The silent rhythms of a forest waterfall and the breaking buds

– Peter Kendall

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THE GARDEN PATH

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS
Email marketing@japanesegarden.org
Dear Members,

It has been such an honor as a Board Member to serve Portland Japanese Garden for the past ten years. As incoming Board President, I see an even greater opportunity to serve, guide, and help lead our Garden into the future. May I say the future is bright.

Before venturing forward, let me tell you a little about the past and my family connection to the Garden. Take a walk with me and imagine standing under the Wisteria Arbor that marks the entrance to the Strolling Pond Garden. Now look to the right at the pergola post in front of you. There is a wisteria planted at the base of the post. My dad planted that wisteria. I have a photo from an article in The Oregonian showing him planting it 57 years ago. He had a big smile on his face!

Portland Japanese Garden was designed and built by people who had a vision of bringing peace between Portland and Sapporo and between the United States and Japan. The people who designed and built the Garden looked for things in common between the people of both countries rather than things that divide. The love of nature and gardening in Japan and in the great Pacific Northwest was the perfect path to find common ground and to grow roots for a strong relationship. Gardens are a place where family relationships can grow strong and where new friends can be made.

I mentioned earlier the future is bright and it is. We are a team - the Garden staff, Members, our local community, Foundation Board members, Volunteers and the Board of Trustees - that strives to accomplish remarkable things. The Japan Institute is a great example. Imagine people traveling to Portland from nearly every country to study Japanese landscaping, culture, art, and music. Would we not find more things in common and fewer things to argue about!

My dad (Robert Snodgrass) fought in World War II. He was with the 10th Mountain Division. He battled on skis in the Alps of Northern Italy. The war caused him to hate the enemy. After the war, he started a garden center and landscape company. Planting the wisteria at the base of the pergola started his personal healing journey that lasted a lifetime. Gardens can do just that. I was fortunate to witness it happen then, and to see it manifested in our future. I invite you to come enjoy the peace and togetherness that Portland Japanese Garden offers.

With gratitude,

Drake Snodgrass
### Special Events & Festivals

#### Iris Society Show

**June 18, 2022 / 10am - 4pm**

Come celebrate the elegant beauty of irises on June 18. The Greater Portland Iris Society returns to the Garden after many years to present a special, judged show of two varieties of late-season irises.

#### Annual Golden Crane Reception

**July 30, 2022 / 6:30 - 9pm**

This open house-style event entails light appetizers and refreshments, live music, and an opportunity to shop the curated summer marketplace, *Behind the Shoji*. The evening features a special guest speaker from London — Richard Deverell, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew — plus, an announcement from Steve Bloom, CEO of Portland Japanese Garden.

*Interested in learning more about the Golden Crane Recognition Society? Contact Director of Development Edwina Kane at ekane@japanesegarden.org*

Go to [japanesegarden.org/events/annualreception2022](http://japanesegarden.org/events/annualreception2022) to RSVP by June 15th.

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### Extended Member Hours (June & July)

#### Photography Member extended hours*

- **June 1, 2022 / 6:30 - 8:30pm**
- **July 11, 2022 / 6:30 - 8:30pm**

*For Photography-level memberships only

#### Member extended hours

- **June 27, 2022 / 6:30 - 8:30pm**
- **July 21, 2022 / 6:30 - 8:30pm**

#### Twilight Hours**

- **June 17, 2022 / 6:30 - 8:30pm**
- **July 8, 2022 / 6:30 - 8:30pm**

**This event is exclusive to our Patron and Steward Members only**
Tanabata, The Star Festival
July 10, 2022 / 10:30am - 2:30pm
Celebrate the Star Festival by decorating bamboo branches with origami ornaments and colorful written wishes. Music and storytelling add to the all-ages fun!

Behind the Shoji, Member Preview and Reception
July 15, 2022 / 6:30 - 9pm
Join us for a member-only preview to gain first access to our annual artisan marketplace, Behind the Shoji. The marketplace will open to Golden Cranes at 6pm and to all members at 7pm. See a sneak peek of the available items on pages 10-11.

O-Bon, The Spirit Festival
August 13 & 14, 2022 / 7 - 9pm
Join us during the magical hours of dusk in the Garden as we pay tribute to the memory of loved ones by lighting incense and watching candles float in the Upper Pond near the Moon Bridge. The evening will include purification sake, chanting of the Lotus Sutra by Reverend Zuigaku Kodachi, and reading names of the dearly departed. This event is for members only, and reservations will be required. Keep an eye out in early July when reservations will open to all members. Since reservations fill up quickly, be on the lookout for our weekly newsletters, which will specify the on-sale dates.

Lecture by Richard Deverell
July 31, 2022 / 1:30 - 3pm
Portland Art Museum
Whitsell Auditorium
One of the Japan Institute's first events will be a lecture led by the renowned Richard Deverell, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Tickets will go on sale in June – stay tuned for more details!

