

THE GARDEN PATH

AUGUST 2016 • VOLUME 15 • NUMBER 8

BENDING NATURE: FOUR BAMBOO ARTISTS IN THE GARDEN

When a warm summer breeze whispers past, you can see it sway and hear it rustle. The wind dances through a bamboo thicket, and it sounds like rain lightly tapping on trees. Bamboo is a mysterious plant, because how can something so strong, straight and tall be so flexible? As much as it's mysterious, it's also extraordinarily useful. Bamboo has seen a variety of uses in the traditional Japanese way of life, from edible bamboo shoots and charcoal - to fine crafts and building material. Contemporary artists have begun to pay homage to bamboo as a medium.

On the southern island of Kyushu, the coastal prefecture of Oita has arguably the largest concentration of bamboo craftspeople in all of Japan. While the overall number of people working with bamboo has shrunk by two thirds from other industries taking hold, in Oita, artisans appreciate the cultural and economic importance of bamboo crafts in the region and actively promote it to ensure their long term vitality.

For our third and final 2016 Art in the Garden exhibition series, *Bending Nature: Four Bamboo Artists in the Garden*, two Oita artists join two Portland-based artists to take bamboo to a whole new level. They're using the mysterious plant—with all its strength and height—to showcase its flexible potential as an art form, inspired by the Portland Japanese Garden.

Jiro Yonezawa works with split bamboo, the traditional method of Japanese basket-makers, and is widely known as one of Japan's finest bamboo artists. He is known for cocoon like weaving and weaving demonstrations. Now back in Japan, Yonezawa lived in Beaverton, Oregon for 18 years. His work bears the mark of both cultures, combining the traditional mastery of techniques learned in Japan and the artistic freedom he found in the United States.

Shigeo Kawashima began making large-scale bamboo sculptures in natural and urban settings. Characterized by graceful forms and dramatic surfaces, his art has led to several site commissions. His work on WA (ring) was built on site at the Kennedy Center and took months to construct and install. He's known for making his art interactive and will be inviting guests to the Portland Japanese Garden to help add-to his structure.



ART IN THE GARDEN

Bending Nature: Four Bamboo Artists in the Garden

August 20-October 16

Regular Garden Hours

Various Locations Within the Garden

Included with Garden Admission

Golden Crane Society Opening Reception

Friday, August 19, 5:30-7:30pm

Garden East Veranda and Overlook

Golden Crane Society Members Only

Contact Sean at rsvp@japanesegarden.com

Continued on page 2



Dear Garden Members,

What a beautiful summer it has been! The Garden's green textural beauty in the summer always reminds me how exquisitely layered and restorative Japanese culture is. As we head into 2017, Diane Durston, the Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education, and her team are planning more programming, more exhibitions,

and more opportunities for you to experience Japanese culture. To help us do this in the most authentic way possible, we are honored to announce our first staff member based in Japan, Mr. Hiroshi Furusawa. Mr. Furusawa has spent the last 32 years with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has held positions at the Consulates General in New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles and the Japanese Embassy in Washington D.C. Most recently we have had the good fortune to have him serving in our own backyard as the Consulate General to Japan here in Portland.

I met Hiroshi in 2014 shortly after he arrived in Portland. He immediately recognized the value and significance of our Japanese Garden and, dare I say, quickly became a big fan and strong advocate. During his time serving in Portland, he worked tirelessly to strengthen political, economic and cultural ties between the Northwest and Japan, particularly in the areas of education, grassroots, people-to-people exchanges, and the arts.

At the same time, it has become increasingly clear that the relationships and friendships the Garden has built in Japan cannot

be sustained simply through occasional travel by me, Diane Durston and our Garden Curator, Sadafumi Uchiyama. When I started as CEO, the board charged me with strengthening our ties with Japan. Eleven years later, we've born a lot of fruit. But the many seeds we've sown need cultivation. And of course as the Garden grows, we want to continue identifying new potential friendships with organizations that mirror our own strategic goals. The next logical step was to bring on a special advisor based in Japan.

When I heard rumors that Hiroshi might be retiring after completing his post in Portland, I immediately knew he would be the perfect person to be on the ground acting as an advisor to and representative of the Garden. His extensive experience developing strong relationships between the U.S. and Japan as well as his warmth and charisma gave me no doubt that the Garden's reputation overseas would only strengthen and advance with Hiroshi's help.

