

## The Garden Path

**Brighter Communities** 

August/September 2022



Letter from the CEO Steve Bloom Membership News Updates & Upcoming Events Garden Update Visitors from Inhotim (Brazil) Japan Institute Update Peace Lantern Gifts to Japan Artist in Residence, Rui Sasaki Coming Soon: Garden of Resonance 12 Volunteer Spotlight 14 Golden Crane Society Photo Gallery

20 Did You Know...?

HAIKU

A soft night
joining a softer night air
O-Bon once again

- Peter Kendall

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THE GARDEN PATH

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Email marketing@japanesegarden.org



Christina Sjogren

Dear Members,

With the high season of summer upon us, and society mostly adjusted to the "new normal" of the pandemic, we are seeing the robust return of visitors to the Garden! Further, with 2022 being the official launch year of the *Japan Institute*, we are witnessing the world come to Portland through our programs, and the ideals of the Garden and Portland being spread around the world.

In June, we hosted the American Public Gardens Association's annual conference, bringing together representatives from 600 organizations from all 50 states and 20 nations spanning the globe. Portland Japanese Garden took center stage before our field, and I believe we impressed all who came! I was honored to give a keynote speech about how gardens like ours have made transformative social impacts. And as part of the conference, we had one of our partners from the Inhotim Institute in Brazil visit to engage with colleagues from around the world and to learn about Portland Japanese Garden and how we operate and engage with our community. You can read about their visit on page 6.

In July, we partnered with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA to bring their marquee program, The Alliance Working in America, to Portland. Experts in government, business, education, international affairs, and sustainability came together to discuss the key building blocks of the bilateral relationship between Oregon and Japan, through a particular lens of the environment and the creative culture with Portland, and Portland Japanese Garden as a fitting backdrop. And just a few days ago, we hosted Richard Deverell, Director of Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew (UK) as a guest lecturer to elevate the dialogue

around the role of gardens in our own backyard, exploring how gardens can be a metaphor for social change.

Thanks to our incredible volunteers and their generous donations, this month, we're welcoming the acclaimed Japanese glass artist, Rui Sasaki, as the Japan Institute's first artist-in-residence (see page 10). In September, our programs through the Japan Institute kick into high gear internationally in Japan, starting with the presentation of replicas of our beloved Peace Lantern as symbolic gifts to Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Tokyo, anchored by our flagship symposium, Peacemaking at the Intersection of Nature, Art, and Culture (more on page 8). It has been an incredible year of reconnection and conversation and there's still so much more to go.

In the Garden, all the extra rainfall from early summer has revealed a lush, verdant oasis that continues to bring people of diverse backgrounds to find common ground in the beauty of nature. Often, in the rush of my day, I forget that the Garden is just outside my window. I remind myself to make a deliberate effort to put down my phone, close my computer, and stroll the paths for a moment of peace. I hope that you will also take some time to come enjoy the Garden... and who knows, our paths may cross!

With Gratitude,

Steve Bloom Chief Executive Officer

FRONT COVER Jonathan Ley

BACK COVER Jonathan Ley

## New Membership Rates Starting in September

Thank you for being a valuable member of Portland Japanese Garden. As a 501(c)3 non-profit, we rely on essential funding from admission tickets, retail sales, and the generous contributions from our members and donors. These funds provide support for our cultural programming, including festivals and cultural demonstrations, member events, workshops, and the operational costs of maintaining the Garden.

Jonathan Ley



To continue to provide an exceptional experience, we will be increasing your tax-deductible member dues in September (effective September 1st, 2022). Rate increases are considered carefully, and only done when absolutely necessary due to the rising cost of operations. Below is the breakdown of what this rate increase looks like across the various membership types:

	1 YEAR	2 YEARS
Student	\$50	\$85
Individual	\$70	\$120
Dual	\$95	\$170
Household	\$120	\$215
Patron	\$245	\$20.42/month*
Steward	\$600	\$50/month*
Add-on Members/Guests	\$25/each	\$50/each

\*For Patron and Steward levels, members have the option of purchasing a one-year membership level or enrolling in the Evergreen monthly payment plan.

More information and detail on the benefits of membership can be found on japanesegarden.org/membership. If you have questions about your membership, please email the membership team at membership@japanesegarden.org.

#### PHOTOGRAPHER MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

To better serve our photographer members, we are converting the addon photographer benefits option to a stand-alone membership level. This covers two adults, plus all of the current photographer benefits. Keep an eye on future newsletters for updates about Photographer Memberships.