Details for all events can always be found online at japanesegarden.org/events. Sign up for member newsletters to stay up to date with all the latest information at japanesegarden.org/newsletters.
Icy Cherry Blossoms

Surprise Spring Snowstorm in the Garden

Just a few days after unseasonably summer-like weather in mid-April, a winter storm stunned Portlanders with several inches of snow. According to Savannah Eadens with The Oregonian, it was the latest date Portland “has seen winter weather in at least 80 years.” Multiple school districts closed for the day, highways and roads were either shut down or backed up, and thousands lost power. At a higher elevation than much of its home city, Portland Japanese Garden too had to deal with the ramifications of springtime snow.

Garden Curator, Hugo Torii notes that he and his team of gardeners had been closely tracking the forecast and knew snow was on its way, though there were limits to what could be done ahead of time. With several trees growing leaves, branches could now hold more snow than they could bear to keep aloft, resulting in several limbs snapping and falling groundward. “There is not much we can do to prepare for such incidents, but we are ready to rebuild and improve upon the damage that was done,” Torii noted.
Given the unstable tree limbs, the gardening staff took it upon themselves to heighten their awareness of their surroundings. “We looked for abnormalities in the garden, including hanging branches and trees about to fall or break, loose and slippery ground, and changes of weather,” Torii added. When conditions improved, Portland Japanese Garden staff members joined the gardeners to help clean up. The snow may have left some scars behind, but the dedication of staff from different departments helped place the landscape in a position to heal.

Looking ahead, Torii noted that the gardening staff has discussed utilizing different pruning techniques that have been historically used for pine trees in snow-capped regions of Japan. They will also continue to explore other preventative measures to mitigate future snow damage. While one hopes that future snowy weather will keep to the confines of winter months, it’s not impossible we will see cherry blossoms with snow again. Torii notes that while this was a first for him in the United States, he did encounter such a sight in his native Japan over 15 years ago. “We had to clean up snow with excavators and loaders,” he recalled.
Reaching A Historic Milestone
Portland Japanese Garden Celebrates Official Acquisition of Property to House the Japan Institute

On April 21, 2022, with great honor, the Japan Institute became the next stewards of The Salvation Army’s historic White Shield Campus. Portland Japanese Garden supporters, partners, Board Members, volunteers, and staff gathered to celebrate the milestone marking the purchase of the property and toasting to the future home of the Garden’s sibling organization - the Japan Institute.

This open house-style, private event opened up the halls of the new campus, showcasing artist studios, performance spaces, and residence rooms set against the backdrop of a spring evening and sounds of **taiko**, **shamisen**, and piano music.
Special guests included U.S. Representative Suzanne Bonamici, Oregon Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Consul General of Japan in Portland Masaki Shiga, and Portland Japanese Garden Board Past President Robert Zagunis. Each spoke as to why they believe the Japan Institute will add technical, economic, and social value to not just Oregon, but the broader international community.

After a Native Land Acknowledgement by Portland Japanese Garden CEO Steve Bloom, The Salvation Army’s Major Bob Lloyd spoke to the history of the property Garden being the next stewards of the land. A blessing was performed by Reverend Eisei Ikenaga of the Nichiren Buddhist Temple of Portland.

Portland Japanese Garden and the Japan Institute are committed to help lead Portland’s recovery from the impacts of the pandemic and recent social strife. The Institute will be a boon to both its home city and the state of Oregon as it will become an international hub of artists, gardeners, intellectuals, and a meeting place for world leaders and peace ambassadors.

This is just the beginning! Thank you for your support in getting us to this moment. Stay tuned, as we will be sure to keep you informed of exciting milestones between now and the Grand Opening (currently slated for Fall, 2024).

The momentum behind the Japan Institute campaign continues to build! To date, we have raised approximately $16 million of our $25 million goal with support largely stemming from our Board and government funding. We want to especially thank the offices of Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Representative Maxine Dexter, Representative Lisa Reynolds, and Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici, along with support from Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley. A sincere thank you to those who have supported us! For questions or interest on supporting this campaign, please reach out to Edwina Kane, our Director of Development at ekane@japanesegarden.org or (503) 595-5225.
Behind the Shoji Summer Marketplace

July 16 - September 5, 2022

Take a Glimpse at This Year’s Curated, Shoppable Goods

Behind the Shoji is Portland Japanese Garden’s annual show and sale of Japanese and Japanese-inspired wares including textiles, prints, clothing, ceramics, home decor, and much more. Located behind the shoji (sliding screens) of the Pavilion Gallery, visitors can peruse a variety of curated items often unavailable short of a visit to Japan itself.
Daiyo Colorful Wax Candles

Ninshu Tea Cups

Decorative Iron Horse

Michiyuki Tou Lanterns

Manaka Silk Necklace
Phoenix Legacy Society
Member Highlight
Diane Benjamin on Her Legacy

The Phoenix Legacy Society helps individuals make sense of their estate planning process and align a plan with their philanthropic interests. The Society is also the Garden’s way of thanking the incredibly generous people who choose to honor Portland Japanese Garden in this highly meaningful way. Their participation in the Phoenix Legacy Society ensures the fulfillment of our mission for generations to come: Inspiring Harmony & Peace.

