

The Garden Path

Refashioning Beauty

September/October 2019



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HAIKU

Moonviewing night
The world warms up
In a cup of sake
—Peter Kendall

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THE GARDEN PATH

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS
Email marketing@japanesegarden.org

Dear Members,

Our upcoming Art in the Garden exhibition *Noritaka Tatehana: Refashioning Beauty* has me thinking about how looking back to tradition deeply inspires our present moment.



Noritaka Tatehana will be showcasing his internationally renowned works at Portland Japanese Garden starting next month. *Refashioning Beauty* showcases some of Tatehana's most established pieces (including the 'heel-less shoes' worn by Lady Gaga and Daphne Guinness), as well as pieces based on the 'scents and scenes' of Japanese culture.

His many works are a result of his creative activities within the sphere of various traditional crafts from throughout Japan. The wooden platform clogs he designs, for instance, are reminiscent of those worn by the *Oiran* (Japanese courtesans) during Japan's Edo period. *Oiran* have become the source of inspiration for much of the work Tatehana creates.

I started thinking about the parts and elements of my past, the long-held traditions, which have shaped my work and life today. I imagine you have also have long-held family or cultural traditions that influence your world. We are all connected in this way.

I hope this exhibition can be a beautiful reminder of how traditional craft and culture—the succession of skills handed down for generations—influences our contemporary world. When you visit and walk through *Refashioning Beauty* in the Garden's Pavilion and Tanabe galleries, I hope you will be as inspired as I am to embrace traditional aesthetics and will experience a deep appreciation for our past, present, and future.

Sincerely,

Steve Bloom
Chief Executive Officer
Portland Japanese Garden

September

- 8/31 - 9/22** Exhibition: *A Potter's Eye: The Cummings Collection of Japanese Ceramics*
- 4** *Geisha: Unraveling the Art and Mystery* (\$)
- 6** Ikebana Demonstration, Pam Riley
- 8** Extended Photographer Member Hours
- 12** Shamisen Performance, Takohachi
- 13-15** *O-Tsukimi, The Moonviewing Festival* (\$)
- 13-15** Origami Art Display, artists from Origami USA
- 13** Ceramic Demonstration, Stephen Mickey
- 14** Temari Presentation, Steven Bowe
- 15** Tea Ceremony with George Cummings
- 16-27** *Waza to Kokoro Seminar* (\$)
- 20** Calligraphy Demonstration, Kihachiro Nishiura
- 21** *Chado, the Way of Tea*
- 21-22** Go Tournament and Presentation
- 28-29** Ikebana Exhibition: Ohara Portland School
- 29** Ikebana Demonstration, Carolyn Alter

(\$) = Tickets required
All other events are free with admission

RECURRING CULTURAL CORNER DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE CATHY RUDD CULTURAL CORNER

Sponsored by Dossier Hotel

Tea Ceremony: September 1, 11, 18, 25, 28; October 2, 6, 12, 16, 30.

Bonsai: September 2, 26, 30; October 7, 13, 21, 28.

Koto: September 7, 8, 27; October 5, 26.

All events are subject to change based on the availability of our wonderful volunteers. Please check japanesegarden.org/events or call 503-542-0280 to confirm these events.

October

- 4** Golden Crane Exhibition Preview: *Refashioning Beauty*
- 5** Lecture by Noritaka Tatehana: *Crafting the Art of Japan's Future* (\$)
- 10/5-12/1** *Art in the Garden: Noritaka Tatehana: Refashioning Beauty*
- 5** Koto Concert, Sawai Koto School
- 5-6** Textile Display & Lecture
- 12** Member Exhibition Exclusive: *Refashioning Beauty*
- 12-13** Ikebana Exhibition: Ryuseiha School
- 19** Extended Member Hours
- 19** Koto, Shamisen, & Vocal Concert, with Kotorito Ensemble
- 19** *Chado, the Way of Tea*
- 19-20** Ikebana Exhibition: *Ikebana International*
- 20** Extended Photographer Member Hours
- 20** Ikebana Demonstration, Nana Bellerud
- 22-24** *With an Eye Towards Nature: A Japanese Garden Design Intensive* (\$)
- 26-27** Ikebana Exhibition: Sogetsu School
- 27** Ikebana Demonstration, Nana Bellerud
- 30** Extended Photographer Member Hours



Jonathan Ley

Mark Your Calendar: Wine Tasting with Torii Mor

Join us for an evening of wine tasting with Torii Mor Winery, the official winery of Portland Japanese Garden. At this special tasting created for the Garden, we will explore the art of pairing wines with Japanese cuisine.