	1 YEAR	2 YEARS
Photographer Membership	\$195	\$350



## O-Bon, The Spirit Festival

August 13 & 14 / 7 - 9pm

O-Bon is a Japanese Buddhist festival that honors the spirits of our ancestors and the deceased. While tickets are sold out, we will be livestreaming a portion of the event on our Instagram channel and Facebook.

To participate, please make sure you're following us @portlandjapanesegarden.

# O-Tsukimi:Moonviewing Festival

September 10 / 7 - 9pm September 11 / 7:30 - 9:30pm Tickets on-sale now

Moonviewing, or *O-Tsukimi* in Japanese, is the custom of gazing at the full moon and enjoying its sacred beauty. Start the evening with an intimate and peaceful stroll through the lantern-lit Garden as authentic Japanese music floats visitors into twilight. A light meal and beverages will be served. This event will take place rain or shine, so please dress accordingly.

Tickets benefit Portland Japanese Garden programming.

# Tea Ceremony in the Kashintei Tea House

August 20 / 1:15 - 2:15pm September 17 / 1:15 - 2:15pm

Authentic tea ceremonies take place in our Kashintei Tea House on the third Saturday of every month during May through October. These are public demonstrations of *Chado*, the Way of Tea, which is intrinsically linked to Japanese gardens and understanding the *kokoro* (heart) of Japanese gardening. Space is limited in the intimate Tea Garden and Kashintei Tea House area. To be able to accommodate more guests, we will have two back-to-back demonstrations, each approximately 30 minutes long.

# Upcoming Extended Member Hours

August 18 / 6:00 - 8:00pm September 2 / 6:30 - 7:30pm

Summer evenings of extended day light are slowly coming to an end, take advantage of these last few extended hours while you can!

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

THE GARDEN PATH

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022



The Adriana Varejão Gallery at Inhotim.

Rossana Magri

# Finding Common Ground Through the Beauty of Nature

### Brazilian Visitors from Inhotim

The Japan Institute of Portland Japanese Garden partners with institutions around the world that share our organization's vision – to be a leading global voice for cultural understanding, in pursuit of a more peaceful, sustainable world. The goal of these partnerships is to build global relationships, exchange and explore ideas critical to modern life, evolve theory and practice in their respective fields, and collaborate to implement the ideals of Japanese gardens, arts, and culture in varied and meaningful ways for communities around the world.

Inhotim, a contemporary art museum and botanical garden in Brazil is one such institution. Portland Japanese Garden leadership recently had a chance to host three representatives from Inhotim, as part of their visit to Portland for the American Public Gardens Association's annual conference in June. The visit was an opportunity to learn more about each other in preparation for our third Peace Symposium in São Paulo, currently scheduled for the summer of 2023, and will be in collaboration with Inhotim.

The Japan Institute and Inhotim's friendship first began in 2019 when Inhotim executive manager, Felipe Paz, met Portland Japanese Garden CEO, Steve Bloom, through an arranged meeting by Tulio Andrade, cultural attache to the Brazilian Embassy in Tokyo. Bloom visited Inhotim not too long after and came away deeply impressed with what he saw - a remarkable organization, made even more so by the fact that Inhotim has only been open to the public since 2006. Their drive to create transformational experiences through the intersection of art, nature, and science was exactly what the Garden was seeking in a partner.

Sweeping over 345 acres in Brazil's state of Minas Gerais, Inhotim is situated in the natural splendor of a land where the lush Atlantic Forest meets the tropical savanna of the Cerrado. 700 works by 60 artists from 40 different nations are displayed both outdoors and in 23 buildings of a wide variety of architectural styles. Joining this captivating art created by human hands is the art created by nature—a tropical botanical garden with more than 4,000 plant species are in Inhotim's collection, including more than 1,000 different palm tree species.

The Japan Institute will hold six Peace Symposia on six continents over the course of three years, the first being in Tokyo, Japan on September 21, 2022. The symposium keynotes will explore the interplay between and convergence of landscapes, architecture, and arts in shaping new civic conversations and efforts for peace-building through cultural diplomacy. When summer 2023 approaches, the Japan Institute will share more information on the symposium in Brazil, so stay tuned!



The Peace Symposium, "Peacemaking at the Intersection of Culture, Art, and Nature," is supported in part by a generous donation by Robert and Debb Zagunis.



