

Fall
2026



By Alvin Chan, Eric Johnson, & The HTY Ensemble

Beloved 'Ohana:

The Stories that Bring Us Together



Aloha!

There is nothing more precious than 'Ohana. However you define your family, we hope that sharing stories, giggles, and a fun, age appropriate theatrical experience will bring you closer to your closest people, your beloved 'ohana. HTY is also a family, a group of local theatre artists and educators dedicated to creating and sharing work with each of you. We love creating work for you, and we relish the chance to share what we have created. Thank you so much being part of our Beloved 'Ohana and for your support in making this work a success.

We hope you will consider becoming an HTY Member this season. A month of Family Membership costs less than a single adult ticket, and your entire family can enjoy professional theatre, receive great perks, and know that your support will help HTY to thrive, especially in these challenging times.

Most of all, we hope you have a fantastic time at today's performance and that we see you and your 'ohana back soon!

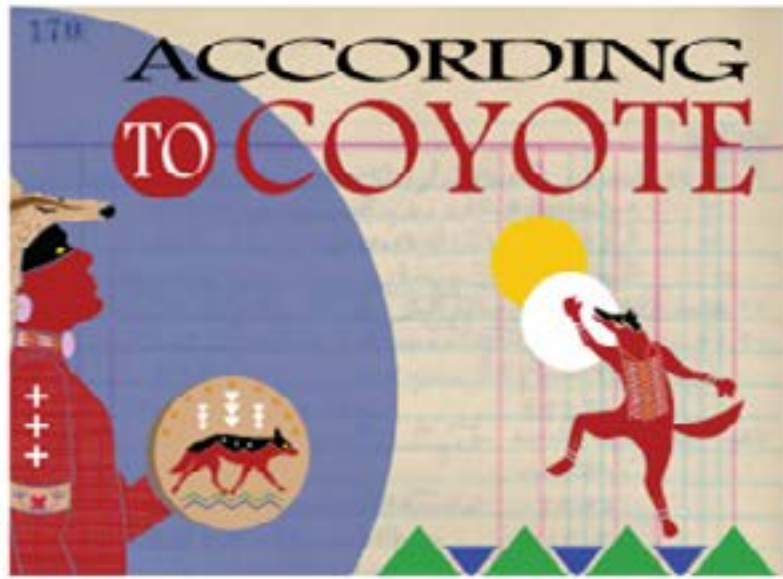
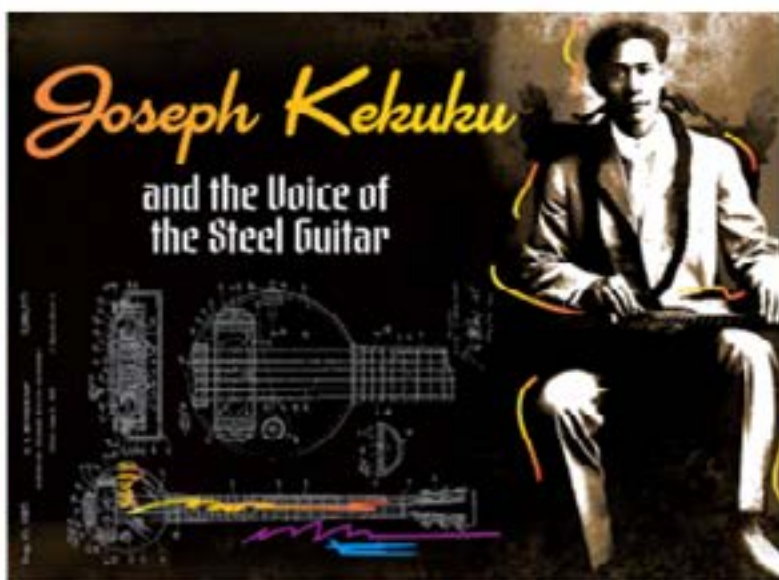
More information on shows and tickets at www.htyweb.org.

Click the link below to check out our membership options:

[HTY Membership](#)

Mahalo,

Eric Johnson
Artistic Director





Production Credits

Written by Alvin Chan, Eric Johnson and The HTY Ensemble
Directed by Alvin Chan and Eric Johnson

**Set, Lighting and Prop
Design by**
Chesley Cannon

**Additional Music and
Sound Design by**
Mattea Mazzella

Performed by
Jarren Amian
Serina Dunham
Anastacia Narrajos
Hermenigildo Tesoro, Jr.

