The Shuri Gate

Okinawan Shorin-ryu Karate-do
3340 Curry Ford Road, Orlando, FL 32806
407-897-3642, okinawanshorinryu.com

May 2024

Upcoming Dates:

♦ **May**

12th -

27th - Memorial Day (Dojo Closed)

♦ **June**

16th -

♦ **July**

4th - Independence Day (Dojo Closed)

13th - Testing/Promotions

16th - KK Testing

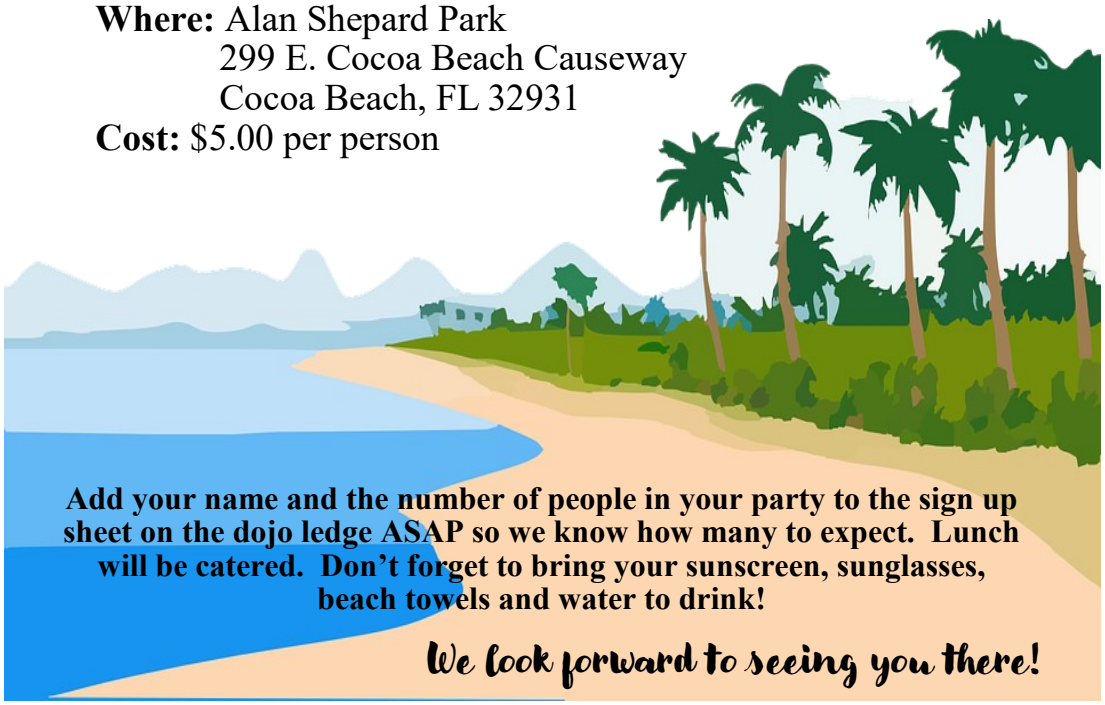
Get connected with your dojo community on facebook:

Orlando Okinawan Shorin ryu Karate-do

Mark your calendar for the...

2024 Annual BEACH PARTY!

When: Saturday June 8th, 2024
Starts at 10AM
Where: Alan Shepard Park
299 E. Cocoa Beach Causeway
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
Cost: $5.00 per person



Add your name and the number of people in your party to the sign up sheet on the dojo ledge ASAP so we know how many to expect. Lunch will be catered. Don't forget to bring your sunscreen, sunglasses, beach towels and water to drink!

We look forward to seeing you there!

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

KinderKarate
Jack Dierdorff

Children's Class
Annabelle Wilkes

Adult Class
Isaiah Maetzu

Welcome New Students

Charlotte DaCunha
Remi Spicer
John Pastrana
Iliad Gonzalez
Nelber Zambrano

April Testing

KinderKarate Class

John Pastrana white belt, yellow tip
Jack Dierdorff yellow stripe belt, orange tip
Riley McKinnon yellow stripe belt, orange tip
Elisha Philyaw orange stripe belt
Jayda Vasquez orange stripe belt

Children's Class

Charlotte DaCunha white 1 tip
Remi Spicer white 1 tip
Ariely Araujo white 2 tips
August Boxley yellow belt
Elliot Boxley yellow belt
Garrison Hillyer yellow belt
Michael Wilkes yellow belt
Taylor Hardisty yellow 1 tip
Alex Orsaeo yellow 1 tip
Nicholas Poulos yellow 1 tip
Filippo Raimondo yellow 2 tips
Leonor Ronda yellow 2 tips
Annabelle Wilkes yellow 2 tips
Teo Saraiva yellow 3 tips
Amelia Webster orange belt
Bella Manzano orange 1 tip
Charleston Hayes red belt
Harrison Hayes red belt
Essex Dunham red 1 tip
Benny Philyaw red 1 tip
Rian Saraiva red 1 tip
Thomas Poore red 2 tips
Theon Spicer blue 1 tip
Lillian Dukes purple belt

Adult Class

Isaiah Maetzu 7th kyu
Jorge Reyes 7th kyu

Support your dojo by writing a review on Yelp!