Visitors from Inhotim take a tour of the garden spaces with Portland Japanese Garden Chief Curator, Sadafumi Uchiyama.

Nina Johnson

THE GARDEN PATH



Portland Japanese Garden

# Symbolizing Friendship and Casting the Light of Everlasting Peace

Presentation of Peace Lanterns to Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Tokyo

On the eastern bank of the upper portion of the Strolling Pond Garden, a stately *yukimi doro* (a stone lantern with tripod legs) stands among evergreen shrubs, ferns, and dappled sunlight. Stylized in the snow lantern form, the lantern's firebox is directly underneath a broad sloping roof resembling a traditional Japanese hat made from rush (*kasa*). In English, a message of hope is inscribed in capital letters: CASTING THE LIGHT OF EVERLASTING PEACE. This lantern, referred fondly as the Peace Lantern, first took a voyage across the Pacific Ocean before finding its home in Portland Japanese Garden.

In 1954, shortly after the end of World War II, Mayor Ryōzō Hiranuma of the Japanese city of Yokohama began gifting stone lanterns to different locations around the world to "cast the light" of peace. At first, the lantern was installed on the Willamette riverfront. It would move later to the International Rose Test Garden and then finally in 1967 to Portland Japanese Garden. While its journey concluded more than 50 years ago, its significance has not waned. Rather, it inspired the generations that followed.

In September, the Japan Institute of Portland Japanese Garden will present exact replicas of the Peace Lantern to the cities of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Tokyo ahead of the Japan Institute's Peace Symposium, "Peacemaking at the Intersection of Culture, Art, and Nature" in Tokyo.

Tokyo will be presented a peace lantern, a fitting location not only because it's Japan's capital, but because the city has similarly reached out with gifts of friendship in the past. "In the early twentieth century, Tokyo Mayor Yukio Ozaki was instrumental in sending Washington D.C. its famous cherry trees," Portland Japanese Garden's Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Arts, and Education, Aki Nakanishi shared. "In planning the recipients of the peace lanterns, we knew we had to include Tokyo. The lantern will go on the site of the first Peace Symposium, the International House of Japan, a world leader in building platforms for peaceful dialogue, as well as a friend and partner of Portland Japanese Garden."

This is not the first time Portland Japanese Garden has presented peace lanterns. For the full story, see japanesegarden.org/peacelanternsjapan







### Keeping the Craft of Stone Lanterns Vibrant

Stone lanterns came to Japan from China at the same time Buddhism was introduced. Initially, these lanterns were more functional than ornamental and helped provide light in a land without access to electricity. As the modern world developed, these lanterns eventually became pleasing aesthetic touches, especially in Japanese gardens. However, not many new stone lanterns are being commissioned today.

Aki Nakanishi, Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education, notes that this adds even more significance to the presentation of the peace lanterns. "The Japan Institute is an American organization raising funds to help assist and steward design integral to Japanese culture," he shared. "We're helping nurture this homegrown craftsmanship so the rest of the world can continue to enjoy it."

## Peace Symposium: Peacemaking at the Intersection of Culture, Art, and Nature

The Japan Institute will hold six Peace Symposia on six continents over the course of three years. The first and inaugural event will be in Tokyo, Japan on Wednesday, September 21 – the International Day of Peace. The second event will be in London, England on Monday, December 6th. These symposia will explore the interplay between and convergence of landscapes, architecture, and arts in shaping new civic conversations and efforts for peace-building through cultural diplomacy. More information on these exciting gatherings can be found at japanesegarden.com/japaninstitute.

The Peace Symposium, "Peacemaking at the Intersection of Culture, Art, and Nature," is supported in part by a generous donation by Robert and Debb Zagunis.



THE GARDEN PATH



Meg Nanna

## Subtle Appreciation in Daily Life: Rui Sasaki

# The Japan Institute's First Artist-in-Residence Creates Work for Portland Japanese Garden

On August 31, the Japan Institute's Global Center for Culture and Art will welcome internationally acclaimed Japanese artist, Rui Sasaki, as its first Artist-in-Residence (AiR). A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and Musashino Art University, Sasaki's work is part of permanent collections in museums across Asia, Europe, and North America. Lauded for her "dogged exploration" of glass art by *The New York Times*, Sasaki has won an impressive and still-growing number of awards.

