



Fact Sheet

A look inside Portland Japanese Garden

Address:

611 SW Kingston Ave
Portland, Oregon 97205

Website: japanesegarden.org

Phone: 503.223.1321

Email: info@japanesegarden.org

Hours:

Summer Public Hours (March 12 - Sept. 30):

- Monday: Noon - 7 p.m.
- Tuesday - Sunday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Winter Public Hours (Oct. 1 - March 11)

- Monday: Noon - 4 p.m.
- Tuesday - Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Quick Facts:

- Year Established: 1963
- Total Annual Attendance: 453,000 anticipated in 2018
- Total Acreage: 8 public gardens spread over 12 acres
- Total Volunteers: 300
- Total Members: 18,750
- Total Staff: 122 (during peak season)
- Total Operating Budget: \$11 million

Key Personnel:

Stephen Bloom, *Chief Executive Officer*

Cynthia Johnson Haruyama, *Deputy Director*

Sadafumi Uchiyama, *Garden Curator*

Diane Durston, *Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art & Education*

Akihito Nakanishi, *Director of Programming*

Dorie Vollum, *Board of Trustees President*

Pricing:

Adults: \$16.95

Seniors (65+): \$14.50

College Students (with ID): \$13.50

Youth (6 - 17): \$11.50

Children 5 and under: free

Photos, Videos & Logos:

- [Click here](#) for Photos of the Garden & its Cultural Programming
- [Click here](#) for Videos & B-roll
- [Click here](#) for Logos

About Portland Japanese Garden

For more than 55 years, Portland Japanese Garden has been a haven of serenity and tranquility, nestled in the scenic West Hills of Portland, OR. It is considered the most authentic Japanese garden outside of Japan and one of the

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foremost Japanese cultural organizations in North America. As a top visitor destination in Oregon, Portland Japanese Garden originally served 30,000 annual visitors. The Garden now welcomes more than 450,000 guests per year, a number that continues to grow year-over-year.

The Garden was established with five distinct garden styles, each of which share a sense of peace, harmony and tranquility:

- *Flat Garden (hira-niwa)*: In a garden such as this one, the designer worked to balance the relationship between the flat planes (the ground) and the volume of stones and clipped shrubbery and trees to create a sense of depth of space;
- *Strolling Pond Garden (chisen kaiyu shiki teien)*: This garden consists of Upper and Lower Ponds connected by an enticing stream. The Upper Pond features a Moon Bridge, while the Lower Pond has a zig-zag (yatsubashi) bridge through beds of iris against the backdrop of a stunning waterfall;
- *Tea Garden (cha-niwa or roji)*: A Japanese tea garden is a place for quiet reflection on the beauty of nature and the art of living in harmony with one another and with all things;
- *Natural Garden (zoki no niwa)*: The Natural Garden was created to be an environment that encourages visitors to rest, relax, and reflect on the very essence and brevity of life; and
- *Sand and Stone Garden (karesansui)*: Gardens of raked sand (or gravel) and stone are referred to as karesansui (literally, “dry landscape”) gardens.

With the 2017 Cultural Village expansion, the Garden introduced three new gardens, designed to immediately immerse visitors in the experience and demonstrate a wider array of Japanese garden styles and techniques, including:

- *Entry Garden*: a water garden of cascading ponds that continues along a zigzagged walk up a terraced stone pathway through Japanese maples, Pacific Northwest native plants and towering Douglas Firs.
- *Tsubo-niwa Garden*: known otherwise as “courtyard garden,” this garden style originated throughout Japan in the Heian period. These garden vignettes provide organic relief in the small open spaces between buildings.
- *Ellie M. Hill Bonsai Terrace* – The Portland Japanese Garden partners with local bonsai practitioners in Portland and from around the region. Bonsai on the Terrace will be rotated frequently, giving returning visitors a chance to see many different bonsai species and styles

The *Bill de Weese Chabana Research Garden* will grow native Japanese flowers as seasonal centerpieces for *chado* (tea ceremony), furthering the Garden’s education focus. This research garden, housed on a steep terrain, is the first of its kind in North America.

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A Global Center for Culture, Art, and Education

Under the leadership of Diane Durston, Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education, the Portland Japanese Garden has endeavored to be not only a place of beauty and tranquility but also of learning. For many visitors, the Portland Japanese Garden is the closest they will ever come to experiencing the land and culture of Japan. The Garden is a living “classroom” that offers tremendous opportunities for experiential learning to all who enter its gates.

The Portland Japanese Garden has expanded its programming to host traditional Japanese festivals, artist demonstrations, art exhibitions, and classes throughout the year.

At the heart of the Garden’s programming is its celebrated *Art in the Garden* series. Each year, this series presents the work of Japanese artists – or those inspired by Japanese design or traditions – to explore the ideas and aesthetics integral to the fabric of life in Japan.

2018: The Year of Kyoto

Celebrating the Traditions and Artistry of the Ancient Capital of Japan

For the first time this year, the cultural programs of the Portland Japanese Garden focus on an entire region of Japan to celebrate the fine craftsmanship, music, festivals, and cuisine of Kyoto, the capital of Japan for more than 1100 years.

HANAKAGO: The Art of Bamboo and Flowers

February 3 – April 1

Our first exhibition of 2018, *Hanakago*, (flower basket), features more exquisite bamboo masterpieces from Portland resident Peter Shinbach’s incredible bamboo art collection, highlighted by the ikebana art of Mrs. Etsuho Kakihana, master teacher of ikebana of the Saga Goryu School at Daikakuji, one of Kyoto’s oldest and most revered Buddhist Temples. Kakihana sensei travels from Portland with two prominent ikebana teachers to celebrate Kyoto with floral displays for the exhibition opening. [Learn more here.](#)

SHOKUNIN: Five Leading Artisans from Kyoto

May 12 – July 8

Home to the Emperors of Japan for more than 10 centuries, Kyoto was also home to Japan’s greatest *shokunin*, or fine artisans. This exhibition brings the work of five of Kyoto’s finest artisans to Portland to show their work in lacquer, ceramics, wood, and bamboo. The theme is *shitsurai*, the seasonal arrangement of objects that creates a harmonious environment which includes the Garden itself. [Learn more here.](#)

GION MATSURI, the World’s Oldest Urban Festival

September 15 – November 4

The Gion Festival was named for Kyoto’s famed Gion entertainment district, the birthplace of Kabuki and the world of geisha. This 900-year-old festival in Kyoto is said to be the longest running urban festival in the world, and is

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perhaps Japan's most famous. It consists of a procession of elaborately decorated floats representing all the provinces of Japan. This exhibition will be illustrated by a virtual wall of video monitors in the configuration of Japanese folding screens, which will present the festival procession as the people of Kyoto pull multi-ton, highly decorated wooden floats through the streets of the city this year as they have for the past 10 centuries. [Learn more here.](#)

MANGA HOKUSAI MANGA

December 1, 2018 – January 14, 2019

In December, the Portland Japanese Garden will be the only venue in the United States to feature famous manga woodblock prints by the world famous Japanese artist Katsushika Hokusai, (1760-1849), juxtaposed with work by top modern manga artists. *Manga Hokusai Manga* will introduce some of the similarities and differences between modern Japanese *manga* (illustrated magazines), which now enjoy worldwide popularity, and *Hokusai Manga*, a collection of superb illustrations by the ukiyo-e artist Hokusai. With the generous support of the Japan Foundation, the Manga Hokusai Manga exhibition will run the entire month of December. [Learn more here.](#)

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