And here we are: fortunate to now have Hiroshi Furusawa as part of the Portland Japanese Garden family. With him based in Japan, his hiring represents a significant moment for the Garden as we increase our outreach and decrease the distance between our two countries. I look forward to bringing you news of his work in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Steve Bloom

BENDING NATURE: FOUR BAMBOO ARTISTS IN THE GARDEN

Continued from page 1

Charissa Brock works and teaches from her studio outside Portland and has been making artwork with natural materials for more than a decade. "When I work, I develop a system for creating a structure... each of these systems is like a sentence in a paragraph that tells a story—a part of my visual vocabulary," she said. Guests will see her art suspended among the trees along the walking path to the Garden just before the admission gate.

Portland artist **Anne Crumpacker** interweaves scale and proportion to create living topographies. Crumpacker is creating a unique, large-scale boat made out of bamboo for the Art in the Garden Exhibition. Guests can view her artwork on the grass area across from Heavenly Falls. Along with the natural grace and beauty of bamboo, Crumpacker says working with it connects her to the "interwoven community of people" who have worked with bamboo for thousands of years.

"The closure of the Pavilion this year offered us a unique opportunity to host this Art in the Garden exhibition outdoors, bringing together two artists from Japan with two artists from Portland in a celebration of bamboo art created in response to the beauty of the Garden," said Diane Durston, the Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education.

The exhibitions of all four artists will combine the superb mastery of traditional bamboo basketry with the exuberance of the artistic freedom

in wider public spaces. Each of the artists attempts to bend nature in new directions, challenging conventional bamboo craft techniques and forms to reflect the close relationship between nature and ourselves.



Anne Crumpacker



Shigeo Kawashima



Charissa Brock



Jiro Yonezawa

TWILIGHT HOURS FOR SUPPORTING AND SPONSOR MEMBERS

August 4, 2016 | 7-9pm

Supporting & Sponsor Members and Guests

No reservations required

We are pleased to invite Supporting and Sponsor Members to revel in the Garden in its evening beauty. Join us for refreshments on the Pavilion East Veranda and enjoy the quiet of twilight hours in the Garden. Your guests are welcome.

EVENING HOURS FOR MEMBERS

August 12, 2016 | 7-9pm

On special Fridays during the summer, we offer extended hours to Garden Members and their guests.

PHOTOGRAPHER MEMBER SPECIAL HOURS

August 23, 2016 | 7-9pm

Photographer Members and Guests

No reservations required

Photographer Members and their guests are given special access to the Garden during the summer months. This month, capture the beauty of the Garden in the evening light.

Photo: Jonathan Ley



MEMBER TEA & EXHIBITION TOUR

August 27, 2016 | 8-10am

No reservations required

We're inviting Garden Members to join us on the East Veranda and Overlook to discuss the *Bending Nature* installations with featured bamboo artist, Charissa Brock. Tea will be donated by Jasmine Pearl Tea Co., while coffee comes courtesy of Portland Roasting Co. A light continental breakfast will also be served. For more information about our Art in the Garden exhibition, *Bending Nature: Four Bamboo Artists in the Garden*, see the cover story.

ART IN THE GARDEN EXHIBITION

BENDING NATURE: FOUR BAMBOO ARTISTS IN THE GARDEN

AUGUST 20-OCTOBER 16

August 14, 2016 | 10am-Noon and 1-3pm

Portland Japanese Garden



Become a bamboo artist for the day:

Create bamboo art with world renowned artist Shigeo Kawashima. Located on the Pavilion's East Veranda, you're invited to help create a one-of-a-kind bamboo installation.

Tie bamboo strips with cotton strings

and as more Garden guests tie strings, watch the installation expand. Your contribution to the piece will help shape the larger scaled sculpture. Any age and level of artistic ability is welcome. Viewing included with Garden admission.

August 20, 2016 | 1pm-3pm

Portland Japanese Garden

East Veranda

Artist Demonstration: Bamboo Splitting and Preparation

for Weaving by Jiro Yonezawa. Bamboo sculpture artist Jiro Yonezawa will demonstrate how to split bamboo to make bamboo strips, then show a simple method of weaving them together.

