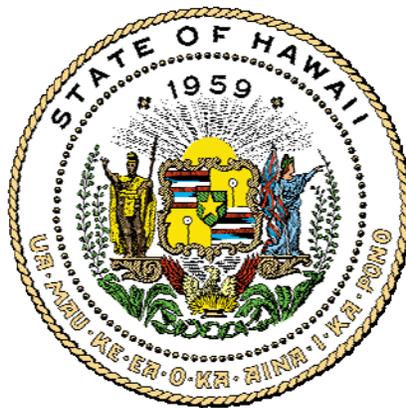


State of Hawaii's Sister-States



Business Development & Support Division
Department of Business, Economic
Development & Tourism

December 2015

Hawaii Sister-State Committee

As of 2015, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has three active members and awaits the nomination and appointment of two additional members representing the Native Hawaiian cultural organizations and the East-West Center. With three committee members constituting a quorum, the Committee is still able to meet and continue its focus on the following goals and objectives:

1. The Committee will take an active role in evaluating prospective and current sister relationships, for both cultural and economic development reasons, with attention to fostering the most productive ties.

There is agreement that most successful sister relationships occur when:

- a. There is commonality between Hawaii and the sister, primarily from geographical, historical, cultural or economic standpoints.
- b. There are active and interested support groups, such as Chambers of Commerce, cultural and civic associations.
- c. There are economic benefits for both sisters, such as increased numbers of visitors, or enhanced investment or marketing opportunities.
- d. Close ties have been established between educational institutions of the two potential sisters, including both student and faculty exchanges.
- e. There is a clear, strong governmental interest in not only forming, but maintaining the relationship.

2. To assure the productivity and viability of a sister relationship, the Committee reviewed and revised the sister-state application form originally developed by the Office of International Relations. The Committee also reviewed and revised the Policies and Procedures Manual which governs the process of nominating and evaluating prospective and existing sister-states.

In addition to completing the revised application form, additional requirements include:

- a. A letter from the Governor of the proposed sister.
- b. A designated point-of-contact person.
- c. Recent activity reports between Hawaii and the proposed sister.
- d. Recommendations for future activities.
- e. Proposed calendar of future events.

3. The Committee will periodically review the activities of each sister relation to determine which ties should be strengthened and which should be severed. The State has 16 sister relationships, dating back to 1981. Some relationships have been very active (e.g. Okinawa, Taiwan and Guangdong), while others have shown little or no activity (e.g. Azores Islands).

SISTER-STATES (Chronological order)		
COUNTRY	PROVINCE/PREFECTURE	YEAR ESTABLISHED
Japan	Fukuoka	1981
Portugal	Azores Islands	1982
Greater China	Guangdong	1985
Japan	Okinawa	1985
Philippines	Ilocos Sur	1985
Korea	Jeju	1986
Greater China	Hainan	1992
Greater China	Taiwan	1993
Philippines	Cebu	1996
Japan	Hiroshima	1997
Philippines	Pangasinan	2002
Japan	Ehime	2003
Philippines	Ilocos Norte	2005
Philippines	Isabela	2006
Morocco	Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer	2011
Indonesia	Bali	2014

SISTER-STATES (Alphabetical order by country and area)		
COUNTRY	PROVINCE/PREFECTURE	YEAR ESTABLISHED
Greater China	Guangdong	1985
	Hainan	1992
	Taiwan	1993
Indonesia	Bali	2014
Japan	Fukuoka	1981
	Okinawa	1985
	Hiroshima	1997
	Ehime	2003
Korea	Jeju	1986
Morocco	Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer	2011
Philippines	Ilocos Sur	1985
	Cebu	1996
	Pangasinan	2002
	Ilocos Norte	2005
	Isabela	2006
Portugal	Azores Islands	1982

Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan (1981)

The 1989 Asia-Pacific Expo featured a Hawaii Pavilion that promoted various industries during the 6 month exposition held in Fukuoka Prefecture.

International Relations Specialist in Residence Program was created in Hawaii (Governor's Office) and Fukuoka. This program allowed a government employee from Fukuoka to work in the Governor's Office for one year.

In 2000, DBEDT conducted an educational mission to Fukuoka for school excursions.