Costume Design by
Sandra Payne & Anna Foster

**Shamisen and Additional
Vocal Performance by**
Anju Madoka

**Additional Costume Design
by** Iris Kim

Technical Direction by
Eric West

Stage Manager
Sarah Danvers
Mattea Mazzella

Sound Design by
Barett Hoover & Max Louie

Original Credits for Development of the Production
Adapted from the Japanese folktale by Honolulu Theatre for Youth
Text by Alvin Chan and Eric Johnson
Concepts, Design and Creation by Alvin Chan, Maile Holck, Barett Hoover,
Eric Johnson, Moses Goods, Bart McGeehon, Sandra Payne and Junior Tesoro.

Our Sponsors

Heartfelt mahalo for the generous support and funding for this project.
Hawai‘i State Department of Health, Office of Public Health Preparedness

TYA Tour Development Collective:
*Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Zoellner Arts Center,
Playhouse Square, Segerstrom Center for the Arts*



About the Show

Back by popular demand, this original staging of Japan's most famous folktale draws inspiration from the visually rich world of anime as well as traditional Japanese theatre techniques such as Kyogen. This 2026 production also features new original music. The show was originally produced in 2011, then remounted in 2016 when it also had a run at Imagination Stage in Bethesda, WA.

Important Themes in Our Show

Japanese folktales often contain themes and messages that embody Japanese cultural beliefs and morals. In addition to the kindness, generosity, loyalty and bravery exemplified by our hero, Momotaro, we have included important messages about bullying and empathy in this stage adaptation.

Most versions of the story include a violent defeat of the ogres. However, HTY has intentionally changed the story to show Momotaro's inner strength and to provide a different solution which is based on compassion to address the issues of bullying. In our adaptation, the whole community comes together. Whether reading a traditional version of the story or responding to the play itself, we encourage families to imagine different outcomes and to discuss the important issue of bullying and what it means to act with kindness.

About the Cast



Jarren Amian was born and raised in Kalihi where he found his passion for theatre at Farrington H.S. He holds a B.A. in Theatre from UH Manoa and is enjoying his fifth season as part of HTY's resident ensemble. He has performed for many communities on and off island.



Serina Dunham is excited to be joining the team for her 8th season! Born and raised as a hapa girl in Nara, Japan, she dreamed about visiting Hawai'i for all of her teenage years. Her dream came true when she turned 18 and was accepted to UH-Mānoa to study theatre. And now, she is so excited to play Momotaro, the most beloved folk tale in Japan! On stage, Serina loves playing many characters, talking in funny voices, and performing with puppets - especially with Keoki on The HI Way. Off stage, "tea time" is her favorite activity with friends over baked goods.



Anastacia Narrajos is a theater maker, performer and educator living in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Originally from Chicago, IL, she received a BA in Theater Performance at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Ana worked as a Honolulu Theater for Youth teaching artist from 2023-2025, where she taught in-school residencies and summer programming. She is thrilled to be making her HTY performance debut in *Anime Momotaro*!



Hermenigildo Tesoro, Jr. is in his 31st season with HTY! Junior has written a Filipino play and has performed as a cockroach, crocodile, hula mula dancer, mongoose, monk, demigod, evil stepsister, swordsman, snake, juggler, fish general, fairy, mouse, monkey, ogre, caribou, blacksmith, surfer, p'ansori singer, a rock, a rock wall (twice), King of Troy, musubi, Maui, Aladdin, Spartan knight, dolphin, paleontologist, a fire-breathing sea dragon (three times), Wilbur the pig, a nēnē, Peter Rabbit, a culinary drill sergeant, a kamikirigami artist, goldfish vendor, B-boy, Robin Hood, a cloud, an invisible reindeer, Inky Blue, star-nosed mole, Xi Xia King, Uncle Billy, a pink unicorn, the red balloon, a Philippine eagle, a garbage truck, Gepetto, a hair brush, a salt farmer, carp, woodcutter, snail, spam musubi, Japanese cumulus cloud, sheep, horse, Jade Emperor, and a cockroach (again).





About HTY

Honolulu Theatre for Youth (HTY) is a theatre of place, deeply rooted in the cultures and people of the Pacific and dedicated to serving young people, families and educators across the Hawaiian Islands. Founded in 1955, HTY is one of the oldest professional Theatre for Young Audience companies in the country and is recognized for its long history of innovative drama education programming and the creation of original theatrical works that celebrate the diverse cultures of Hawai’i. In 2023, HTY received the Orlin Corey Medallion from The Children’s Theatre Foundation of America, the highest honor in the field.

Our Board

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	Lissa Kakinami	Anna Scott
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		James Kellett Tam

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Jian Gu Accounting		Ms. Lisa Teaching Artist