Golden Crane Tickets go on sale October 2nd
Member Tickets go on sale October 9th

Return to Winter Hours – October 1

Monday: Noon-4pm
Tuesday-Sunday: 10am-4pm
Member hours remain Tuesday-Sunday 8am-10am

O-Tsukimi, The Moonviewing Festival

September 13, 14, & 15

Celebrate the beautiful autumn festival with a walk through the lantern-lit garden, a quiet tea ceremony, tasty food and drink, traditional Japanese music, and the joy of watching the full moon rise in view of Mount Hood. *Thank you to our sponsors: Afuri, Presenting Sponsor; Snow Peak; Joto Sake; Sapporo Beer, The Jasmine Pearl Tea Co.*

Member Tour: Japan – Land of Living Traditions

May 8 – 17, 2020
Hiroshima, Okayama, & Kyoto, Japan

Members are invited to join the Garden's specially curated tour of Japan next spring. For nine days in May of 2020, our small group of 16, accompanied by an English-speaking Japanese guide, will explore sites and cities in Japan, with a focus on gardens, culture, and history.

Reservations open September 25th for Members.

Tour Price:

Double Occupancy: \$7,770*

Single Occupancy: \$12,170*

* Price per person includes a \$300 donation to the Garden.

Airfare is not included.

A non-refundable \$1,000 deposit per person is due at time of booking.

Find more details about the itinerary and registration instructions at japanesegarden.org/japantour2020

Questions? Contact membership@japanesegarden.org

As an extra benefit to coincide with the autumnal beauty of the Garden in October, we will have many of our traditional lanterns lit for Extended Photographer Member Hours on October 30th.



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Niwashi and Shamisen-sosha: Preserving Multiple Artforms

You never know the path a simple introduction will lead to.

The path to Portland for one Japanese gardener began more than ten years ago, while he was working toward a master's degree in landscape architecture at Tokyo University of Agriculture.

Tatsuya Hosono was interested in what one of the speakers visiting his university had to say about the philosophy behind Japanese gardens. That speaker, Portland Japanese Garden CEO Steve Bloom, was on his first sabbatical in Japan talking to students about the ideals of Japanese gardens and why our society needs them. Hosono was fascinated.

1 Kristin Faurest

“He [Steve Bloom] believes Japanese gardens and our society are connected. I feel it too. At Portland Japanese Garden, there are such good people with a passion for Japanese culture,” said Hosono. “We have to get a wide field of view of each other's cultures and backgrounds.”

Hosono is a man with double professions: a master gardener (*niwashi*) and a master *shamisen* player. Shamisen is a traditional instrument somewhat resembling a banjo. Hosono started shamisen training at 16-years-old and has received national acclaim in Japan for his musical performances.

When Portland Japanese Garden's 50th Anniversary gala was approaching, Steve Bloom remembered Hosono's incredible talent and asked him to play shamisen at the Garden.

Kazutaka “Kazu” Fukui (Hosono's stage name) performed the first ever solo shamisen performance at the Garden's new Cathy Rudd Cultural Corner. Then, another introduction: while in Portland, Hosono met Garden Curator, Sadafumi “Sada” Uchiyama, whom he says he instantly admired.

With Sada's encouragement, Hosono applied for and received a scholarship from the Japanese government to do a garden fellowship at Portland Japanese Garden.

“I am interested in the interaction between people and the Garden,” said Hosono. “The word ‘biocultural’ is a fairly new word, but biology and culture are connected. A Japanese garden is biology and culture. ‘Landscape Architecture’ is just too broad. Biocultural is better.”

