

# The Garden Path

*Monzenmachi*

March/April 2018



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2018 Featured Events

FRONT COVER *Jeremy Bitterman*  
BACK COVER *Julia Taylor*

**HAIKU**

Falling with the rain  
a white camellia blossom  
The moss darkens  
–Peter Kendall

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**THE GARDEN PATH**

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Email [marketing@japanesegarden.org](mailto:marketing@japanesegarden.org)

Dear Members,

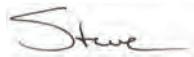
It has been nearly a year since we opened the beautiful new Cultural Crossing buildings and garden spaces and what a year it has been! We were pleased to have *Architectural Record* name this project one of their Top Ten Picks in the world for 2017. When the American Institute of Architects in Portland presented the Honor Award to this project, the jurors stated that this “is the Gold Standard for what should be done next.” The Umami Café was recently named the most beautiful place to get your caffeine fix in Oregon by *Architectural Digest*.

The recognition this project has received has certainly been gratifying. But it is what the new spaces allow us to do that is the most rewarding. They are our *monzenmachi* – a place where all guests can linger, explore, share, visit, and learn while the Garden itself remains a quiet, restorative place.

The other day I stopped in the Jordan Schnitzer Learning Center and marveled at the Jane Stimson Miller Living Room: it was packed full of people, all captivated by the koto concert taking place. The week before that, I watched more than 50 people gathered around the Cathy Rudd Cultural Corner, observing a tea demonstration, artfully performed by members of *Kashintei Kai*, who later answered question after question from the audience about the ancient art form. It’s been the same every week! People come expecting to see a beautiful garden and then find themselves staying longer – intrigued, curious, and eager to learn more about Japanese traditions and culture.

The Garden has always been a path to cultural understanding. But if we’ve learned anything about Japanese culture, we know that it is as simple and as complex as the beautiful Noh masks we had here last October. I am thrilled that this organization can now offer paths to cultural understanding that lead in so many more directions. All beautiful, all fascinating, all unique. In this way, we can truly share the ideals upon which this Garden was built, the ideals which connect Portland to Japan and Japan to the world: the art of craft, the connection to nature, and the experience of peace.

Sincerely,



Steve Bloom



Christina Sjogren

PS – I hope you’ll use the special tear-out in this issue to mark your calendar for some of the exciting events we have planned for you. *The Year of Kyoto* is shaping up to be our best year yet!

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## March

- 2/3-** *Hanakago:*  
**4/1** *The Art of Bamboo and Flowers*
- 
- 2-4** Cultural Corner Décor:  
Hina Dolls
- 
- 3** *Hina Matsuri*, The Doll Festival
- 
- 10** Cultural Demonstration: *Koto*
- 
- 11** Cultural Demonstration: *Bonsai*
- 
- 15** Lecture by Jake Hobson -  
*Niwaki: Interpreting Garden Trees*  
Outside of Japan
- 
- 17-** Garden Workshop:  
**18** Bamboo Fence Building
- 
- 17** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 18** Cultural Demonstration: *Bonsai*
- 
- 22** Heart and Soul of Ikebana  
by Professor Kimiko Gunji
- 
- 24-** Oregon Camellia Society Exhibition  
**25**
- 
- 28** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 29** Cultural Demonstration: *Koto*
- 
- 31** Cultural Demonstration: Tea

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## April

- 1** Cultural Demonstration: *Bonsai*
- 
- 4** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 6** Colin Currie: Oregon Symphony's  
Artist-in-Residence
- 
- 7** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 7-8** Saga Goryu Ikebana Exhibition
- 
- 8** Cultural Demonstration: *Ikebana*
- 
- 11** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 14** Cultural Demonstration: *Koto*
- 
- 15** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 18** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 19** Lecture by Balazs Bognar - Tradition  
Serving the Future: Lessons from  
the Portland Japanese Garden's New  
Architecture
- 
- 21** *Chado*, The Way of Tea
- 
- 22** Cultural Demonstration: *Ikebana*
- 
- 25** Cultural Demonstration: Tea
- 
- 28-** Bonsai Society Exhibition  
**29**
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- 28** Cultural Demonstration: *Koto*
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- 29** Cultural Demonstration: *Ikebana*

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For more information, please check [japanesegarden.org/events](http://japanesegarden.org/events) or call 503-542-0280.



