

Winter 2022



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## HAIKU

Winter moon  
rising whole, swallowing  
the darkness

– Peter Kendall

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## THE GARDEN PATH

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS  
Email [marketing@japanesegarden.org](mailto:marketing@japanesegarden.org)



 Christina Sjogren

Dear Members,

*Akemashite omedetō gozaimasu!*

Happy New Year!

The glowing splashes of red and yellow that graced Portland Japanese Garden this autumn have now fallen and given way to a new perspective: the skeletal structure underneath. The exposed bends and curves of bare maple branches remind us that nature does not pause; it only ever moves forward. Though these trees may now appear dormant, they are giving their energy toward a new spring and new possibilities.

This energy that feeds the promise of the future is not unlike the energy Portland Japanese Garden receives from its generous members. We are truly grateful for the generosity and commitment to the Garden that was present in your year-end gifts. Thank you again for your outpouring of support.

2022 will be a memorable year and I am excited to share some news and updates that will help Portland Japanese Garden continue to radiate as a tranquil oasis for our community and grow as a space for people to learn more about Japanese arts and culture. A few highlights include:

We are making meaningful progress in our realization of the Japan Institute, and have targeted early spring to close on our purchase of the satellite campus in Forest Park.

We are thrilled to announce that we will once again partner with Kengo Kuma and Hacker Architects. Kuma and Hacker, as you may recall, worked together to create our stunning Cultural Village in 2017. Read about the Japan Institute and our plans for the satellite campus on page 6.

The Portland Japanese Garden welcomed Asian arts scholar and philanthropist Mimi Gardner Gates to its International Advisory Board in 2021. Joining Mrs. Gates on this roster of international leaders and experts are His Excellency, Koji Tomita, Ambassador of Japan to the United States and iconic actor and activist George Takei. Read more on page 8.

Last but not not least, I am so excited for the art exhibitions we have planned this year, including stunning miniature sculptures called *netsuke* and captivating works from Jun Kaneko! Read a preview of our 2022 cultural offerings on page 12.

Since the 1960s, Portland Japanese Garden has provided a place of understanding, connection, and peace. We are honored to be a respite for all those who need it and are strengthened by your presence. Here's to 2022 and all the possibilities it brings.

With deep gratitude,

Steve Bloom  
Chief Executive Officer

# The Year Ahead

## Welcoming Back In-Person Events

As we cautiously move into this new year, cultural demonstrations and festival celebrations will be returning. We were excited to reopen the Cathy Rudd Cultural Corner, and are looking forward to bringing our members and visitors more performances and demonstrations of Japanese music, art, craft, and more in 2022.

### Hina Matsuri

Doll's Day

March

The Doll Festival is a special time to pray for the growth and happiness of girls. It is also called *Momo-no-Sekku*, or 'Peach Blossom Festival'. Visitors can enjoy a display of delicate dolls representing Imperial Court figures, traditional for girls' families to display in their homes at this time of year.

### Kodomo no Hi

Children's Day

May

Children's Day is observed in Japan as a day to honor all children in the hopes that they will grow up healthy and strong. Cloth carp streamers, or *koinobori*, are flown to bring good fortune to children. Koi symbolize courage and determination as they swim upstream and through powerful waterfalls.

### Tanabata

The Star Festival

July

The Star Festival features a colorful display of *tanzaku*, or wish strips, hanging from bamboo in the Garden's Bamboo Allee. This tradition of writing wishes or prayers comes from the Edo period, when children were encouraged to practice their writing and hang them from bamboo for all to see.

### O-Bon

The Spirt Festival

August

O-Bon, the Spirit Festival, is an important Buddhist festival to honor ancestors and pray for the souls of the departed. The souls of the ancestors are believed to return to this world from beyond. The Garden's O-Bon event features chanting, name reading, and the quiet reverence of *toro-nagashi* (lantern floating). This event is reserved for our members only.

### O-Tsukimi

Moonviewing

September

Moonviewing is one of our most beloved annual festivals honoring the harvest moon. During Moonviewing, people gather to appreciate the moon's beauty and pray for good fortune and an abundant harvest. Garden guests can enjoy the moonrise accompanied by *shakuhachi* and *koto* performances.

#### CULTURAL DEMONSTRATIONS

We look forward to hosting Cultural Demonstrations on most Wednesdays and Saturdays in the Cathy Rudd cultural corner.

Additional demonstrations will be added throughout the year or schedule changes may occur. We will always include updates for these details on our website, in upcoming issues of *The Garden Path*, and in our e-newsletters.



