



Portland Japanese Garden seeks Gardener

Position Overview

The Gardener reports to the Head Gardener and is responsible for all phases of ground maintenance and participates in workshops or any professional training provided. He/She will work closely with other staff gardeners in all aspects of the position.

Primary Duties

- Provide basic care, daily maintenance, repairs, and improvements of the garden and its environs as it pertains to appropriate Japanese gardening practices and principles
- Perform pruning and shaping practices as it pertains to the Japanese garden aesthetic and tradition as established at the Portland Japanese Garden
- Construct and maintain bamboo fences, stone pathways, and other garden structures
- Install, maintain, and repair irrigation systems
- Assist with integrated pest management practices and fertilization application
- Maintain equipment, garden house tools, and garden vehicles
- Other duties as assigned

Other Responsibilities

- Familiarize oneself with the organization
- Get to know fellow staff members, developing trust, establishing credibility, encouraging teamwork, and creating an atmosphere of open, honest, two-way communication
- Maintain a high level of professionalism in manner and appearance
- Adhere to Garden Dress Code and wear Garden uniform

Qualifications

- Minimum three years of landscape/garden construction and/or maintenance experience. B.A. /B.S. degree in horticulture or a related field is preferred
- Current driver's license or ability to obtain driver's license within 90 days of employment

Special Requirements

- Ability to perform intense physical labor year-round in all weather conditions
- Capable of using power tools such as leaf blowers, mowers, and chain saws
- Ability to repeatedly lift up to 50lbs and maneuver heavy items
- Ability to climb and work on tall ladders

Compensation

- \$18.00 — \$19.00 / hr. commensurate with experience
- Benefits: comprehensive benefits package including health/dental/vision insurance, 401k, paid vacation /sick / holiday

Applications

To apply, email your qualifications, including resume (no more than four pages), cover letter, and list of three references to humanresources@japanesegarden.org. Please no phone calls or hand delivered applications. Submit application materials by Monday, May 15th.

All submitted applications will be held in confidence.

Organization Overview

The Portland Japanese Garden is renowned as the most authentic and finest Japanese garden outside of Japan. Founded in 1963 and nestled in Washington Park above downtown Portland, Oregon, the Garden is one of the most important Japanese cultural institutions in North America. 400,000 visitors annually visit this national treasure and participate in its art, cultural, and educational programs. The Garden strives to provide every visitor with an inspiring experience of the beauty and tranquility of the Japanese garden art form. At the same time, the Garden is at the beginning point of engaging diverse audiences to expand their understanding of Japan and themselves. Formal and informal education and cultural programs are offered so that visitors of any background or age will find something that is personally meaningful to them. First-of-a-kind art exhibitions focused on Japanese arts, artists, and craftsmanship illuminate cross-cultural dialogue and understanding of the Japanese garden as an art form.

An expansion of educational and visitor facilities has long been needed because the Garden's original facilities were designed for 30,000 visitors/year. Internationally renowned Japanese architect Kengo Kuma has designed a Cultural Village with new educational and visitor facilities and a new entry area on SW Kingston. Garden Curator Sadafumi Uchiyama has designed new garden areas to surround the Village and entry area. Construction of this Cultural Crossing project began in September 2015 and completed in April 2017. As part of this project, the Garden has also launched a comprehensive training program for Japanese garden professionals and amateurs, the Japanese Garden Training Center.

The Garden has a year-round staff of 80+ FTE's and 20+ seasonal staff supplemented by over 300 volunteers. It is an exciting time at the Portland Japanese Garden – a time to help this historic organization set the course for a successful next 50 years with expanded facilities and programs.