



### Upcoming Dates:

#### ◆ November

24th - 25th - Thanksgiving Break  
(dojo closed)

#### ◆ December

2nd - Parents Night Out

10th - Christmas Demo

24th - 31st - Christmas Break  
(Dojo Closed)

#### ◆ January

1st - New Years Day (Dojo  
Closed)

14th - Testing

17th - KK Testing/Promotions



*Happy  
Thanksgiving  
to our Dojo Family,  
near and far.*

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**Orlando  
Okinawan  
Shorin ryu  
Karate-do**

# The Shuri Gate

Okinawan Shorin-ryu Karate-do  
3340 Curry Ford Road, Orlando, FL 32806  
407-897-3642, [okinawanshorinryu.com](http://okinawanshorinryu.com)



November 2022

## !!!!!! CONGRATULATIONS !!!!!



We are so proud of  
**Sensei West & Sensei Zavagnini** (left)  
for their promotions to Nidan  
and excited to welcome  
our newest Black Belt,  
**Sensei Mike Castro** (below, center).



### STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Children's Class  
Thomas Poore

Adult Class  
Sakhan Yith

### KATA OF THE MONTH

1st - Benny Philyaw  
2nd - Theon Spicer

### Welcome New Students

*Antoine Wright*

*Leonor Ronda*

*Yvonne Ball*

*Amelia Webster*

*Shannon Webster*

*Jonah Anderson*

*Zane Strait*

## October Testing

### KinderKarate Class

Nicholas Poulos yellow stripe belt  
Penelope Vanore yellow stripe belt, orange tip  
Michael Vanore orange stripe belt, blue tip  
Taylor Hardisty blue stripe belt



### Children's Class

Garrison Hillyer white 1 tip  
Michael Ball white 2 tips  
Brennan Green white 2 tips  
Cesar Leal white 2 tips  
Teo Saraiva white 2 tips  
Sofia Leal white 3 tips  
Diego Lasanta white 3 tips  
Isaac Ritsema white 3 tips  
Charleston Hayes yellow belt  
Harrison Hayes yellow belt  
Benny Philyaw yellow 2 tips  
Essex Dunham yellow 2 tips  
Thomas Poore orange belt  
Rian Saraiva orange belt  
Cayden Harmer orange 2 tips  
Theon Spicer orange 2 tips  
Joseph Pinon red belt  
Lillian Dukes blue belt  
Elijah Dukes blue 3 tips



### Adult Class

Corey Ball Jr. 7th kyu  
Sakhan Yith 5th kyu  
Caleb Carver 2nd kyu  
Javier Herrero 2nd kyu  
Moises Ortiz 1st kyu  
Julio Vasquez 1st kyu





## **Mount Fuji** by Moises Ortiz, 1st Kyu



Mount Fuji is the highest mountain in Japan at 12,388 ft and is approximately 10,000 years old. It is located on both sides of the boundary of Shizuoka and Yamanashi prefectures, just west of Tokyo. It neighbors the Pacific coast of central Honshu. The last time the volcano erupted was in 1707.

It is Japan's highest and most beautiful peak and considered the mountain of all mountains. Mount Fuji is in the middle of the Japanese archipelago. On a clear day, you can see it from Tokyo, eighty miles to the west. You can see its profile for more than 186 miles away. It rises 12,388 feet above sea level. It is a beautiful, almost perfect cone, and the beauty of it is made complete with lakes dammed by lava flows, rivers, and ponds.

Mount Fuji's longitude is at 138°451 E and its latitude at 35°215 N. The temperature varies between negative four degrees to 46 degrees Fahrenheit. The climate is very cold due to the altitude and the top of the mountain being covered by snow throughout the year. Generally, the higher up you go, the colder it becomes.