September 10 and September 24, 2016 | 1pm-3pm

Portland Japanese Garden

East Veranda

Artist Demonstration: Bamboo Splitting Demonstration

by Charissa Brock. Internationally known bamboo sculptor Charissa Brock will explain the process of bamboo growth, gathering, and preparing bamboo to become a sculpture. She will demonstrate bamboo splitting and strip processing. Stop by and watch as she prepares strips for her next piece.

October 9 and 16, 2016 | 1pm-3pm

Portland Japanese Garden

Cherry Hill in front of the Heavenly Falls

Artist Talk: A Personal Artistic Journey with Anne Crumpacker.

Esteemed bamboo craftswoman Anne Crumpacker interweaves bamboo in various scales and proportions to create living topographies. She will elaborate on her creative practice, focused solely on working with bamboo.



O-BON, THE SPIRIT FESTIVAL

August 17, 2016

7:00–9:00pm

Members Event, Free. **SOLD OUT**

O-bon is an annual Buddhist memorial festival honoring the deceased. Over a three-day period in mid-summer, families gather in their hometowns across Japan to clean their *ohaka* (family graves), hang paper lanterns, make food offerings at their family *butsudan* (altars), and burn incense to welcome home the family spirits. It is an annual reminder of the importance of family ties, of respect for those who have gone before, and of the brevity and preciousness of our lives together.

Stroll the Garden in quiet contemplation before taking part in our *Toro Nagashi* (lantern floating). This traditional practice of floating lanterns in the water is thought to guide ancestral spirits back to the celestial world after their annual return during O-bon. Guests are welcomed to light a floating candle in memory of departed family and friends. As they flicker across the Garden's Upper Pond, listen to the words of the elegant *Myohorengekyo* (Lotus Sutra) by Reverend Zuigaku Kodachi.

As a final part of the ceremony, Diane Durston, the Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education will read the names of friends and relatives of Garden members who have recently passed away.



Photo: Jonathan Ley

If you are a Garden member who has recently lost a loved one and would like their name to be honored during O-bon, please email their first and last name, along with the correct pronunciation, to Nathanael Andreini: nandreini@japanesegarden.com

Reverend Kodachi is professor emeritus of Japanese language and literature at Lewis & Clark College. He received an Imperial Japanese Decoration in 2008 in honor of more than 40 years of work building cultural bridges between the United States and Japan.

Please no tripods or flash photography.

Photo: Stephen Bridges



COMING IN SEPTEMBER

O-TSUKIMI, THE MOONVIEWING FESTIVAL

September 15, 16, 17, 2016

7:00–9:00pm

\$30 for members, \$40 for non-members

Tickets required, space is limited

Tickets on sale for Garden Members starting August 9.

Tickets on sale for the public starting August 16.

On a quiet autumn evening almost 400 years ago, a retired imperial prince sat patiently on the polished bamboo floor of the veranda waiting for the moon's reflection to shimmer across the pond of one of the world's most exquisite gardens—the Katsura Imperial Villa in Kyoto. As it rose to the sky, he lifted his sake cup to catch its reflection and bring him good luck in love.

There is no better place in Portland to share the romance and mystery of the full moon than from the eastern overlook of the

Portland Japanese Garden Pavilion, with a cup of sake or tea in hand, gazing at the harvest moon as it rises above the city. But before it rises, you are invited to enjoy a peaceful stroll through the lantern-lit Garden and observe a quiet tea ceremony in the Kashintei Tea House. During this intimate evening, you will be enveloped by the elegant traditional Japanese sounds of *koto* (Japan's national stringed instrument) by Mitsuki Dazai and *Shakuhachi* (bamboo flute) by Larry Tyrell.

In the words of Matsuo Basho, the supreme Japanese haiku poet, as if speaking directly to us on the eastern overlook:

*Black cloudbank broken
scatters in the night
Now see moon-lighted mountains!*

FROM THE GARDEN GIFT STORE

BAMBOO BOOK BY ANNE CRUMPACKER

"Twenty years ago, in Tokyo, I stepped into a freshly cut, monumental bamboo installation," recalls local bamboo artist Anne Crumpacker. "In that moment I experienced a palpable elevation, the sense of deep order and connection. Since then bamboo has enchanted me, as it has artists and artisans for thousands of years."

A longtime friend of the Garden, Crumpacker's work is once again on display as part of our Art in the Garden series. Anne is one of four artists featured as part of the upcoming exhibition, *Bending Nature: Four Bamboo Artists in the Garden*.

