

SPORTS / RECREATION / COMBAT SPORTS

# The unapologetic Tomizaki's Champions Institute of Kung Fu

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Ken Kimura during the competition  
*Tomizaki's Champions Institute of Kung Fu*

I first met Master Daniel Tomizaki at [the 2011 Legends of Kung Fu](#) in Plano, Texas. He did an exciting demonstration of Choy Lay Fut fist routine at the Masters' Demonstration. Later we exchanged business cards. I noticed that his [martial arts](#) school has an unapologetic name of [Tomizaki's Champions Institute of Kung Fu](#). Well, his students did win multiple trophies in the tournament. Recently, his school participated in the [2011 Martial Arts Championships](#) held on Nov 5 in Chinatown, Los Angeles, California and won 27 trophies. It is quite a remarkable accomplishment!



*Tomizaki's Champions Institute of Kung Fu*

**2011 Martial Arts Championships** was organized by Sifu Ron Quan to showcase various martial arts open forms, open weapons, point sparring, group forms, musical forms and jump kicking with 300 competitors from the region. Aside from promoting martial arts, the goal of this tournament is raising awareness and money for **Tempt One ALS Foundation**, which is a collaborative of urban artists who recognize their ability to enhance the life of others. Through the use of art, they have chosen to identify resources, bring attention to, and assist with the needs of Lou Gehrig's disease patients (aka, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) as well as patients suffering from other neurological diseases. It was reported that the event brought in \$12,000.

**Tomizaki's Champions Institute of Kung Fu** was funded by Daniel and Steffani Tomizaki in 2007. Born and raised in Brazil, **Master Tomizaki** was trained in martial arts in Brazil, U.S. and China (mainly at Shaolin Temple). He has won international championship titles in Brazil, Canada and the U.S.

**Steffani** has competed locally and nationally in the U.S and she has won ten 1st place awards in forms and weapons and has been runner-up Grand Champion twice.

Master Tomizaki loves to teach - kids, teens, adults, seniors or anyone with a desire to learn. He adapts his teaching method based on individual needs. He knows whom he can push a little harder and who needs more attention. He is fully aware people's disabilities or limitations. When training for tournaments, he has the skill and the eye to make minor corrections that make a major difference.

Steffani explains that winning trophies is not the true definition of being a champion. Their school emphasizes self-improvement. If a student can do 3 push-ups one week, and is able to do 10 push-ups a month later, that is improving and being a champion. What makes this recent tournament so special

besides winning trophies is that their [competition](#) team consisted of practitioners aged from 6 years to 73 years old. Students were very motivated to improve themselves by participating in the tournament. Ken Kimura, 73, took 1st place in Traditional Hand Form and 1st in the Open Hand Form division. Alycia Carew, 6, took 2nd in point sparring.

Master Tomizaki is big on giving back to the community. His school has also done fundraisers for the American Red Cross for Japan Tsunami victims, the Bay Area Crisis Nursery, and the Contra Costa Food Bank. The school is also active in teaching women's and children's self defense classes, working with the Girls Scouts, local women's groups and local community groups. Daniel and Steffani are living by their own motto helping others to be better or champions. With that, they certainly don't need to apologize for their school name.

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