The area is rich in wildlife and natural vegetation. Fuji is an active volcano. From time to time it erupts, throwing out lava. Since ancient times, people have thought it to be blessed and people have even worshipped it as a god. These beliefs led to an increased number of people climbing the mountain. In the 18th century, shrines were built all over Japan to respect the mountain. Today, about 300,000 people climb the mountain every year, realizing their dream to get to the top at least once in their lifetime.

The Japanese have developed a strong bond with Mount Fuji, and the history of Japanese art shows it. There have been drawings and poems of Mount Fuji that date back to the 11th century. Mount Fuji appears in many artforms, and it is a symbol of beauty.

The most recent violent activity on Mt. Fuji took place about three hundred years ago. The large, forested highland and lakes are the result we see today. In 1707, the volcano eruption opened three craters that caused a great amount of damage to villages and farmland. It sent huge clouds of volcanic ash that rained down on the city of Tokyo. It has been dormant ever since its last eruption in 1707 which was just over three hundred years ago. For a volcano with a life span of thousands of years, three centuries are almost no time at all. Geologists still believe that it is an active volcano so it would be perfectly normal for the mountain to erupt again at any time as it is only sleeping.

In 1985 I left Okinawa and went to a new duty station and was fortunate to be at Camp Fuji in mainland Japan. I was there for six months. To wake up every morning and see this mountain was amazing. In those six months I was able to see and experience Mount Fuji go through three seasons of change. In August of 1985, a group of us hiked up Mount Fuji, all the way to the top. We all spent the night in a small hotel so that we could wake up early in the morning before sunrise. To see the sunrise was amazing and unforgettable. If you ever have the chance to visit Japan, I highly recommend taking the time to plan and hike up Mount Fuji. You will not be disappointed.

# Birthdays

## November

Sensei Frank Stone 12th  
Ocean Warren 14th  
Sensei Jeremy West 16th  
Sensei John Darin 20th  
Doris Herrero 21st  
Sensei Krista Peirce 25th

## December

Sofia Leal 7th  
Thomas Poore 8th  
Zane Strait 9th  
Cayden Harmer 10th  
Sensei Fabio Zavagnini 16th  
Sensei Austin Gordon 20th  
Renshi Trish Gaudoin 29th  
Amelia Webster 29th

## January

Lillian Dukes 17th  
Corey Ball, Jr. 23rd  
Essex Dunham 27th



"Now, our God, we give you thanks  
and praise your glorious name."

**1 Chronicles 29:13**

### Parents Night Out

**When:** December 2nd  
7:00-10:00pm

**Who:** Kids aged 5 & up

**Cost:** \$15 per child,  
\$10 per additional child  
from the same family.  
Friends are welcome to  
join in the fun!

Kids will enjoy several  
planned activities at the  
dojo while parents have  
the night out.

Consent forms &  
additional information  
will be available on the  
ledge, inside the dojo.



### THE JAPANESE KATANA

The Sword With a Past....

By Julio Vasquez, 1st Kyu

The Katana was forged during the 16<sup>th</sup> Century as a curved, single-edged blade. The name is derived from the Japanese term KATA, meaning one sided. It is believed that the Japanese invented it to use against the invading Mongol forces.

This sword's blade is sharp, strong with a flexible back, It was worn with the sharpened edge facing up at the side secured by a belt-like sash called an "obi." The Katana was most notably used by Japan's high-ranking Samurai Warriors. The intent was for the warrior to quickly draw the sword and cut the enemy in a single motion when engaged in combat.

During peaceful times, the katana was often used as gifts between the Feudal Lord (or Daimyo) and the Samurai as a symbol of authority and spirituality. In addition, the Katana has made appearances in Hollywood movies such as, "The Last Samurai" and "47 Ronin" and many others.

### 2022 Christmas Demo

**When:** December 10, 2022 at 10AM

(Students, please arrive by 9:30am)

**Where:** Real Life Christian Church

2565 E. Kaley Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32806



Each family brings a dish to share for our potluck lunch.

Look for a sign-up sheet on the ledge soon.

We look forward to seeing you and your family there!