



PEACEMAKING AT THE INTERSECTION OF CULTURE, ART AND NATURE

Peace Programming of the Japan Institute



Created in 1963 by a group of civic leaders to heal the wounds left by World War II, Portland Japanese Garden (PJG) has built an international reputation as an advocate of cultural diplomacy. With more than half a million visitors a year from around the world, and a 60-year history of using art, culture, and nature to create inter-cultural understanding, PJG is launching the Japan Institute by embarking on our new peace-centric programming.

In 2020, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII with the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, PJG proudly reaffirmed its founding principle, “Mutual Understanding through Culture and Nature leads to Long-lasting Peace.” PJG framed an entire year of programming activities with the theme of “Peace.” These programs were unfortunately postponed due to the global health crisis. With the pandemic waning and international borders re-opening, PJG is eager to re-invigorate these programs and efforts toward peace — as relevant today as they were in 1963.

ABOUT THE JAPAN INSTITUTE

Creating shared experiences of peace, nature, and beauty, the Japan Institute facilitates important conversations among diverse people around the world. These conversations are spurred by Japan’s greatest gifts to the world: its culture, art, and connection to nature which are present and explored at Portland Japanese Garden and shared globally through its programs. The Japan Institute is composed of three global centers including:

- The International Exchange Forum
- The Global Center for Culture and Art
- The International Japanese Garden Training Center



PEACE PROGRAMMING IN 2022

September 14:	Hiroshima (Peace Lantern Presentation Ceremony & Reception)
September 16:	Nagasaki (Peace Lantern Presentation Ceremony & Reception)
September 20:	Tokyo (Peace Lantern Presentation Ceremony)
September 21:	Tokyo (Peace Symposium)

PEACE SYMPOSIUM: Anchoring the peace programs in 2022 will be a public Peace Symposium on the theme of the evolving role of public spaces as the platform for creative & cultural conversation for peace-building and community engagement. Featuring leaders from numerous cultural and diplomatic fields, the symposium will shed light on the evolving role of gardens and other cultural facilities and programs as places of cultural diplomacy and equity-focused peace-making.

The Japan Institute will hold six Peace Symposia on six continents over the course of three years. The first and inaugural event will fittingly be in Tokyo, Japan.

PEACE LANTERN PRESENTATIONS: Inspired by the original gift of peace from the Mayor of Yokohama to the City of Portland after World War II, Portland Japanese Garden has commissioned duplicate Peace Lanterns to be given to cities that profoundly understand and represent the need for peace: Hiroshima; Nagasaki; Tokyo. These lanterns serve as symbols of hope, representing a commitment to ongoing global partnerships regardless of geographic distances or differences.

PEACE RECEPTIONS: Events will include a reception inviting diplomatic, cultural, artistic, and commercial leaders. The Japan Institute values the importance of social engagement as a critical tool for fostering mutual understanding.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS: 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. They will engage in dialogue exploring those ideals of Japanese culture which resonate in every culture.

PANEL DISCUSSION: Japanese gardens have migrated around the globe. World-renowned experts will explore and discuss the social, cultural, and horticultural impacts and opportunities of these landscape migrations.

YOUTH PEACE LEADERS: Young people from Temple University Japan will have the opportunity to have what is akin to a masterclass with the keynote speakers over a private lunch. They will be challenged to brainstorm action plans for promoting and extending opportunities for peace in their communities and throughout their careers and lives.

POETRY FOR PEACE: A poem is being specially commissioned by the Japan Institute to be presented at the symposium. This poem is one of six that will be commissioned and published with winning poems from a poetry contest the Japan Institute is initiating as part of the Peace Symposia program.

PROGRAM AGENDA

Title: Peace Symposium Tokyo 2022
- Peacemaking at the Intersection of Culture, Art, and Nature

Date & Time: Wednesday, September 21, 9:00am - 3:15 pm (TBC)

Venue: International House of Japan (Iwasaki Koyata Hall)

Admission: Free through registration (up to 100 attendees)

Organizer: The Japan Institute of Portland Japanese Garden

Language: English and Japanese (simultaneous interpretation provided)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

8:30 Doors open

9:00 Welcoming Remarks by Chairman James Kondo, International House of Japan

9:05 Opening Presentation by CEO Steve Bloom, The Japan Institute of Portland Japanese Garden

9:25 Keynote Address by HIH Princess Takamado and HIH Princess Tsuguko of Takamado

9:55 Panel Discussion 1 - "Japanese Gardens - Transforming Global Cultural Landscapes -" (tentative)

- Isoya Shinji, Past President, Fukui Prefectural University
- Hiromi Matsugi, Assistant Professor, International Research Center for Japanese Studies
- Marc Peter Keane, Landscape Architect, Author
- Sadafumi Uchiyama (moderator), Chief Curator, Portland Japanese Garden

11:45 Peace Mentor Luncheon (18 invited youth from Temple University, Japan Campus/conducted in English)

13:30 Commissioned Poem Reading

13:35 Opening remarks by CEO Steve Bloom, The Japan Institute of Portland Japanese Garden

Keynote Address by Honorable Taro Kono, Director of Public Affairs, LDP

14:05 Panel Discussion 2 - "Re-imagining Peace at the Intersection of Culture, Art, and Nature"

- Mami Kataoka, Director, Mori Art Museum
- Shiro Wakui, Distinguished Professor, Department of Environmental and Information Studies, Tokyo City University Landscape Architect
- Junya Ishigami, Architect, CEO, Junya Ishigami + Associates

15:15 2nd session ends

Closing remarks by Chairman James Kondo, International House of Japan

15:25 Peace Symposium concludes