To provide a richer context her stunning work, the Garden Gift Store is now carrying her eponymously named book. *Anne Crumpacker* features examples of the artist's 20-year fascination with bamboo and bamboo arts. The delicately-bound book showcases Crumpacker's focus on scale, contrast, and traditional Japanese aesthetics.

"My work interweaves scale and proportion—thin, medium and thick crosscut bamboo sections, the interplay of light and shadow—to create living topographies. My long immersion in Japanese aesthetics guides me as I work intuitively, following a path of discovery."

Available in the Gift Store or at store.japanesegarden.com.



store.japanesegarden.com

WASHINGTON PARK RESERVOIR IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT



In July 2016, the Portland Water Bureau and Oregon general contractor Hoffman Construction Company are moving forward with an eight-year capital improvement project to update the Washington Park reservoir site at 2403 SW Jefferson Street.

The project includes building a new, seismically reinforced below-ground reservoir. A reflecting pool will be featured on top in the same general footprint as the historical Reservoir 3. Reservoir 4 will be disconnected from the public drinking water system, and a lowland habitat area/bioswale and a reflecting pool will be constructed in the basin.



The project will span eight years. The first two years (2016-2018) will trigger the most significant impacts to traffic, transportation, and parking in the park. Washington Park users are encouraged to travel to and move safely around the park and its attractions by using the bus and light rail, walking, biking and skating, and taking the free park shuttle.

Visit trimet.org and explorewashingtonpark.org for transit options.

Upcoming Work: Current–September 11, 2016

- Erosion control
- Placement of mobile field offices
- Construction fence installation
- Tree and vegetation inspection, pruning, and clearing around the existing reservoirs and on SW Sacajawea and Sherwood Boulevards
- Disconnection of existing Reservoir 3 and 4 inlet and outlet piping
- Removal of Weir Building
- Cut and cap of old piping
- Removal of stilling tank inside Gatehouse 4

Impacts: May–September 11, 2016

- **Traffic Delays:** Travelers may experience intermittent traffic flow delays up to 20 minutes on SW Sacajawea and SW Sherwood Boulevards.
- **Parking:** All parking will remain open on SW Lewis Clark Way and SW Sacajawea and SW Sherwood Boulevards.
- **Park Facilities:** All park facilities will remain open.
- **TriMet Bus Service:** TriMet Bus Line 63 may have minor delays. Stop ID 6177 at SW Sacajawea/ Sherwood may be intermittently affected depending on pre-construction activity.

HAIKU

A SOFT LIGHT
JOINING A SOFTER NIGHT AIR
O-BON ONCE AGAIN

—PETER KENDALL

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THE GARDEN PATH

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VOLUNTEERS SHARE THE GARDEN EXHIBITION DOCENTS: LEARNING AN ARTFORM, BECOMING AN EXPERT

Inspiration, tranquility, and education are at the heart of each of our Art in the Garden exhibitions. We rely on the continuous dedication of our volunteer docents to help educate Garden guests about each exhibition and spread knowledge and relevance of Japanese culture. Our dedicated docents spend hours learning about each artists and their creations. For the current exhibition, *Bending Nature: Four Bamboo Artists* in the Garden, our docents attended off-site visits to the art studios, meet each artist and fully immerse themselves in the art form in order to pass their knowledge onto Garden guests, hoping to make each guests' experience unforgettable.

"I love learning about all the forms of art we are exposed to," said Gina McMurran, who wears many hats as a Garden volunteer. "I am always fascinated by how artists see things and their ability to express what they see," she added.



▲ Anne Crumpacker

On a warm day in late June, more than a dozen Portland Japanese Garden docent volunteers visited bamboo artist Anne Crumpacker's Portland studio. Crumpacker gave a short presentation on her background, education, and the inspiration behind her pieces.

"I'm really pleased to have an inside look at things. It will make me a better and more informed docent. I think knowing about the artists' own journeys helps me as a docent when I am talking with visitors. They are always very interested in knowing about the artists themselves," said Alice Rogan, a docent volunteer.

After they attended the tour, we asked each volunteer what inspired them and what they liked the most about the exhibition orientations.

"I learn so much each time I do this. It inspires my creative nature and I've enjoyed the fascinating artists that we've had the good fortune to meet," said Margaret Keeler, a tour guide and exhibition docent since 2009.