Jonathan Ley

## *Hina Matsuri*

**March 3, 2018**  
11am-2pm  
Jordan Schnitzer Japanese Arts Learning Center

Bring the whole family to this year's celebration of *Hina Matsuri*, the Doll Festival. Dress your little ones up in traditional cotton *yukatas*, create beautiful floral arrangements in the kids' *ikebana* workshop, and view an exquisite seven-tiered display of festival dolls, a generous gift from the Loen and Sho Dozono Family to the Garden in 2008.

The Garden is proud to display this extraordinary collection of costumed figures depicting imperial courtiers amid a full complement of beautifully lacquered furnishings. The Hina Dolls décor will be on view in the Cultural Corner from March 2-4.

## Oregon Camellia Society Exhibition

**March 24 - 25, 2018**  
Garden Hours  
Yanai Classroom

The Oregon Camellia Society will be offering a special treat to Garden visitors this weekend. In what has almost become an annual tradition, the society will be presenting an informally judged show of the same sort of lovely Asian camellias that you'll see in bloom throughout the Garden. Scores of flowers, from miniature to very large and in many shapes, colors, and patterns will be on display. Exhibits of camellia culture, art, and history will also be featured. Society members will be present to answer your questions. This show is free with Garden admission.

## Summer Hours Begin

**March 12, 2018**

The Garden will switch over to Summer Hours beginning Monday, March 12.

**Monday:** Noon-7pm  
**Tuesday - Sunday:** 10am-7pm  
*Last General Admission is at 6:30pm*

## Photographer Member Hours

**April 11, 2018**  
6:30 - 8am  
*Photographer members only*

Photographer members are invited to capture the Garden in Spring's light.

## Extended Member Hours

**April 20, 2018**  
6:30 - 8am  
*Members and guests only*

Members and your guests, watch the sunrise at the Garden on Friday, April 20 during our special extended hours.



1

## The Unfolding Journey *of the* Cultural Crossing

Early in its design phase, the remarkable setting for the Cultural Crossing expansion reminded Portland Japanese Garden Curator Sadafumi Uchiyama of the concept of *satoyama*, a Japanese term describing the transition zone between the wild mountain foothills and the arable flat land. *Sato* means arable and livable land, and *yama* means hill or mountain.

Water hypnotically starts your journey from the stair-stepped waterfalls around the Welcome Center to the pools (see photo 2) along the zig-zag path. Just beyond the Antique Gate, you hear the unseen bubbling spring at the base of the hill.

Continuing your ascent across Sheila's Bridge under the cantilevered Umami Café, you come to the upper creek with scattered broken boulders of basalt implying the wildness of the mountain landscape to come.

Uchiyama says the primary binding element of this journey is water as the "source of life" which has so much symbolism for both Japan and Portland. The Japanese Way of Tea provides a powerful lesson in how we should live in harmony with nature. Its principles of *Wa-Kei-Sei-Jaku* (harmony, respect, purity, and tranquility) have informed the design of Japanese gardens since the 15th century. Tea culture teaches wisdom and is manifested in plants, the abundant moisture of the rainy northwest climate, and the great Columbia River.

“ The four principles of tea are related to the flow of water; the flow of wisdom from the Japanese Garden at its highest point, from our rooftops, under Sheila's bridge, and down through the Entry Garden. It ultimately meets the force of life; the mighty Columbia," said Uchiyama.

Water has played an important role in Uchiyama's life. He was born in Kurume, a small town on the southern Japanese island of Kyushu. The famous Takachiho Gorge near Uchiyama's hometown inspired him to design the Jubitz Oregon Terrace (see photo 3). It is one of the few places in the world with naturally formed columnar basalt.

“ When I see basalt, that's where my mind goes, but I never tried in a conscious way to equate it to the Takachiho Gorge (see photo 1). It's where I am most familiar with columns of basalt. So when I saw it, somehow my brain registered my upbringing. I was probably following that as a design guideline," he said.

His vision of the overall site design and new gardens was to create a subtle unfolding journey from the cacophonous noise of modern life to the peaceful tranquility of the existing garden oasis.

“ I realized at the end of the process what was guiding me. I didn't necessarily try to recreate or mimic those features, but somehow, maybe subconsciously I was following that journey of water.”