In 2006, 25th anniversary sister-state events coordinated by DBEDT, Fukuoka Prefecture and the Hawaii Fukuoka Kenjin Kai included a mission to Fukuoka which featured (1) a consumer products and culture show at Tenjin Lion Square where an estimated 35,000 residents experienced live Hawaiian music and hula, hands-on cultural demonstrations and "Made in Hawaii" product sampling; (2) a business trade show where ten vendors representing 24 Hawaii companies met with potential buyers from the Kyushu region; and (3) a celebration culminating with "The Hawaii Experience - Gala Reception" attended by 400 people from Hawaii and Fukuoka and included Hawaiian dance and hula.

Fukuoka's Prefectural Assembly representatives travel annually to attend the Opening Day of the Hawaii State Legislature.

The prefectural government annually invites 11-year old children representing Fukuoka Kenjin Kai from around the world to spend ten days in Fukuoka. The Honolulu Fukuoka Kenjin Kai under the auspices of the Fukuoka Prefectural Government selects children of Fukuoka descent to participate in the annual program.

For 26 years, Fukuoka Prefecture has hosted the Asia-Pacific Children's Conference (APCC). In 2015, with coordination and facilitation by the Japan-America Society of Hawaii, six Junior Ambassadors from Hawaii were selected to participate in the annual event in Fukuoka.

2016, will mark the 35th anniversary of the Hawaii-Fukuoka sister-state relationship that will be represented by economic development promotion and exchanges between the regions.

Azores Islands, Portugal (1982)

The Azores Islands, a part of Portugal, are situated in the Atlantic Ocean, approximately 1,200 miles, or two hours' flying time from Lisbon, the capital city.

The impetus behind establishing a sister relationship was the approximately 60,000 Hawaii residents of Portuguese ancestry, many tracing their ancestry to the Azores. In addition, Hawaii and the Azores share many physical features. They are both ocean islands of volcanic origin, with temperate climates, outstanding beaches and strong visitor industries. The reality is that both sides have not shown evidence of an active relationship and the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has been unsuccessful in its attempts to reach the Honorary Consul General for Portugal in Honolulu to obtain information on the status of this sister-state relationship.

Okinawa Prefecture, Japan (1985)

The Okinawan Festival began in 1981 and is held annually attracting thousands of residents and visitors from Okinawa and around the world to this ethnic cultural event in Hawaii.

The Okinawa Student Exchange program has been conducted annually between Hawaii and Okinawa and celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. To date, over 2,000 students have participated in the exchange program.

1991, the Hawaii Okinawa Center was built with major assistance from Okinawa Prefectural government and businesses and the Center celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2015.

The Worldwide Uchinanchu Business Association (WUB) was established in 1993 and serves as the Okinawa Chamber of Commerce.

Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle led a business mission to Okinawa in 2007.

Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga and a delegation of 100 traveled to Hawaii in July 2015, in recognition of the 30th anniversary sister-state relationship which included a Hawaii-Okinawa Energy Innovation Forum held in the House Chamber and a sister-state reception at Washington Place.

Hawaii Governor David Ige participated in a mission to Okinawa in honor of the 30th anniversary Hawaii-Okinawa sister-state relationship from October 7-11, 2015. The visit was organized by the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) and focused on international student exchange and renewable energy cooperation. Over 30 individuals representing the Hawaii State Legislature, educational institutions and private industry traveled to Okinawa on this occasion. Governor Ige and First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige addressed attendees at three seminars: (1) Hawaii-Okinawa International Education Exchange Seminar; (2) Hawaii-Okinawa Energy Innovation Seminar; (3) Hawaii, U.S.A. Seminar hosted by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). Governor and Mrs. Ige held separate courtesy calls on Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga and U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy. The Governor and

First Lady also attended a 30th anniversary sister-state reception hosted by the Okinawa Prefectural Government and participated in the Naha Festival.

Guangdong Province, China (1985)

Guangdong Province, located in southern China, is China's fourth largest province, with a total population exceeding 110 million, of which 90 million are residents.