Recently retired, Diane Benjamin was a fundraiser for nonprofit organizations for 40 years and moved north to Portland from San Francisco some 20 years ago. This journey up the Pacific Coast was one that had been brewing. Benjamin had been, for at least a decade, a frequent visitor to Oregon to visit one of her dearest friends, Eleanor, and because she loved Portland Japanese Garden.

“I was a Garden member before I even moved to Portland—it’s one of the reasons why I wanted to move here,” Benjamin shared. The earliest trips to the Garden enchanted her. “The way it is situated up on the hill, how you climb up past the large evergreen trees, and can see Portland and the river and mountains—the setting is magical.”

Benjamin understands well how Portland Japanese Garden takes new forms as the year progresses, noting her particular affinity for the cherry blossoms, irises, and wisteria. Over 30 years she has also seen dramatic changes such as the opening of the Cultural Village in 2017, and more subtle ones, such as moss washing the Garden in downy green. A particular point of pride has been the steady rise in visitation. “Steve [Bloom, Portland Japanese Garden CEO] and his colleagues have made the Garden better and more accessible with art, education, and special gatherings like O-Bon to help draw people in.”

When Benjamin started crafting her will, she took time to consider what she wanted her legacy to be. Portland Japanese Garden quickly came to mind.
This kind of donation is one that Benjamin felt could make an impact. “I’ve never had a big income and now I’m retired,” she said. “But this is a way for me to give and know it’s going to a good cause – I can help something I value continue into the future.” To others who may be considering joining the Phoenix Legacy Society, Benjamin says it’s a worthy gift to give. “It gives the Garden stronger footing as it continues to evolve and pursue its mission.”

This summer, when Portland Japanese Garden celebrates another O-Bon festival, Benjamin will attend. Dusk will settle in and incense will be lit. She will think of her now late friend, Eleanor. Diane Benjamin has visited this garden – her garden – for more than half of its existence. Thanks to her contribution, the Garden will continue to grow for many more visits to come.

For more information about Phoenix Legacy Society, contact our Director of Development, Edwina Kane at ekane@japanesegarden.org or (503) 595-5225.
To see this list online, go to japanesegarden.com/support-your-garden
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Cumulative giving to the Annual Fund from February 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022.

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If you would like to make a donation or have any questions about the Golden Crane Society, please contact Director of Development Edwina Kane at (503) 595-5225 or ekane@japanesegarden.org.
Members of the Phoenix 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.

Ruth Anderson and Michael Beebe  
Esther "Ricky" Appleman  
Carole Beaucerl  
Barbara Bell  
Diane Benjamin  
Melanie Billings-Yun  
Steve Bloom  
Judy Bradley & Dave Mitchell  
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Carmen Wong  
Anonymous (4)

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 Society Member, please contact Director of Development Edwina Kane at (503) 595-5225 or ekane@japanesegarden.org.
Includes our Global Ambassador Members and Donors contributing $500 or more in the past 12 months and residing more than 120 miles from Portland, Oregon.

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February 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022

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Mark Henry and Anne Mendel
Makeup and costume presentation from the Behind the PSU Kabuki Curtain event

Multnomah County Judge Chanpone Sinlapasai, U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai and U.S. Representative Suzanne Bonamici graced the Garden with a visit for a private event honoring Asian American women

Portland Japanese Garden Board of Trustees Vice President Cal Tanabe, His Excellency, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the United States of America, Koji Tomita, and Board of Trustees President Drake Snodgrass

Multnomah County Judge Chanpone Sinlapasai, U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai and U.S. Representative Suzanne Bonamici graced the Garden with a visit for a private event honoring Asian American women
Gardeners carefully move a pieris plant in the Flat Garden.
- Jonathan Ley

enTaiko performers at the Children’s Day festival on May 8, 2022.
- Yuki Wallen

- Jonathan Ley

Haru, Heavenly Falls.
- Micah Dickinson, Portland Japanese Garden Photography Member

Gardeners carefully move a pieris plant in the Flat Garden.
- Marketing Department
DID YOU KNOW...?

As the Garden transforms into a picturesque greenscape, Japanese irises provide a pop of color as the harbinger of summer. The Japanese iris beds can be found in the Lower Pond by Heavenly Falls in the Strolling Pond Garden. They are the Higo form of Japanese iris bred to bloom a single flower on a single stem.