2



3

- 1 Sara Winter / shutterstock.com
- 2 Tyler Quinn
- 3 Bruce Forster

# Garden Workshops: Come to Understand



1

A visit to the Garden can evoke many feelings: serenity, joy, and often curiosity. It brings about questions like, “how did that pine get its beautiful contours?” and “how did they craft that bamboo fence?” While hearing an explanation is certainly enlightening, a hands-on learning experience of actually doing a task can leave a more profound impression.

Giving enthusiasts a sense of a Japanese gardener’s craft through garden workshops is part of the Garden’s dedication to providing educational programming that cultivates a deeper understanding of the Japanese garden and its related cultural practices. The garden workshops cover topics including pine and maple pruning, bamboo fence construction, *nobedan* (pavement construction), and the New Year’s tradition of *kadomatsu*.



2

All of the workshops are taught by Garden staff. Not only can they explain the skills and techniques for the given subject, but they can draw firsthand examples for explanation from the Garden itself.

Because the instructors are dedicated to providing a learning experience grounded in authenticity, materials for these workshops can be difficult or time-consuming to procure. Further, the combination of lectures and hands-on experience requires a low student-instructor ratio, so the number of participants is strictly limited for each event. Sometimes it isn’t possible to get a space on the first try. Participant feedback, though, suggests it’s worth the wait.

Portland architect and longtime Garden member, Paige Gogonian attended the 2017 bamboo fence construction workshop and said the experience surpassed her expectations.

“ The hands-on approach and camaraderie created by staff allowed me to learn with my entire body, not just my brain. The workshop was a challenge, a pleasure, and ultimately, very satisfying and enlightening.

1 Jonathan Ley  
2 Tyler Quinn





*Jonathan Ley*

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### **2018 GARDEN WORKSHOP SERIES**

2018's Garden Workshop series kicks off with Bamboo Fence Construction from March 17-18. Though that workshop is already sold out, the following workshops remain:

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#### **MAPLE PRUNING**

June 23 and August 18, 2018

#### **PINE PRUNING**

November 3, 2018

#### **KADOMATSU**

December 8, 2018

Ticket information can be found on [japanesegarden.org/events](http://japanesegarden.org/events)

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### **2018 SEMINAR APPLICATION DEADLINES**

"Waza to Kokoro – Hands and Heart" is an intensive training seminar in the art of the Japanese garden with special focus on the use of stone. This holistic learning experience is woven from threads of garden history, Japanese aesthetics, design, stonework, pruning, traditional tool use and care, tea ceremony, and food culture.

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#### **INTERMEDIATE LEVEL**

July 19-30, 2018

*Due February 28, 2018*

#### **BEGINNER LEVEL**

September 20-27, 2018

*Due March 31, 2018*

Learn more at: [japanesegarden.org/thecenter](http://japanesegarden.org/thecenter)



Meg Nanna

## Hanakago: The Art of Bamboo and Flowers

Now through April 1, our Art in the Garden exhibition *Hanakago: The Art of Bamboo and Flowers* features bamboo baskets (*kago*) that have been woven as vessels for the display of flowers (*hana*). Each weekend throughout the exhibition, ikebana arrangements will be on view in a selection of *hanakago*.

The exhibition highlights exquisite bamboo masterpieces from Portland collector Peter Shinbach's bamboo art collection. In addition to classical flower baskets, the exhibition includes contemporary sculpture that challenges traditional notions of bamboo weaving and demonstrates new directions for this ancient art form. The Tanabe Gallery features additional bamboo work courtesy of TAI Modern Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico, available for purchase in our Gift Shop.



Jonathan Ley

### IKEBANA DEMONSTRATION

With its origins entwined in Kyoto at the Rokkakudo temple, Ikenobo is one of the oldest schools of ikebana flower arrangement in Japan. Around 1400 years ago, priests made floral offerings to the Buddha. These priests lived near a pond (*'ike'*) in a small hut (*'bo'*) and thus began to be called by the name 'Ikenobo'

Kimiko Gunji Sensei, Associate Professor of Japanese Arts and Culture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, (pictured above), has joined us in the

past as a respected teacher of Japanese tea and kokoro ('heart', 'mind', or 'spirit') for the International Japanese Garden Training Center. We are honored that Gunji Sensei will be joining us again, this time to give a demonstration of Ikenobo ikebana as part of the bamboo basket and flower exhibition, *Hanakago*.