Guangdong has emerged as the nation's economic powerhouse and enjoys the highest per capita income and standard of living in China. Because China's Central Government allowed Guangdong a high degree of autonomy in handling its economic affairs. The province was one of the first to introduce economic reform and has the largest industrial base in China.

The establishment of a sister relationship with Guangdong in 1985, which set up formal ties to the province, had much to do with Hawaii's success in developing a bridge to China. The House resolution noted that "developments in the People's Republic of China make this a particularly propitious time in which to establish firm relations of goodwill and friendship." Guangdong was a logical choice as the state's first Chinese sister, as a large percentage of immigrants from China came to Hawaii from Guangdong. Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the first president of China (the "Father of Modern China"), who studied at Iolani and Punahou Schools, was born in Zhongshan City in Guangdong.

Since 1985, Guangdong has developed into one of Hawaii's closest sisters, eager to expand the relationship beyond traditional cultural exchanges. Legislators, Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii leaders, university officials and participants in trade missions have visited Guangdong. The province, in turn, has sent many delegates to Hawaii for business and training.

The University of Hawaii College of Business Administration and DBEDT developed the Guangdong Province Senior Executive Leadership Training Program in 1999. Each year, for five years, a group of ten senior civil service administrators and State-owned private enterprise executives attended classes related to their professional interest; visited businesses and governmental institutions; performed internships; and learned American customs and culture. Today, the 50 alumni of this program are among the upper echelon of Guangdong's provincial government leadership, and are actively involved in China's international relations and trade with other nations. Their fields include medicine, law, forestry, textiles, electric power, agriculture, aquaculture, engineering, economic development, and environmental preservation. One graduate was promoted to the rank equivalent to a Vice Governor.

In 2002, the State of Hawaii supported the Sun Yat-sen Library exhibition tour in Hawaii by donating over 1,100 volumes of English books to the library in Guangzhou. In July

2002, Guangdong sent a large delegation to *Sister Summit 2002*, accompanied by a giant display on the life of Sun Yat-sen.

In December 2007, a 15-member delegation from the Guangdong Provincial Government, led by Mr. Fu Lang, Director-General of the Guangdong Foreign Affairs Office, visited Hawaii to meet with senior faculty and administration officials at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. At the meeting, both parties discussed the creation and implementation of an internship program for UH students with the Guangdong chapter of the China Council for the Promotion of Industry and Trade (CCPIT) member companies. Director-General Fu is a graduate of the Guangdong Province Senior Executive Leadership Training Program. In April 2008, Director-General Fu was promoted to head Guangdong's Foreign Affairs Office (GDFAO). The GDFAO plays a very important role in Hawaii's quest to globalize its citizens and workforce and expand its trade ties to China.

In 2010, the State of Hawaii hosted a reception to celebrate the 25th anniversary of sister-state relations with Guangdong Province in Guangzhou. Guangdong Governor Huang Huahua signed a Memorandum of Understanding to extend sister relations with Hawaii for another 25 years.

Hawaii Governor David Ige led a 40 member delegation to Guangdong Province in celebrate the 30th anniversary of Hawaii-Guangdong sister-state relationship from October 11-14, 2015. The mission was organized by the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) and focused on international student attraction and exchange. 15 member institutions from the Study Hawaii Education Consortium and Representative Ryan Yamane traveled to Guangdong for the mission. Governor Ige and First Lady Dawn Amano-Ige gave the opening remarks to attendees of the Study Hawaii Education Seminar. Governor and Mrs. Ige met with Guangdong Governor Zhu Xiaodan to discuss opportunities for Hawaii and Guangdong to consider including direct flights between Hawaii and Guangzhou. Governor and Mrs. Ige joined Governor Zhu and invited guests from Hawaii and Guangdong at the 30th anniversary sister-state reception hosted by Guangdong Province.

In November, the University of Hawaii at Manoa Shidler College of Business Executive Education Center and the Information and Computer Sciences Department welcomed 24 participants from the Guangdong Department of Human Resource and Social Security to attend the World Bank sponsored executive IT Program on "Best Practices for Implementing Integrated Information Systems." The program was first offered in 2014 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The program aims to train IT administrators to build state-of-the-art social protection systems in China to help migrant workers from inner provinces more easily access their social benefits such as health, disability and unemployment benefits from their home provinces. Que Guangchang, Bureau Chief of Guangdong's Social Insurance Fund Administration, and his executive team, met with their counterparts at the State Department of Human Services.