This past year, Hosono worked with Portland Japanese Garden's team doing day-to-day gardening work, interviewing staff members, and doing Japanese garden research, as well as participating in the *Waza to Kokoro: Hands and Heart* training seminar, a series of training seminars designed to serve professionals in garden design, construction, and maintenance.

Simultaneously, Hosono delighted Garden employees and guests while performing shamisen on multiple occasions. Once home from his fellowship, Hosono will put together a report of his learnings for the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs.

2 Tatsuya playing Shamisen – by Masami Morikawa
3 Tatsuya with Portland Japanese Garden CEO Steve Bloom – courtesy of Tatsuya Hosono

“It's about creating relationship between nature and humans—nature and humans living together, just like agriculture,” he said.

Sifting through a year's worth of drawings, photos, and research interviews will not be an easy task. His biggest take-away, Hosono said, is something Sada often tells others, and a sentiment Hosono holds closely:

“To create a relationship between humans and nature, we must know the world, people, their culture, and what they value. A Japanese garden should not be in a glass case. We must use it, teach it to grow, and then grow from it ourselves. That's the true meaning of preservation, I think.”



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Reflections:

June's Beginner Level Training Seminar

"I am truly thankful. Our instructors were just outstanding – I feel we only scraped the surface of all of everyone's knowledge. So far each day at work I've been able to utilize my new skills and perspective."

– CHRISTINE MOON,
Landscape Contractor, Corvallis, OR

In June the International Japanese Garden Training Center welcomed Christine Moon and 17 other accomplished landscape professionals from Honduras, Costa Rica, the U.K., Canada, and across the U.S. to the *Waza to Kokoro: Hands and Heart* beginner-level training seminar in Japanese garden arts. Our visiting instructor, facilitated by the Garden Society of Japan, was Masao Sone of Kyoto's Sone Zoen Co. Ltd. of Kyoto.

Through 60 hours of instruction the group took part in activities from sketching in the Garden to moving rock at Smith Rock Inc. to hearing lectures about aesthetics to taking part in tea ceremony. But throughout that rigorous learning experience there was always one true goal: to teach the connections that a garden can make between humans and nature. If our seminar participants use what they learned to create and care for spaces that give people that unmistakable experience of joy, groundedness, and wholeness of mind and spirit that come from living as a part of nature, we will have fulfilled our purpose.

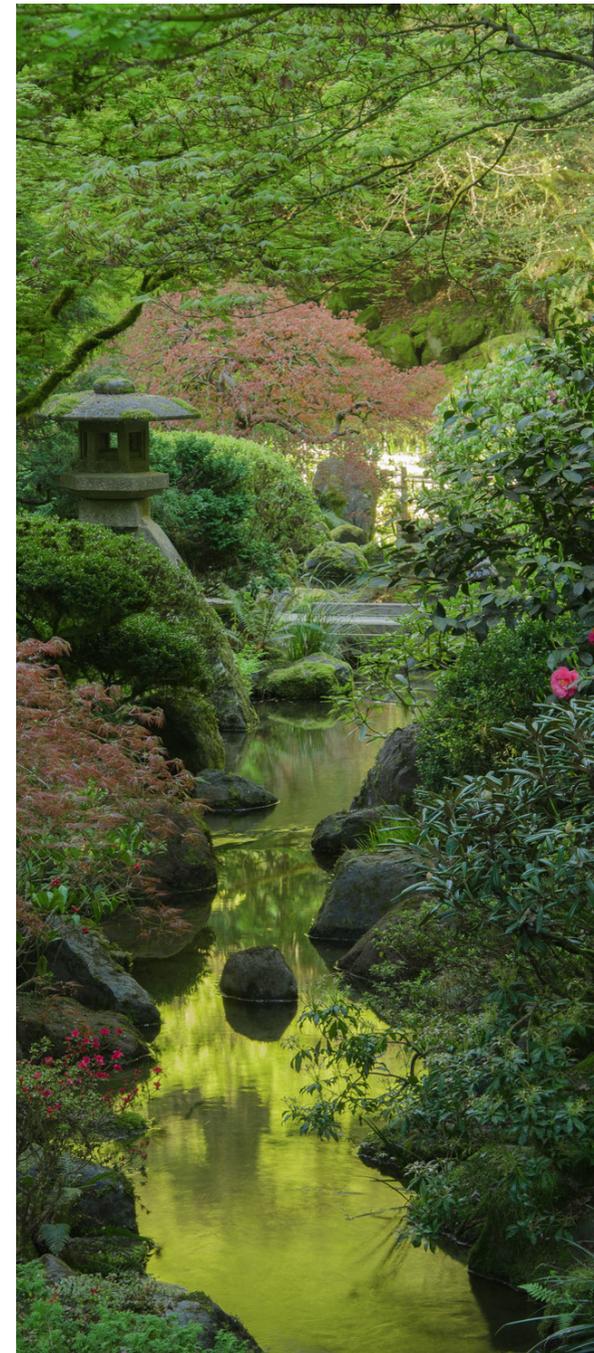
We hope our fifth seminar group since its start in 2016 will continue to embody the Buddhist concept of *shoshin* (beginner's mind) and have an appetite for learning that never ceases.