Learn more about the March 22 ikebana demonstration at [japanesegarden.org/events](http://japanesegarden.org/events)

# Garden Expressions:

## 2018 Public Lecture Series



1

With the first days of spring comes a brisk current of fresh ideas, courtesy of Garden Expressions, the Garden's public lecture series. On March 15, author, pruning expert, and sculptor Jake Hobson (see photo 1) will contrast eastern and western approaches to pruning in a thought-provoking discussion of how culture influences the way we shape the plants in our garden. Hobson, one of the U.K.'s leading topiary and pruning specialists, presents a unique approach to his craft shaped by his time in Japan and his creative background as a sculptor. Hobson's book, *Niwaki: Pruning, Training and Shaping Trees the Japanese Way* (Timber) will be for sale and signing at the event.



2

On April 19, architect Balazs Bognar (see photo 2) of Kengo Kuma and Associates will visit the Garden to reflect on how the architectural forms and philosophies of the past can be reinterpreted to determine the future design of the buildings in which we live and work. Bognar will explore themes of materials, details, methods, processes, and spatial experience to propose a design approach for generations to come. The event offers the rare opportunity to experience the Garden's new spaces while hearing Bognar articulate the ideas that inspired them.

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The Garden Expressions public lecture series is presented by the International Japanese Garden Training Center and is made possible with support from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. Jake Hobson's lecture is presented by Hasegawa Kogyo Co., Ltd. Balazs Bognar's lecture is presented by Hacker Architects.

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For times and ticket purchases, please visit:

[japanesegarden.org/events](http://japanesegarden.org/events)

1 James Bowden

2 Miko Hayashi

# Annual Fund Donations

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Cumulative giving to the Annual Fund from January 16, 2017 through January 15, 2018

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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 residing more than 120 miles from Portland, Oregon.

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## Tribute Gifts & Donations

Memorials and Honoraria  
11/16/2017 - 1/15/2018

### IN HONOR OF MICHAEL KONDO

Mona M. Ozaki  
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### IN MEMORY OF THERESA PFEFFER

Dave Weaver



## Golden Crane Legacy Society

Members of the Golden Crane Legacy Society 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 enduring way.

Legacy Members receive invitations to Golden Crane special events and receptions.

Carole Beauclerk  
Barbara Bell  
Diane Benjamin  
Melanie Billings-Yun  
Stephen Bloom & Michael Blankenship  
Judith L. Bradley & David L. Mitchell  
Susan Coe Brown  
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Mr. Ernie Stoddard  
Ann & John Symons  
Ms. Carmen Wong  
And those who wish to remain anonymous (2)

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 Chief Development Officer Tom Cirillo at (503) 595-5225 or [tcirillo@japanesegarden.org](mailto:tcirillo@japanesegarden.org)

We are grateful to the following individuals and families for their generous bequests and estate gifts to the Garden:

Nancy Beamer  
Clarence Bobbe  
Barbara Cyrus  
Stanley L. Davis Trust  
Bill Findlay  
Robert W. Franz  
John R. Gatewood

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Elizabeth Ann Hinds  
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Beverly Merrill

Jack O. Rickli  
Jeaneatta Sautter  
The James W. Skog Trust  
Toya Family Trust: George, Sonoya, Georgene, & Evelyn  
David E. Wedge Trust



1

# One Year Anniversary

2

*Guests at the Moonviewing Festival enjoy beautiful music from accomplished Koto Harpist, Mitsuki Dazai, while in the Jane Stimson Miller Living Room.*



2

3

*Garden visitors enjoy a walk-through in the Tanabe Gallery led by artist Bidou Yamaguchi as part of his self-titled exhibition.*



3

- 1 James Florio
- 2-5 Jonathan Ley
- 6 Portland Japanese Garden / Shochiku Co., Ltd

4  
*At Children's Day, or Kodomo no Hi, families enjoy taiko drumming and other activities throughout the Cultural Village.*



5  
*Chado, the Way of Tea is intrinsically linked to Japanese gardens, and we're honored to partner with members of Kashintei Kai Tea Society who generously donate their time to demonstrate this ancient and beautiful art form in the Cathy Rudd Cultural Corner.*



6  
*Set against the lush backdrop of the Portland Japanese Garden, the talented Nakamura Umemaru marked his U.S. debut in Tenaraiiko, one of the best known dances in the Kabuki repertoire.*



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Every time you walk through the Cultural Village, you get a taste of Kyoto. Kengo Kuma has noted his primary inspiration for designing the Cultural Village is Katsura Imperial Villa, which is located in the western suburbs of Kyoto. Though built in the 17th century, Katsura Villa has impressed modern architects, including Taut, Gropius, and Le Corbusier, with its clean, elegant, and modern design.