Ilocos Sur Province, Philippines (1985)

The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has organized trade missions to the Philippines attended by state and county government officials and local business executives. Provinces visited included Ilocos Sur (2013 and 2014), Ilocos Norte (2013, 2014), and Cebu (2015). The 2015 trade mission was led by Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui and Honolulu Philippine Consul General Gina Jamoralin and included Kauai County Mayor Bernard Carvalho and 30 local business executives.

In March 2015, the Philippine Consulate General, in partnership with the Candonians of Hawaii, the Filipino Community Center, the University of Hawaii, Philippine Airlines, Etrata Foundation and Western Union organized and held the first Ilocano language immersion course targeting young Filipino Americans living in Hawaii. The three month program is called the Ilocano Language Acquisition and Immersion for the New Generation (iLAING) and the five students who successfully completed the program traveled on a two week, all-expense paid immersion trip to Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte in June 2015.

Ilocos Sur Vice Governor Deogracias Victor Savellano visited Honolulu in June 2015 to attend the first Filipino Food Fair held on the Philippine Consulate General grounds. Vice Governor Savellano also paid a courtesy visit to Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui during his stay in Hawaii.

Ilocos Sur Governor Luis Singson signed an agreement with Kapiolani Community College to help Filipino nurses educated in the Philippines improve their English and pass the State nursing examination. Kapiolani Community College will also help University of Northern Philippines faculty to improve their curriculum and provide faculty exchanges so that the faculty from the University of Northern Philippines can learn about new technology and teaching techniques.

Jeju Province, Korea (1986)

Jeju, with a population of over 550,000 people, is located off the southwest coast of Korea. Jeju has a well-established reputation as an international tourist resort and is sometimes called "Korea's Hawaii." The island has a mild climate, and is rich in plant and marine resources. Halla Mountain, a dormant volcano, dominates the island.

Like the Azores, Okinawa, Guangdong and Ilocos Sur, the sister relationship with Jeju acknowledged an important segment of Hawaii's population—persons of Korean ancestry, estimated at approximately 35,000 persons. In addition, Jeju and Hawaii share a dependence on the visitor industry.

In June of 2005, Governor Linda Lingle became the first Hawaii governor to visit Jeju Island. She met with Jeju Governor Tae-Hwan Kim and Deputy Governor Kye-Sik Lee

and attended a "recommitment" ceremony as a symbol of commitment to the 19-year sister relationship between Hawaii and Jeju. Governor Lingle also spoke to a group of Jeju government officials, encouraging each side to continue seeking opportunities to partner in business and education and training.

In May 2007, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was entered into by the State Department of Education and the Jeju Special Self-Governing Provincial Office of Education. The MOU outlined specific activities including: (1) senior staff exchanges; (2) teacher exchanges (participation in classroom programs, development of instructional material, seminars and other activities); (3) student exchanges (middle and high school student exchanges via the Internet, school-to-school exchanges, sports and other cultural activities); and (4) assisting in the establishment of sister-school relationships. One activity that has resulted from this relationship is Hawaii's participation in the annual Jeju Youth Forum that has been held on Jeju Island since 2011. A team from Waipahu High School has participated every year since the Forum's inception.

The last trade mission to Jeju took place in November 2008. Led by then Lieutenant Governor Duke Aiona, the delegation of 21 private and public sector representatives participated in the 6th Korea-Pacific U.S. States Joint Conference.

Also in 2008, the Volcanoes National Park signed a Sister Park Arrangement with the Jeju World Natural Heritage Management Bureau to share best practices and conduct mutual exchanges and cooperative programs ultimately to improve the protection, preservation and management of their respective sites. The status of this arrangement is unknown.

DBEDT is currently working with the Hawaii Korean Chamber of Commerce to plan and organize a mission in 2016 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Hawaii's sister-state relationship with Jeju.