We look forward to welcoming our intermediate-level participants September 16 and in the coming weeks will announce our 2020 seminar schedule on japanesegarden.org/thecenter.

1  Kristin Faurest



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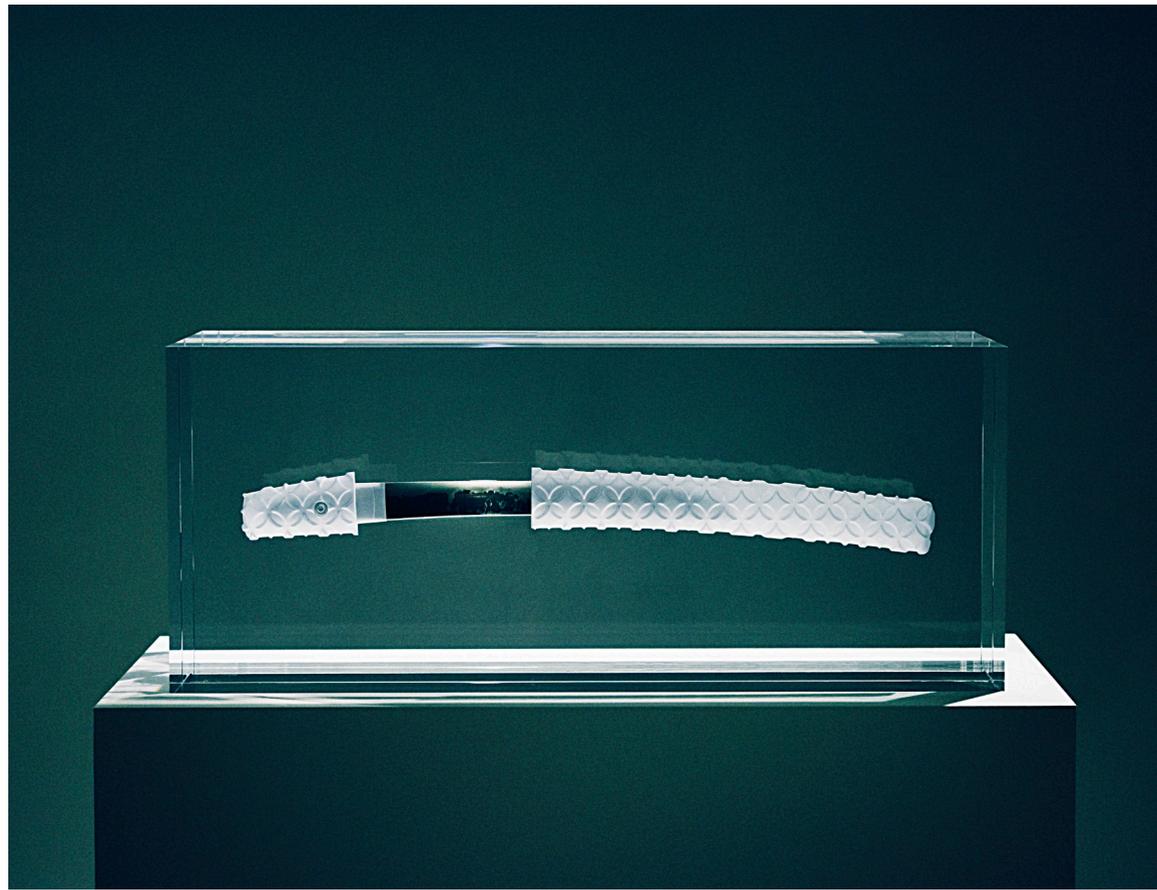
Guided by Nature: Fall Design Intensive