In May, Bamboo artist Charissa Brock hosted about two dozen docent volunteers in her studio just outside Portland. She walked through her bamboo sculpture-making process from start to finish using a variety of traditional hand tools and knives. She answered volunteer questions and passed around examples of her work, explaining each stage of the process.

"These events inform other areas of my life, including my own artwork. My understanding of the depth of an ancient Eastern culture is increased by these special events that the Garden lines up. I can now pass along my own enthusiasm about the art to Garden visitors," said longtime exhibition volunteer Lee Haga.



▲ Charissa Brock

STAY UPDATED ANYTIME. As the Cultural Crossing buildings take shape, the updates get more and more interesting. See the up-to-the minute photographs of the project with our live webcams, read back stories you may have missed, and read in-depth articles like this one:

CULTURAL CROSSING: BACK TO THEIR ROOTS

During the first two months of construction for the Cultural Crossing expansion, all of the plants and trees on the hill as you approach the Garden (de Weese Hill) were removed to prepare for the first phase of the project. Because many of the plants were gifts from the personal collection of Bill de Weese, one of the Garden's earliest supporters, it was extremely important to our team of gardeners to preserve as many as possible.

Our gardeners prepared the plants to move to a holding facility at Teufel Holly Farms, the landscape general contractor under Hoffman Construction. To ensure minimal stress and the best possible chance of survival, the plants were carefully trimmed and pruned, and given generous amounts of water with a drip irrigation system. Our gardeners participated for the experience and to learn the process. Working with an arborist, they made sure that all the trees' roots were properly cut, avoiding any damage. The larger trees were lifted out using a special crane for root balling, and moved to Teufel Holly Farms.

The carefully planned precautions ensures good health for the trees, which have a second life in their new landscape design once they return home to the Garden.

Now, the trees are back.

Well, some are...

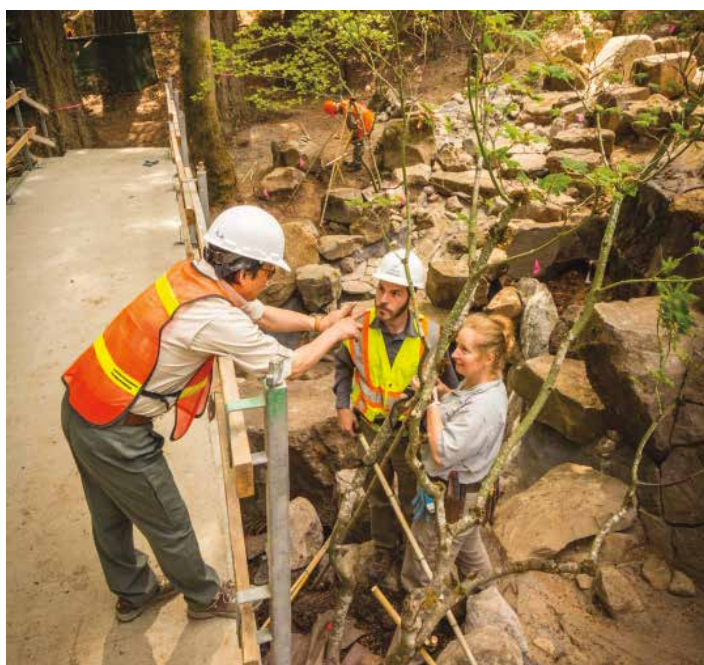
To read the rest of this story, we invite you to visit our blog at culturalcrossing.com/stayupdated



▲ Garden Curator, Sadafumi Uchiyama smiles while overseeing the placement of trees



▲ Head Gardener, Michael Kondo works near the creek bed



▲ Uchiyama consults with Senior Gardener, Adam Hart and Garden Technician, Heike Edossa

THE CAMPAIGN FOR A CULTURAL CROSSING

Contributions received through June 20, 2016



The Cultural Crossing project will enable the Garden to extend its legacy and purpose—providing a heightened sense of beauty and tranquility and more educational opportunities while preserving significant cultural traditions and art forms. The Garden re-opened as scheduled on March 1st while construction of the Cultural Crossing project continues for another year. To complete these beautiful and much-needed new facilities, we are asking for your help in making this dream project a reality. As our most loyal and generous members, your participation is vital.

We hope you will join us. Every gift makes a difference!