Hainan Province, China (1992)

The State of Hawaii, Hainan Province, and Guangdong Province have held a Hawaii-China legal administration seminar at the University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law, the East-West Center, and the Splendor of China. Organizers are planning a fifth seminar to be held in Hainan or Zhongshan, Guangdong Province. The seminars have had a significant impact on the early development of China's court and legal system.

In 2006, Kapiolani Community College entered into an agreement to provide a food safety and sanitation instruction and certification program 2006 in Hainan. It was the first ever formalized food safety and sanitation program conducted in Hainan.

Taiwan, Greater China (1993)

In September 2008, a nine member delegation led by Director-General Huey-Ching Yeh, head of the Taiwan Bureau of Energy, met with the Lieutenant Governor Duke Aiona and DBEDT, and also met with Lockheed Martin Company, the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, Project Better Place, the Hawaii Agricultural Research Center, the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources, the State Department of Agriculture, Hawaii BioEnergy Company, First Wind and the Hawaiian Electric Company. The topics of discussion included the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative, Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion, renewable energy technologies, power grid integration, electric vehicles, biofuels, wind energy, algal development as a biofuel feedstock; bioenergy conversion and bioenvironmental projects, research and development and capital investment strategies to fund renewable energy projects in Hawaii.

In November 2008, Governor Linda Lingle, DBEDT and University of Hawaii at Hilo Chancellor Dr. Rose Tseng, visited Taiwan to meet with newly elected President Ma Ying Jeou; prominent women leaders in Taiwan; Ministry of Foreign Affairs Minister of Economic Affairs; Deputy Director-General of Bureau of Energy; Academia Sinica; and the Chairman of China Airlines to discuss tourism, energy and education project collaboration.

Bilateral relations between Taiwan and Hawaii also included:

Delegations and dignitaries from Taiwan visiting Hawaii:

- Taiwan Governor Chang Po-Ya visited in 2000
- Taiwan Governor Fan Guang-Chun visited in 2002
- Former Taipei Mayor Ma Ying-jou led a delegation in 2003
- Former Vice President Annette Lu led a delegation in 2003
- Former President Chen Shiu-bian led a delegation in 2004
- Legislative Yuan Speaker Wang Jien-Ping led delegations in 2004 and 2008
- President Ma Ying-jou led delegations in 2009 and 2014
- Secretary General Chen Hui-Ling Chen, Taiwan Energy Bureau, Ministry of Economic Affairs, led delegations to the 1st and 2nd Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit & Expo in 2009 and 2010
- Mayor Jason Hu of Taichung City led a delegation to attend the 3rd Asia Pacific Clean Energy Summit & Expo in 2011
- Deputy Minister Huang Wan-Hsiang of Council for Economic Planning led a clean energy delegation to visit in 2012
- Deputy Minister Joseph Shih led a delegation in 2013 to attend the opening ceremony of the PILP programs at the East-West Center
- Taiwan Governor Lin Jung-Tzer visited in 2013 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of sister-state relations with Hawaii

- Deputy Minister Lu Yuan-Lung of Overseas Community Affairs Council visited in 2013
- Deputy Minister Huang Tian-Mu of Financial Supervisory Commission delivered a speech on cross-straits relations with China at Iolani School in 2015
- Kaohsiung City Mayor Chu Chen and Kaohsiung City Council Speaker Kang Yu-Cheng led a delegation in June 2015

Hawaii delegations and dignitaries visiting Taiwan:

- Governor and Mrs. Benjamin J. Cayetano visited in 1997
- Governor Linda Lingle visited in 2008
- House Speaker Calvin Say led delegations in 2009 and 2011
- State Senator Kalani English led a delegation in 2010
- Lieutenant Governor Brian Schatz, Speaker Calvin Say, Senate Vice President Donna Kim and Senator Donald Kouchi visited in 2012
- House Speaker Joseph Souki led a delegation in 2013
- Governor Neil Abercrombie visited in 2013 and 2014
- State Attorney General David Louie joined the U.S. State Attorneys General delegation to visit in 2013

Cebu Province, Philippines (1996)

The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has organized trade missions to the Philippines attended by state and county government officials and local business executives. Provinces visited included Ilocos Sur (2013 and 2014), Ilocos Norte (2013, 2014), and Cebu (2015). The 2015 trade mission was led by Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui and Honolulu Philippine Consul General Gina Jamoralin and included Kauai County Mayor Bernard Carvalho and 30 local business executives.