In October the Garden's International Japanese Garden Training Center presents "*With an eye towards nature: A Japanese garden design intensive*," a three-day intensive course for design professionals taking place at Portland Japanese Garden and offsite venues with Garden staff serving as instructors. Featuring a total of 25 hours of theoretical and hands-on training in the Japanese approach to designing in harmony with nature and its modern application, this unique course was created for landscape architects, landscape designers, architects, and members of the related design professions.

Through readings, tours, lectures, and design exercises, instructors will put traditional Japanese use of nature's design principles in both historical perspective and contemporary context as a tool for making meaningful spaces connecting people to nature. The course will utilize both the traditional and the new spaces in Portland Japanese Garden as well as the natural landscape of the Columbia Gorge for an immersive learning experience in designing with nature. A final studio design assignment allows participants to synthesize knowledge gained during the course.

WITH AN EYE TOWARDS NATURE: A JAPANESE GARDEN DESIGN INTENSIVE

October 22 – 24, 2019
More info at japanesegarden.org/designintensive



1 Void Sculpture Series



3 Hairpin Series



4 Heel-less Shoes

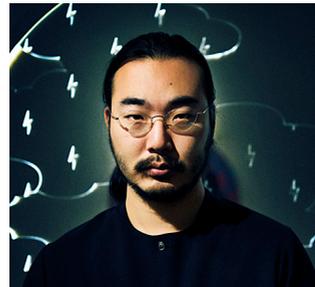
Noritaka Tatehana:

Refashioning Beauty

October 5 - December 1
Pavilion Gallery & Tanabe Gallery

Portland Japanese Garden presents the art of Noritaka Tatehana in his first-ever North American solo exhibition. Installed in the Pavilion and Tanabe Galleries, Tatehana enchants through his use of traditional symbols of sophistication and beauty with the inclusion of new, never-before-seen works of art created especially for this exhibition. Co-curated by the Garden's Curator of Art, Laura J. Mueller, PhD and Christina Cacouris, a journalist and curator based in New York City, the exhibition showcases Tatehana's sculptural and two-dimensional works of art and design that are created by employing the most refined Japanese craftsmanship, reimagining the timeless appeal of these celebrated symbols for contemporary audiences.

Japan's art history is long and distinguished with varied richness and celebrated traditions of form, design, and craftsmanship. Most often, Japanese art centers around a deep understanding and respect of nature and natural beauty in both subject and materiality. But, along with the well-respected, artistic traditions of Japan, overwhelming feelings of constraint can burden a contemporary artist tied to its legacy. Artists can feel trapped by the weight of history and tradition. As visual and cultural experience has become truly global, cultural and geographic distinctions have become blurred, often losing distinct significance and meaning. This environment allows artists to willfully break from the constraints of art historical narratives that



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came before them. Rather than shun the seemingly restrictive artistic traditions of Japanese art and craft, Tatehana embraces them by sampling, altering, and repackaging traditional symbols to create dynamic works of art for the global now.

