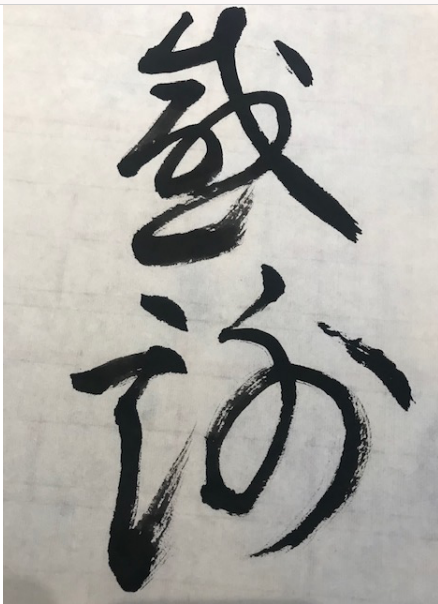




DECEMBER 2022



“GRATITUDE” calligraphy by Jean Yamasaki Toyama

Jean Yamasaki Toyama, who co-edited *Bamboo Ridge* Issues #108 and #118 and co-authored two books of linked poetry with Juliet, says, “How do you say mahalo to someone who does things so unobtrusively that you don’t even know all she has done until she’s finished? She makes no show of what she does—she just does. We all thank you, Juliet, for all you have done for Bamboo Ridge Press, steering the organization as senior editor. Long before you took the helm, you did everything from working book tables to maintaining our subscriber list by hand and handling bags of books to be mailed. Whatever needed to be done, you were willing to do.”

## ALOHA AND MAHALO!

As Bamboo Ridge Press enters its 45th anniversary year, we thank all of you who have supported us through the decades and particularly during the last few challenging years. We especially appreciate and want to recognize at this time two very special members of our ‘ohana, Juliet S. Kono, our longtime leader retiring at the end of this year, and Cathy Song, who is taking Juliet’s place as senior editor. Aloha and mahalo to both!



**Mahalo to Juliet S. Kono and  
Cathy Song, editors  
extraordinaire!**

## CATHY SONG, NEW SENIOR EDITOR

Juliet's first Bamboo Ridge Press co-editor was Cathy Song. Their collaboration resulted in *Sister Stew: Fiction and Poetry by Women*, published in 1991. Now one editor is passing the torch to another. To all of us, Cathy writes:

"As its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary approaches, I have accepted the editorship of Bamboo Ridge Press, one of the country's oldest and longest running independent literary small presses. During my tenure, I will do my best to honor the vision and legacy of founding editors Darrell H. Y. Lum and Eric Chock, and of Juliet S. Kono, who has continued their work, supporting and promoting creative and literary works by, for, and about Hawai'i's people. Publishing more than 120 issues of *Bamboo Ridge* has continued to be a labor of love, requiring the dedication of so many individuals, many who may not be writers or visual artists themselves but who have contributed their talents because they believe a community is richer when it values and supports its diversity and wealth of literary and artistic expression. We look forward to next year's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue, edited by founders Darrell and Eric. Showcasing the work of seventy writers, this landmark anthology will be a testament to Bamboo Ridge's continuing commitment to Hawai'i literature and arts. Such an endeavor deserves our ongoing support."

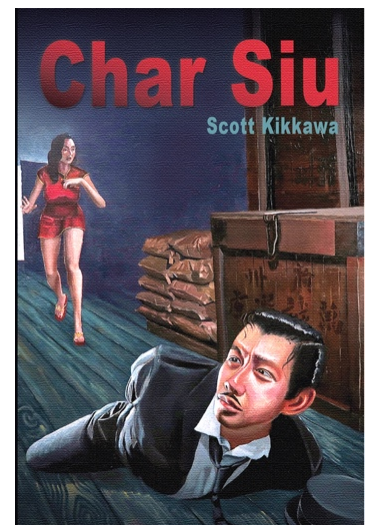
## THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE IS IN PRODUCTION!



With a record number of submissions for the 45th Anniversary Issue of *BR*, Eric Chock and Darrell H. Y. Lum have been very busy! This special anthology will feature seventy emerging and established authors, including several who were published in the first few years of the journal.

## COMING IN 2023!

We are looking forward to *Char Siu*, the third noir novel by Scott Kikkawa, a real-life law enforcement officer whose first two mysteries—*Kona Winds* (2019) and *Red Dirt* (2021)—are recognized as "Essential Hawai'i Books You Should Read" by *HONOLULU Magazine*.



Enjoy this poem by Misty-Lynn Sanico to commemorate our 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

## Deadline 45

What should I write for *Bamboo Ridge*?

I look up “45th Anniversary.”

It’s the sapphire anniversary.

That doesn’t help me.

I search my folder of story scraps and incomplete outlines.

“Hibachi starters,” that’s what Darrell calls them.

Why are there so many stories about craft fairs and food?

And old Podagee ladies?

I meditate for story ideas and ask myself:

**What are my favorite parts of Bamboo Ridge?**

I stare at the books on my shelf for inspiration.

*Folks You Meet in Longs*

Can try write, “People You Avoid at CVS”

—cuz it’s not da same community store ever since . . .

and the aisles feel less local than they used to.

*Three Years on Doreen’s Sofa*

Can try write, “Three Years on MY Sofa”

—pandemic poems and how I gained twenty pounds.

*Pass On, No Pass Back!*

Can try write, “Pass On, Den Pass ’Um Back Again”

—a “fictional” memoir in verse about a college semester

spent majoring in cannabis.

*Saturday Night at the Pabala Theatre*

Can try write, “Monday Morning in Front of Kumu Kahua Theatre”

—micro-stories about one woman’s daily search

for affordable parking in Downtown Honolulu.

*Da Word*

Da Preposition . . . Da Verb . . . Da Adjective . . . Da Modified Noun.

*Growing Up Local*

Would be funny for write, “Showing Up Local”

—a dark comedy about that one family reunion

when your cousins roll up in head-to-toe Manuheali’i designer digs

with black pearl necklace and lauhala hats, arms full of heirloom bracelets.

Too easy! But Tūtū going be mad.

*Ewa Which Way*

“Hawaii Kai, How Come?”

*Between Sky and Sea*

Between working on an old idea or starting a new one.

Between a blank page and a deadline

—a free verse poem about procrastination.

So . . . what should I write for *Bamboo Ridge*?







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### END-OF-THE-YEAR GIVING

This year your tax-deductible donations have helped us produce two new books supporting fifty emerging and established writers and artists. These funds have also enabled us to digitize several out-of-print *BR* issues for our free-access archives, and to host eighteen events and readings for people in the community, including hundreds of students.

Mahalo for your continued generosity.  
We wish you happy holidays and a prosperous new year!

Bamboo Ridge Press is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, 501(c) (3) organization. For more info contact us at: 808.626.1481 or email <[read@bambooridge.org](mailto:read@bambooridge.org)>

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