Cebu Pacific Air, one of the Philippines' largest airlines met with the State Department of Transportation Airports Division and Consul General Gina Jamoralin, in November 2014 along with travel agencies and members of the Filipino community to discuss their plans to offer non-stop travel between Manila and Honolulu. It will be the carrier's first route to a U.S. city.

Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan (1997)

In 1997, a Hiroshima Hawaii Sister-State Committee (HHSSC) was created by the Hawaii State Legislature. HHSSC has worked with Hiroshima Prefecture on mutually beneficial programs which includes themes such as: (1) education exchange programs; (2) business and economic development; (3) promotion of culture and the arts; (4) athletic exchanges; (5) peace initiatives.

In 2012, Hawaii and Hiroshima signed a Memorandum of Understanding under the auspices of the U.S. Japan Council (USJC) to engage in greater business-to-business activities in renewable energy and other technologies.

In 2012, the Hiroshima Hawaii Sister-State Committee worked with Hawaii's Nippon Golden Network television station to establish a sister television relationship with Hiroshima Telecasting Company.

A Hiroshima Commemoration and Peace Service was held in Hawaii in August 2015.

The U.S. premier of the Hiroshima film "Peace Commemorative City-Hiroshima" was screened in Hawaii on August 2015.

Hiroshima established a sister high school relationship with Honokaa High School. In 2013, under the direction of the Governor of Hiroshima, Koyo Senior High School established a sister school relationship with Kalani High School. In August 2015, students from Koyo Senior High School traveled to Hawaii and stayed with host families from Kalani High School. In November, student from Kalani High School traveled to Hiroshima in a reciprocal visit to Koyo Senior High School.

In 2015, Hiroshima Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki traveled to Hawaii in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Hawaii Hiroshima Kenjin Kai. The Kenjin Kai continues to be active and engaged in promoting exchanges between the state and prefecture.

Pangasinan Province, Philippines (2002)

In 2008, a Sister-State Goodwill Dental Mission, led by Dr. David Fray, Department of Health's Chief of the Developmental Disabilities Division (as a volunteer) and Dr. David Breese, a dentist with Kokua Kalihi Valley, along with seven dental interns from the United States was planned and coordinated by former State Representative Dennis Arakaki. The dental delegation visited sister provinces in Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte and Pangasinan to provide free dental services at clinics in each of the provinces.

Ehime Prefecture, Japan (2003)

Since 2002, over 100 youth baseball players from Ehime Prefecture and Hawaii have participated in the annual goodwill youth baseball exchange. Since 2006, Ehime Prefecture International Center has invited summer interns from Hawaii to spend three months working in Ehime.

In November 2013, Governor Nakamura and a delegation from Ehime Prefecture traveled to Hawaii in recognition of the 10th anniversary sister-state relationship. During this time, the annual youth baseball exchange was held in Hawaii and a reception at Washington Place was held in recognition of the anniversary.

February 9, 2013, was the important "Jusankaiki," or 13th anniversary of the Ehime Maru incident according to Buddhist tradition. Several hundred supporters gathered at Kakaako Waterfront Park to pay tribute to the nine Japanese victims, including four students. Those gathered included bereaved family members, government officials from Ehime Prefecture and Uwajima City, and local Hawaii State and City representatives.

In 2014 and 2015, our University of Hawaii students were selected as Ehime Prefecture Interns. The internship program is sponsored and funded by the Ehime Prefectural International Center (EPIC). The program is one of several goodwill measures established to foster good relations between the people of Ehime and Hawaii after the tragic collision between the U.S.S. Greenville nuclear submarine and the Ehime Maru, an Uwajima Fisheries High School training vessel.

In early 2015, students from Matsuyama University in Ehime visited the University of Hawaii as part of the U.S.-Japan Council's Tomodachi Inouye Scholars Program. In November 2015, a delegation from Ehime Prefecture participated in the Ehime-Hawaii Youth Baseball Exchange Tournament. The group visited the Ehime Maru Memorial at Kakaako Waterfront Park to pay respects to the nine victims from the Ehime Maru. The Ehime delegation was led by members of the Ehime Prefectural Assembly and Mr. Junnosuke Kaino, Chairman of the Ehime-Hawaii Goodwill Baseball Tournament.