Congratulations!

Palm Beach Atlantic Karate Club
Lead by Sensei Austin Gordon
Promotions on April 27th, 2024

Taiko Drums by Javier Herrero, 1st kyu

The origin of music is unknown; however, one could argue that it has been part of human life since the beginning. Similarly, drumming has been an integral part of music and culture throughout the world. Taiko drums are part of Japanese culture and have been incorporated in their music, theater, religious ceremonies, and even warfare. Their origin, influence and evolution have shaped modern Japanese society.

The word “Taiko” means drum in Japanese. Taiko has mythological origins in Japanese folklore, nevertheless, history records indicate that they were used in ancient Japan over 2,000 years ago. It is believed that the Taiko drum appeared in Japan sometime during the 5th and 6th century from nearby Asian countries, India China and Korea. Taiko drumming has served various purposes from communication to religious ceremonies to more modern uses such as being incorporated in social movements.

With the modernization of Japan, Taiko has in many ways become a relic. However, some suggest that Japan has experienced a cultural renaissance of sorts and the native art of Taiko drumming has become popular once more. Presently, all school children in Japan know Taiko and events now commonly feature Taiko drummers.

Taiko was brought to the United States by Japanese immigrants in the early 20th century as a way to preserve their culture. Over time, the Japanese were forced to lose their identity, especially during WWII when the Japanese were placed in internment camps. After the war, they had to try hard to assimilate into American culture. During this time, both Japanese language and culture, including Taiko were forgotten. During the Civil Rights Movement, it has been said that some Japanese-Americans had a desire to revive their identity and Taiko drumming was reborn. At the end of the 1960’s two groups in San Francisco acted as the pioneers for taiko music in the United States.

Present day, there are groups throughout the nation who perform and continue the deep traditions of Taiko drumming. The Orlando Taiko Dojo is a music group in Orlando that actively performs at events all throughout Central Florida. Their drumming techniques and skills were featured by people of all ages during our dojo’s 35th year Christmas Demo celebration in 2021.

As Japanese culture becomes more popular throughout the globe, Taiko also grows in popularity. Taiko has even been seen in some Cirque de Soleil performances. It seems that the cultural renaissance of Japan continues to spread and young people all over the world are learning the ancient form of Taiko. Taiko is known as the heartbeat of Japan and its music continues to evolve with this new generation of drummers.

Birthdays

May

Taylor Hardisty 1st

Diamara Cheatwood 11th

Sensei Michael Barnes 20th

Nelber Zambrano 20th

Kyoshi Geoff Gaudoin 21st

June

Theon Spicer 4th

Michael Wilkes 10th

Garrison Hillyer 15th

Teo Saraiva 16th

Riley McKinnon 26th

July

Alex Orsaeo 5th

Sensei Connor Lion 7th

Julio Vasquez 17th

Ariely Araujo 23rd

Judd Cheatwood 24th

THE TEN Commandments

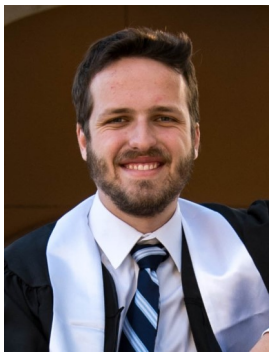
1. YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME.

Exodus 20 : 2 - 17

Announcements!!

Sensei Connor Lion has graduated Class of 2024 from Circle Christian School! He will be playing basketball for and attending New College of Florida in Sarasota. Way to go, young man!

We are pleased to announce the marriage of Sensei Ronnie Mytas (Peirce) to Mr. Brian Mytas of Orlando, Florida! Welcome, Brian, to our extended dojo family.



Sensei Austin Gordon has graduated with a BA from Palm Beach Atlantic University, double majoring in Mathematics & Computer Science. He plans to pursue his masters degree in Computer Science. Congratulations!

Sensei Jeremy West and his wife, Macarena, gave birth to a beautiful baby girl! Introducing Eliana Alexandra West, born April 27th, 2024 weighing 7lbs, 5oz & 22 inches long. Welcome to the world, little one!

Our dojo led a women's self-defense seminar at Lockheed Martin's RMS Orlando facility on April 2nd, 2024. Everyone had a great time & learned some new skills that we hope they'll never need to use!