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**GARDEN WORKSHOPS & CLASSES**

On Sale

3/17-18	Bamboo Fence Building Workshop	SOLD OUT
6/23	Maple Pruning Workshop	GC: 3/7 Members: 3/14
7/19-30	Waza to Kokoro: Hands and Heart Seminar - Intermediate Level	Applications Due 2/28
9/18	Maple Pruning Workshop	GC: 5/16 Members: 5/23
9/20-27	Waza to Kokoro: Hands and Heart Seminar - Intermediate Level	Applications Due 3/31
9/29-10/1	2018 International Japanese Garden Conference	
11/3	Pine Pruning Workshop	GC: 8/1 Members: 8/8
12/8	Kadomatsu Workshop	GC: 8/22 Members: 8/29

**GARDEN EXPRESSIONS LECTURE SERIES**

3/15 2pm & 4pm	Jake Hobson - <i>Niwaki</i> : Interpreting Garden Trees Outside of Japan	SOLD OUT
4/19 2pm & 4pm	Balazs Bognar - Tradition Serving the Future: Lessons from the Garden's New Architecture	GC: 3/7 Members: 3/14
5/24 1:30pm & 4pm	Ann McClellan - Bonsai: Tiny Trees, Big Stories	GC: 4/11 Members: 4/18

**FOOD & DRINK EVENTS**

6/3	<i>Art of the Table</i> Food Series: Kinmata Kaiseki at Shizuku	GC: 4/18 Members: 4/25
7/13	<i>Art of the Table</i> Food Series: Takawaka Sushi at Pavilion	GC: 5/23 Members: 5/30
10/25	Sake Tasting with Joto Sake	GC: 9/5 Members: 9/12
11/8	Wine Tasting with Torii Mor (Member-only)	GC: 9/19 Members: 9/26

**ART IN THE GARDEN EXHIBITIONS**

2/3-4/1	<i>Hanakago: The Art of Bamboo and Flowers</i>
5/12-7/8	<i>Shokunin: Five Leading Artisans from Kyoto</i>
9/15-11/4	<i>Gion Matsuri: The World's Oldest Urban Festival</i>
12/1/18-1/14/19	<i>Manga Hokusai Manga</i>

**CULTURAL EVENTS***On Sale*

3/3	<i>Hina Matsuri</i> , the Doll Festival	
3/24-25	Oregon Camellia Society Exhibition	
4/7-8	Saga Goryu Ikebana Exhibition	
4/28-29	Bonsai Society Exhibition	
5/6	<i>Kodomo No Hi</i> , Children's Day	
5/19-20	Ohara Seattle Ikebana Exhibition	
7/7	<i>Tanabata</i> , the Star Festival	
8/8-9	<i>O-Bon</i> , the Spirit Festival	GC: 6/20 Members: 6/27
9/23-25	<i>O-Tsukimi</i> , the Moonviewing Festival	GC: 8/1 Members: 8/8
10/6-7	Ryuseiha Ikebana Exhibition	
10/13-14	Ohara Portland Ikebana Exhibition	
10/20-21	Ikebana International Exhibition	
10/27-28	Sogetsu Ikebana Exhibition	
11/3-4	Ikenobo Ikebana Exhibition	
12/16	Koto Harp Holiday Concert	

**GOLDEN CRANE EVENTS**

5/11	Opening Reception - <i>Shokunin: Five Leading Artisans from Kyoto</i>	
6/21	Golden Crane Annual Reception	
7/20	Behind the Shoji Golden Crane Preview	
9/14	Opening Reception - <i>Gion Matsuri: The World's Oldest Urban Festival</i>	
11/30	Opening Reception - <i>Manga Hokusai Manga</i>	

**MEMBER EVENTS**

5/14	Annual Meeting of the Members	
5/26, 10/6, 12/8	Member Exhibition Exclusives	
6/7, 7/5, 8/16	Twilight Hours (Patron and Steward members)	
7/20	Behind the Shoji Member Preview	
8/4	55th Anniversary Gala Dinner	TBD

All events are subject to change. Please visit [japanesegarden.org/events](http://japanesegarden.org/events) for up-to-date event information and on sale dates.