\$5,000,000 and above

Arlene Schnitzer in honor of Jordan D. Schnitzer's 20-year service to the Portland Japanese Garden

\$2,000,000 to \$4,999,999

Anonymous

\$1,000,000 to \$1,999,999

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STRENGTH AND FLEXIBILITY LEAD TO SUCCESS

Our Cultural Crossing project is in full swing and the buildings have begun taking shape. Sometimes, construction projects can get behind or over budget at this stage in the game—but the Garden is right on track for our April 2017 Grand Opening. That's largely due to the hard work of Joshua Faulkner, Hoffman Construction, Project Superintendent. This month, while we feature bamboo as a natural and flexible element, there's no better time to talk about Faulkner's strength and flexibility with the Cultural Crossing project:

Would you say this is a complex project?

"We're dealing with angles, design edges, and general abnormalities that we typically do not see on many of our projects. There's also a level of craftsmanship that we are not used to seeing except for very small custom projects. While at first glance, this may seem like a small project, it is anything but small. We are working in multiple areas of a fairly large campus and have many different types of work all going on at once."

What challenges have been unique to the location?

"This winter was one of the wettest on record in Oregon. We were in the midst of mass excavation, concrete slabs, shoring walls, shotcrete, and concrete masonry unit (CMU) walls. Most of this work is difficult on its own, but add in weather difficulties and everything slows way down. We've had to figure out how to put these buildings together in alternate sequences. I have changed the sequence of this project at least four times due to weather issues and access issues. Flexibility is key to any project."

Any other unusual challenges?

"Not only are we located within a park, we are also within the midst of a neighborhood. I have done some door to door with the neighbors just to introduce myself and discuss any of their concerns with the project and our process. I have an open door policy with my office, so anyone that has any questions or concerns can visit me at any time."

Can you tell me what has made you successful in leading this complex project?

"I think that may be better answered at the end...by others. My job is to find a way to convince everyone that we absolutely can do the impossible. I have to put the experts in a spot to be successful. While I provide the vision on how and when we get to the finish line safely, the rest of the team has the opportunity to shine every step of the way."



"MY JOB IS TO FIND A WAY TO CONVINCE EVERYONE THAT WE ABSOLUTELY CAN DO THE IMPOSSIBLE."

—Joshua Faulkner,
Hoffman Construction

For more photos and insights from Mr. Faulkner, go to culturalcrossing.com/stayupdated



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Golden Crane Legacy Members have named the Garden as the ultimate beneficiary of a planned gift. We are grateful to the following people for letting us know of their plans to support the Garden in this thoughtful way.

Carole Beauclerk
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We are grateful to the following individuals and families for their generous estate/bequest gifts received by the Garden:

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If you would like to include the Garden in your estate plans, or if you have already done so and would allow us to list you as a Legacy Member, please contact Development Director Tom Cirillo at (503) 595-5225 or tcirillo@japanesegarden.com

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Including our Global Ambassador Members, Sponsors of our 2014 New York Launch Event, and Donors contributing \$500 in the past 12 months and located more than 120 Miles from Portland, Oregon.

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Photo: Tyler Quinn

"THE BEST TIME TO PLANT A TREE WAS
20 YEARS AGO. THE SECOND BEST
TIME IS NOW." –CHINESE PROVERB

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Member Only Hours:

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March 12–September 30

Monday: Noon–7pm

Tuesday–Sunday: 10am–7pm

Fall/Winter Public Hours:

October 1–March 11

Monday: Noon–4pm

Tuesday–Sunday: 10am–4pm

Public Tour Schedule:

Daily at Noon

Garden Shuttle Service:

Free service available Monday–Friday once per hour on the hour; service available Saturday–Sunday every 15 minutes

Helpful Numbers:

Main Gate (503) 223-1321

Membership Services (503) 796-9180

Development (503) 542-0281

Garden Gift Store (503) 223-5055

Events Department (503) 542-0280

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Street Address:

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japanesegarden.com

Photo: Jonathan Ley

CULTURAL CROSSING: OUR MEMBERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

In March, we challenged our members to raise \$1.3 million for the Cultural Crossing expansion project. At the heart of our Garden are its plants, the core ingredient for any garden. Would you consider a gift in honor of the many new trees, shrubs, and plants being added as part of the Garden's expansion?

Red Pine — \$2,500

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