Ilocos Norte Province, Philippines (2005)

In June 2009, Ilocos Norte Governor Michael Marcos Keon led a delegation of 12 mayors and 2 vice mayors to Maui and Oahu to meet with members of the Ilocanos community in Hawaii. Ilocos Norte is the home province of the largest number of Filipinos in Hawaii.

The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii has organized trade missions to the Philippines attended by state and county government officials and local business executives. Provinces visited included Ilocos Sur (2013 and 2014), Ilocos Norte (2013, 2014), and Cebu (2015). The 2015 trade mission was led by Lieutenant Governor Shan Tsutsui and Honolulu Philippine Consul General Gina Jamoralin and included Kauai County Mayor Bernard Carvalho and 30 Hawaii business executives.

In March 2015, the Philippine Consulate General, in partnership with the Candonians of Hawaii, the Filipino Community Center, the University of Hawaii, Philippine Airlines, Etrata Foundation and Western Union organized and held the first Ilocano language immersion course targeting young Filipino Americans living in Hawaii. The three month program is called the Ilocano Language Acquisition and Immersion for the New Generation (iLAING) and five students that successfully completed the program traveled on a two week, all-expense paid immersion trip to Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte, in June 2015.

Isabela Province, Philippines (2006)

In 2006 and 2007, the Filipino community organized sister-state goodwill missions. The mission activities included the Governor's Reception Dinner to welcome delegates from Hawaii; Sister-State-Province Conference to discuss areas of exchange between Hawaii and Isabela; Visit to elementary and high schools to establish sister schools with presentation of books and computers; Mahalo Reception hosted by Hawaii delegates with presentation of a Hawaiian style cultural show.

Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, Kingdom of Morocco (2011)

Jan Rumi, Honorary Consul of Morocco, and the Hawaii-Morocco Friendship Association organized a, "Week of His Majesty King Mohammed VI in Hawaii" in November 2012 which included the construction and formal dedication of a Moroccan fountain as a symbol of friendship between the State of Hawaii and the Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer.

Bouamor Taghouan, President of the Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, and the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United States, His Excellency Rachad Bouhlal, attended the ceremony to celebrate the Kingdom of Morocco's official gift to the State of Hawaii of an authentic Moroccan fountain located on the grounds of the Hawaii State Art Museum.

In October, a high level delegation from Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, including the President of the King Mohammed V University and the President of the Moroccan Association of Studies and Research for Development visited Honolulu. The delegation visited several University of Hawaii System campuses and met with the university officials for possible collaboration. The delegation also held discussions with Hawaii civic leaders looking to develop collaborative projects in the areas of youth and cultural exchanges.

At the invitation of the Moroccan Government and the Moroccan Association of Studies and Research for Development, based in the Greater Region of Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, a delegation from Hawaii visited Morocco from December 1-8, 2015. In addition to three members of the Hawaii-Morocco Friendship Association, three Hawaii legislators were part of the delegation.

Accomplishments from the mission included:

- Kapiolani Community College Chancellor Leon Richards and Jan Rumi, Honorary Consul of Morocco in Hawaii were speakers at the Third International Meeting of Dakhla on the theme of "The New Economic Territories, Actors and Factors in the Emergence, Comparative International Experiences" sharing their insights from an Asia-Pacific perspective.

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between King Mohammed V University and Kapiolani Community College. The MOU will assist the King Mohammed V University, located in Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zaer, to develop a community college model for the university's human resource capital development initiative.

Bali, Indonesia (2014)

The Indonesian island of Bali became the latest sister province with the State of Hawaii, in April 2014. A delegation from the Hawaii Indonesia Chamber of Commerce left for Bali at the end of July 2015 to meet with Bali Governor Pastika and members of the Bali Coordinating Committee of the Bali Hawaii Sister-State Initiative to discuss future activities and events to keep the sister relationship active and productive. The timing of the delegation's visit coincided with the Hokulea voyaging canoe's landing in Bali.