Sasaki's recent body of work includes selecting plant specimens, then firing them in a kiln between sheets of glass to create ethereal traces of those plants left behind in the material. With her work focused on the natural world, Sasaki will be a welcomed frequent presence in Portland Japanese Garden as she searches for the proper flora. "I would like to know and digest more about the Garden through the community, and finally get started [on] the new body of work with plants that I am going to collect from the Garden," Sasaki shared. "I would like to harmonize my inspiration from both where I am in Japan and at Portland Japanese Garden, like the phenomena of teleportation, even though they are thousands [of] miles away. I hope that I can give a key, as an artist, to make visitors and volunteers discover subtle appreciation in their daily life."

In addition to creating the art that will later be showcased in an exhibition at Portland Japanese Garden in 2023, Sasaki is looking forward to experiencing the vast array of nature and art here in the Pacific Northwest during her residency. "I was fascinated with [the] cloudy and rainy weather that reminded me [of] where I live in Japan and [how it] suddenly felt 'uncanny' but also welcoming," Sasaki shared when thinking back to her past stays in Oregon.

The Japan Institute is delighted that Sasaki will be its inaugural Artist-in-Residence. Aki Nakanishi, Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education noted that the goal of this program is, "To give world-class artists an opportunity to immerse themselves in everything that this great Pacific Northwest has to offer while exposing the local arts community to each artist's unique sensibilities through organic dialogue." The AiR Program will provide our community the opportunity to engage with artists from Japan as they work in our neighborhood with local materials, allowing members and visitors to experience Portland Japanese Garden from a fresh perspective. Nakanishi notes, "This residency is a critical part of the constant evolution of the Garden and its vision."

Thank you to our volunteers and donors who contributed generously to make this inaugural Artist-in-Residence program a reality.

# Ask the Curator: Why does Portland Japanese Garden Have Art Exhibitions and Residencies?

Upon visiting Portland Japanese Garden in April, the current Japanese Ambassador to the U.S., Koji Tomita, remarked how it is "...truly an unparalleled example of Japanese landscape art." Traditionally, the role of Japanese gardens is to offer a place of quiet contemplation detached from the noise of modern society. But at the same time, Japanese gardens have always embraced, if not strived for a sense of symbiosis created at the intersection of architecture, art, and nature, which demonstrates the balance that can be achieved when nature and human ingenuity converge. As we launch the Japan Institute's inaugural Artist-in-Residency program, we are excited to continue exploring and revealing the potential of the trifecta of landscape design, architecture, and contemporary art here in Portland.

As explained by our Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education, Aki Nakanishi



Jonathan Le

Coming Soon:
Garden of
Resonance: The
Art of Jun Kaneko

October 1, 2022 -February 20, 2023

Jun Kaneko, Untitled (Heads), 2014, hand-built glazed ceramic and steel base

© Colin Conces, © Jun Kaneko Studio L.L.C.



*Garden of Resonance* will feature the work of internationally acclaimed artist, Jun Kaneko (b. 1942). Kaneko, winner of the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Sculpture Center, has made major contributions to the field of sculptural art on a global scale, exploring the relationships between art, nature, and people with the bold proportions and placement of his works.

Kaneko's famously large and evocative outdoor ceramic statues will be installed across our spectacular garden spaces, creating a stunning juxtaposition with the fiery reds and oranges of our maples in fall. This will be in addition to more intimate pieces from the nearly 60 years of Kaneko's marvelous career, including paintings and works on paper.

O THE GARDEN PATH



Tyler Quinn

## Spotlight on Our Volunteers

### The Heart of Portland Japanese Garden

"Our volunteers are the heart of Portland Japanese Garden," says Catherine Montgomery, Director of Volunteer Programs. "They are individuals that take time away from their families, friends, and work, and donate that time to us because they believe in our mission of Inspiring Harmony & Peace. Is there anything more powerful or selfless than that? Truly, we could not operate the Garden without our volunteers."

Later this month, we will be celebrating our wonderful volunteers with an appreciation event (August 23, 2022), but we are truly grateful for their commitment and generosity every day.

Jonathan Lev

**Did you know?** We have a variety of roles within volunteers, and many of our volunteers take on more than one responsibility.

> Hill Bonsai Terrace and educate the public about Japanese culture and the art of bonsai.

gallery and educate them about the art on display.

**Event volunteers** help staff our cultural festivals

Office volunteers work alongside Portland Japanese Garden staff to complete projects for our Executive, Membership, and Development departments.



**Exhibition docents** greet visitors to our Pavilion

and receptions throughout the year.

**Tour guides** lead public, private, and school tours of the Garden, providing context and background on our amazing spaces.

