

About Portland Japanese Garden

Portland Japanese Garden is a nonprofit organization founded in 1963 as a place for cross-cultural understanding following World War II. A hallmark in the City of Portland and the state of Oregon since it opened to the public in 1967, the Garden was founded on the ideals of peace and mutual understanding between peoples and cultures. Portland Japanese Garden is considered the most authentic Japanese garden outside of Japan and among the foremost Japanese cultural organizations in the world.

Executive Leadership

Lisa Christy

Co-CEO

Aki Nakanishi

Co-CEO

Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education

Hugo Torii

Garden Curator & Director of Japanese Garden Training Center

Aaron Edmark

Chief Financial Officer

Hilary Blakemore

Chief Development Officer

Jason Sipe

Senior Director of Operations

Megumi Kato

Senior Director of Brand and Innovation

PROGRAMMING & AUDIENCE COMPOSITION

Portland Japanese Garden's purpose is to bring peace and understanding throughout Oregon's communities by offering the garden as a place for mindful reflection and presenting programs that foster appreciation for different perspectives.

Portland Japanese Garden proudly serves audiences from around the globe, representing all 50 U.S. States, 90 countries, communities of color and other traditionally underserved populations. 66% of this audience is under the age of 45 and 16% identify as Asian. Our volunteers speak 15 different languages among them.

Quick Facts

Year Established	1963
Opened to public	1967
Annual Attendance	430,000+
Acreage	12.5 acres, 8 gardens
Member Households	13,800
Volunteers	225
Operating Budget	\$14 million per year
Adult Admission	\$22.50
Total Events	250

"When I came here to visit, it was the first day in 10 months that I wasn't missing Japan. I don't think there can be a place like this anywhere in the world outside of Japan."

– Pico Iyer, author