Appropriating traditional signs of Japanese elegance and refinement, Tatehana removes these signs from their original historical context of past centuries and amplifies their symbolic meaning in his art. In *Heel-less Shoes*, the raised platform sandals (denoting the highest-level courtesans) are removed from the cobble pathways of the Yoshiwara entertainment district of the 18th and 19th centuries and refashioned to grace the feet of current society's most fashion-forward celebrities like Lady Gaga and Daphne Guinness. In *Hairpin Series*, the elaborate lacquered hairpins used in the coiffures of the most refined geisha entertainers of Kyoto's Gion

district are recreated as monumental 3-dimensional forms that embody elevated status and accomplishment while removing any possibility of utilitarian purpose. And in *Void Sculpture Series*, the exquisitely crafted sword blades of the samurai are removed from their poetically violent potential to create sculptural works of the most captivating beauty and exquisite craftsmanship. The success of Tatehana's art and design comes through recognition of these long-held symbols that epitomize celebrated craftsmanship and his thoughtful refashioning of his output for contemporary appreciation.

Presenting Sponsors: Arlene Schnitzer & Jordan Schnitzer. Additional support provided by the Regional Arts & Culture Council; the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles; and Yamato Transport U.S.A., Inc.

1-4 Courtesy of NORITAKA TATEHANA / Photo by GION



Previously known as Golden Crane Legacy Society, the Phoenix Legacy Society is our way of recognizing the thoughtful consideration and enduring generosity of our supporters who have included a gift to Portland Japanese Garden in their estate plans.

Members receive invitations to Golden Crane Society receptions, as well as to special events exclusively for the Phoenix Legacy Society. If you have already planned an estate gift, please let us know so we can recognize you as a member.

If you would like to learn more about estate planning and join the Phoenix Legacy Society, please reach out to Matthew Maas at 503-542-9301.

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. Legacy Society members receive invitations to special events and receptions.

Esther "Ricky" Appleman
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Carmen Wong
And those who wish to remain anonymous (3)

We are grateful to the following individuals and families for their generous bequests and estate gifts to the Garden.

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Georgene, & Evelyn
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Constance Weimer



Giving Back:

Carla and Nora

Thank you Carla (left) and Nora (right) for being a part of the Garden's present, as well as its future!

Carla Caesar and Nora King became members of Portland Japanese Garden in 2002, before they even lived in Portland. A few years later, they made Portland their home and got more involved: becoming volunteers, engaging in learning opportunities at the Garden, and being part of our recent expansion through the Cultural Crossing Campaign. They also made the decision over a decade ago to include the Garden as a beneficiary of their estate.

When asked what inspired them to join the Phoenix Legacy Society, Carla and Nora said, "the Garden gives us the kind of serenity that is difficult to find in today's world."

They elaborated on the goal of their planned gift, "to ensure future generations will visit, enjoy and connect with such a serene place filled with incredible natural beauty. We wanted to give back to a place that has given us so much."

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5/16/2019 - 7/15/2019

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Roman Johnston



1

Summer Fun

1
Together at the Golden Crane Annual Reception: Robert Zagunis; Adena Long; Heather McCarey; Lisa Christy; Steve Bloom; Dorie Vollum; Bill Hughes.

2
Seiichi Koshimizu (of Suntory) and Naomi Pomeroy (of BEAST / Expatriate) entertain questions at the July whisky event

3
Guests share a story at July's Golden Crane Annual Reception



2



3



4

4
Sadamuni Uchiyama (Garden Curator) and Aki Nakanishi (Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education) give a private Garden tour to guests of July's whisky tasting event.



5

5
At opening weekend for Forest of Dreams, native people of northern Japan and the Pacific Northwest came together to share art, friendship, and stories

6
Children try out origami at May's Children's Day Festival



6

1, 3 Peter Friedman
2, 4 Nina Johnson
5 Jonathan Ley

DID YOU KNOW? HOKKAIDO...

Hokkaido is well-known for delicious food. Given its latitude, low-population, mountains, fresh water and cold sea, it produces many wonderful delights. Hokkaido dairy is well-known; milk, butter, and yogurt throughout Japan are marked with 北海道 as a sign of quality. Chocolate too. Seafood from the cold seas, especially crab. And corn. Hokkaido ramen brings together some of these local ingredients--fresh egg with local butter and corn--for a scrumptious variation!

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Our mission is to bring the ideals of Portland Japanese Garden to the world: art of craft; connection to nature; experience of peace.

