2013	WUB Hawaii President John Tasato
	17th WUB Network Conference in Tokyo (originally planned for Peru)
	Uchinanchu Talk Story III - U.S. Military Bases in Okinawa forum, East-West Center
	WUB Scholarship 7th and 8th recipient - Liana Sayuri Nakao Nakahodo (Brazil) and Robson Hitoshi Takara (Brazil)
	WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2014	WUB Hawaii helps facilitate and coordinate EWC Alumni Association Conference
	18th WUB Network Conference in Bolivia
	Uchinanchu Talk Story IV - Okinawan Lifestyle & Longevity, East-West Center
	WUB Network issues Okinawa "Peace Economy" Statement
	WUB International facilitates global university consortiums including Ryudai, University of Sao Paulo and University of Peru.
	WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2015	WUB Hawaii supports relationship between the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (Kona OTEC) and Kumejima and signing of the Hawai'i-Okinawa Memorandum of Cooperation for Clean and Efficient Energy Development by Gov. David Ige and Okinawa Gov. Takeshi Onaga
	19th WUB Network Conference, Atlanta Georgia
	WUB HI sponsors the Uchinanchu Talk Story V - Uchinanchu Identity, Atlanta, Georgia

		WUB Network rejects proposed WUB Foundation to assist young Uchinanchu
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2016		WUB Hawaii President John Toguchi
		6th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival (Taikai), Okinawa
		20th WUB Network Conference in Okinawa
		Uchinanchu Talk Story VI - U.S. Military Bases in Okinawa - Three Years Later, East-West Center
		Dennis Ogawa receives the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon
	1	Following Chapters established: Atlanta
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up
2017		21st WUB Network Conference and 20 th WUB Anniversary – Theme: Hukilau - “Work the Net Together,” East-West Center, Honolulu
		WUB Network and Members donate \$25,000 to OIST to support its Community Outreach program. Bob Nakasone is appointed to the OIST Board of Consullers, Ed Kuba appointed OIST Foundation Board of Trustee (2018), Norman Nakasone appointed OIST Foundation Advisor (2020)
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up, last year at Kapiolani Park
2018		22nd WUB Network Conference and 110th year Brazil Immigration celebration in Sao Paulo, Brazil
		Uchinanchu Talk Story VII - STEM Education and Research in Okinawa and Hawaii "Views from the Cutting Edge," Honolulu
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawa Festival Clean up; moved to Hawaii Convention Ctr.
		WUB Hawaii/Brazil facilitates sister city relationships between Honolulu and Sao Vicente.
		University of Hawaii and The University of the Ryukyus relationship expands to the Law Schools, Travel Industry Management and American Studies. Relationships established between the Kauai Community College and OPG College of Nursing and between the Meio University and UH Hilo.
2019		WUB Hawaii President Gregg Takara
		23rd WUB Network Conference in Orlando, Florida
		WUB Hawaii volunteers for HUOA Okinawan Festival Registration, Hawaii Convention Center
		WUB Hawaii assists "Karii Awamori Experience," Hawaii Convention Center
		WUB Hawaii supports WUB member Hiro Nago for the EM Hawaii Ala Wai clean-up project
2020		WUB Hawaii members donate over \$25,000 to Shurijo Fund through HUOA
		"Born Again Uchinanchu" book project launched – 2021 planned publication
		WUB Hawaii provides Pork Tamago Franchise introduction to Hawaii Uchinanchu businesses to establish Waikiki store, grand opening 3/2020
		WUB Hawaii introduces Thomas Technical Institute, Okinawa to various Hawaii county representatives for possible business relationships
		Many events were CANCELED due to the COVID 19 pandemic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WUB Hawaii "Taste of South American Uchinanchu" - 24th WUB Network Conference, Honolulu - Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference (WUC)/ 120th Immigration Anniversary, Honolulu - HUOA Okinawa Festival, Hawaii Convention Center
		20 th Obuchi Scholarship Program Anniversary, “Global Networking – Okinawa’s Future,” East-West Center, Honolulu – POSTPONED
2021		1000 Uchina Project (more detail)

WUB ON-GOING ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BUSINESS

WUB Network (International)

WUB chapters from around the world gather at one of the chapter's home city each year. The gatherings include the Board of Directors meeting, business networking, cultural, and social events and in some years a conference discussing economic opportunities and other impactful topics related to Okinawa.

Every 5 years, the conference is held in Okinawa to coincide with the Uchinanchu Taikai.

Conferences have been held in Lima, Sao Paulo, Santa Cruz, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Osaka, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Honolulu, and Naha.

Business Facilitation

WUB's global network provides Uchinanchu businesses a resource for support, introductions and mentorships when interested in entering international markets.

- Introduction of Okinawan Awamori and Beer to the US. 52 awamori producers and Orion Beer sent sample products to WUB's Taste of Okinawa Event. Today, Orion Beer can be found in many stores and there are several distributors of awamori spirits in the US.
- Through WUB's efforts and introduction, US architectural firms win design projects and collaborate with Kanehide's Kise Country Club.
- More recently WUB has supported Okinawa based businesses and made introductions for EMRO, Thomas Technical Institute, Pork Tamago Onigiri, and Kuba Awamori.

EDUCATION

- WUB has working relationships with the East West Center, University of Hawaii, University of the Ryukyus, Meio University, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, and Sao Paulo University. WUB Members have been appointed to various boards and supporting foundations of these educational institutions.
- WUB helped introduce collaboration and working relationships with US, Japanese and South American educational institutions.
- WUB created a scholarship program to invite global Uchinanchus to study at the East West Center's Asian Pacific Leadership Program. Graduates have returned to their Uchinanchu communities and often gained leadership positions.
- WUB supports the Obuchi EWC scholarship program and awardees with financial assistance and introducing students to the greater local Uchinanchu community.
- WUB helped create the Center for Okinawa Studies at University of Hawaii, it is the only department outside of Japan dedicated to Okinawan History.

CULTURE

WUB is a strong supporter of Uchinanchu culture. Many of WUBs fund raising efforts are to support cultural organizations:

- WUB has contributed over \$25,000 to the Hawaii Okinawa Center and its supporting organizations.
- WUB's Hawaii chapter alone has contributed more than \$25,000 to the rebuilding efforts of Shurijo.
- Cultural organizations perform routinely at WUB's annual Conferences.