"Being a tour guide gives me a purpose and an outlet to share my love of the Garden with others. Volunteering also reminds me of the importance of giving back to an organization and mission that I believe in."

- Laura Ziegler

### Volunteer Impact, By the Numbers:

**3,651:** Total hours given by volunteers as of June, 2022. This equates to roughly 3 fulltime staff!

1,000: Free, public tours projected to be given this year.

**42:** The years that our longest serving volunteer, Aase Kendall, has spent giving back to the Garden.

14: The number of languages spoken by our volunteers.

5: The number of volunteers who have given more than 1.000 total service hours of their free time to the Garden: Dick Doi, Al Horn, Polly Lauser, Garth Massey, and Mona Ozaki.

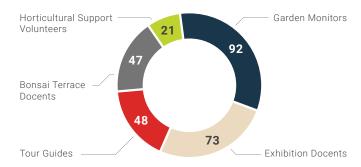
1: We always have one volunteer represented on our Board of Trustees.

We have more than **200** volunteers, who take on multiple roles.

"As a horticulture volunteer, it is an honor to maintain and improve the garden spaces and ultimately contribute to the ideals of Portland Japanese Garden – cultural understanding, peace, and tranquility."

- Masaki Shimada

### Number of Active Volunteers in Each Role





### Seeking Volunteers!

Interested in volunteering? We have a variety of different roles all with different tasks suited to different interests and personalities. After 40 hours of service, volunteers receive a voucher towards a Portland Japanese Garden individual membership.

Contact Catherine Montgomery, Director of Volunteer Programs at cmontgomery@japanesegarden.org or (503) 223-9233.

Catherine Montgomery, Director of Volunteer Programs

THE GARDEN PATH AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022 Jonathan Ley







To see this list online, go to japanesegarden.com/support-your-garden For corrections, contact development@japanesegarden.org

Cumulative giving to the Annual Fund from April 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022.

Global Ambassadors, our members and donors residing more than 120 miles from Portland, Oregon, are recognized with a globe icon next to their name.

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### Thank you

Susan & Michael Rego



M.D.

Hacker Architects

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Halvorsen

Cynthia and Andrew Haruyama













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.

Tyler Quinn

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AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022





Kenneth Offield

## PHOENIX LEGACY SOCIETY

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.

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.

Albert Horn

Ruth Anderson and Michael Beebe Esther "Ricky" Appleman Carole Beauclerk Barbara Bell Diane Beniamin Melanie Billings-Yun Steve Bloom Judy Bradley & Dave Mitchell Susan C. Brown Heida & Don Bruce Carla Caesar & Nora King Robert Caragher Mora Chartrand & Linda Grant Mary Dickson David & Nancy Dowell Mrs. Margueritte H. Drake Elaine West Durst Doyle Forister and Gary Sheldon Yoko Fukuta Ms. Susan Halton John Hembroff & Shari Macdonald Ron & Jenny Herman Geoffrey Hoefer

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### Path for Peace Campaign for Japan Institute

Recognizing all those who have made a gift in support of our Path to Peace Campaign for the Japan Institute, helping us be a leading global voice for cultural understanding, in pursuit of a more peaceful, sustainable world.

#### \$1,000,000+

Jenny Herman State of Oregon Travers & Vasek Polak Drs. Mayho & Calvin Tanabe U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Robert & Debb Zagunis

\$500,000-\$999,999

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Memorials and Honoraria April 1, 2022-May 31, 2022

GIFT IN MEMORY OF JOHN F.

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16 THE GARDEN PATH
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022 1



Portland Japanese Garden was honored to be among the locations for "Wellness Week 2022," an event organized by Black Men's Wellness.



Participants observe our Chief Curator, Sadafumi Uchiyama, as he leads the coveted Maple Pruning Workshop.



Steve Bloom, CEO, gives a keynote speech at the American Public Gardens Association annual conference in Portland.

Jonathan Ley



Hosting a group from a local residential care facility in early July as part of our community outreach program.

Oregon Governor Kate Brown giving welcoming remarks at The Alliance Working in America conference held at Portland Japanese Garden on July 19.

Nina Johnson



Takohachi energizes the audience at the Tanabata Festival on July 10.



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022

#### DID YOU KNOW ...?

The raked gravel in the Flat Garden is designed in a special, once-a-year checkerboard raking pattern for Moonviewing; the alternating squares of white river gravel cast shadows in the moonlight.

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