### O-Shogatsu

New Year's Day

January 9, 2022

10am - 3:30am

During O-Shogatsu, people celebrate the start of a new year and hope for happiness and prosperity in the months ahead. Here at the Garden, we honor this special festival twice, once in appreciation for our members-only on New Year's Day and then again on January 9th this year. *Kadomatsu*, traditional arrangements of pine, bamboo, and plum branches, are displayed in the Garden. Activities include the exciting *shishi-mai*, or lion dance, and presentations of tea ceremony, and *koto* music.

### Member Exhibition Preview

Fashion and Fantasy:

The Art of Netsuke Carvings

February 11, 2022

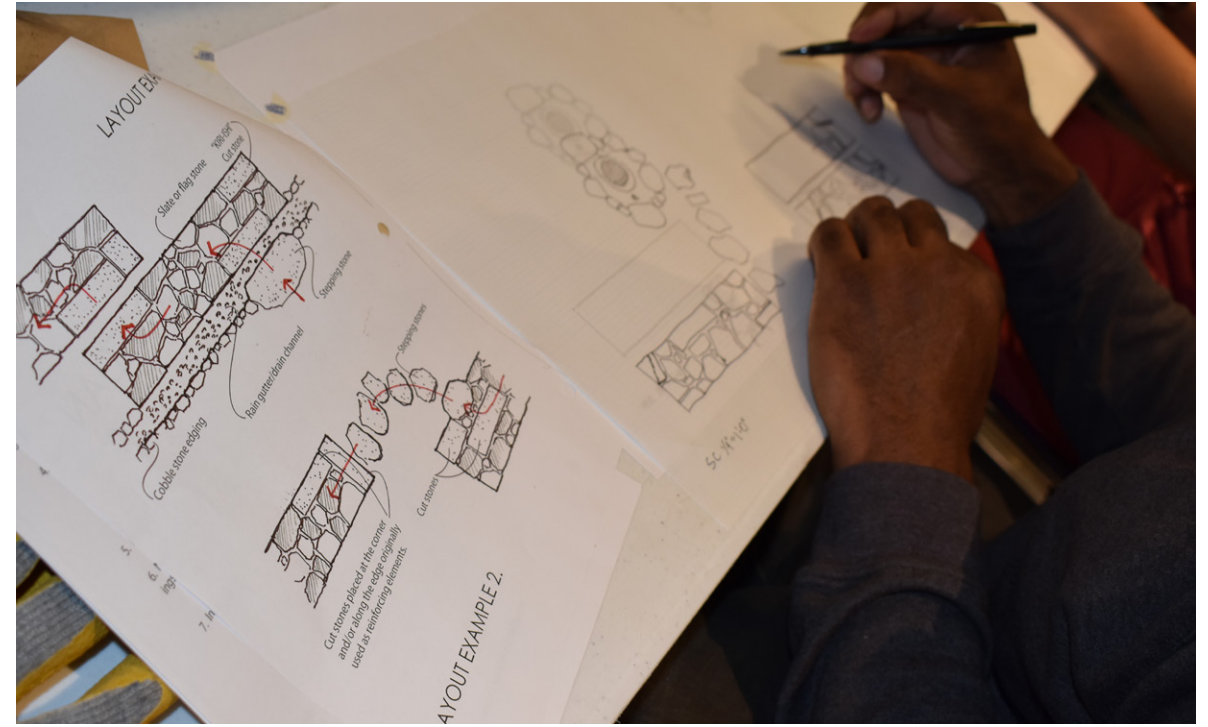
9 - 10am

Once immensely popular across Japan, *netsuke* (pronounced nets-keh), small accessories fashioned from wood, ivory, or porcelain, blurred the lines between function and art in their heyday. Fashion and Fantasy will showcase the fascinating world of these miniature Japanese carvings traditionally used to secure small pouches to men's pocketless kimonos.

Join us before this exhibition opens to the public and enjoy a tour from our gallery staff.

The Garden will continue operating with timed admission. Visit [tickets.japanesegarden.org](https://tickets.japanesegarden.org) to make free member reservations, or access event tickets. If you need help with your online account, please email [membership@japanesegarden.org](mailto:membership@japanesegarden.org)

Details for all events can always be found online at [japanesegarden.org/events](https://japanesegarden.org/events). Sign up for member newsletters to stay up to date with all the latest information [japanesegarden.org/newsletters](https://japanesegarden.org/newsletters)



# The Japan Institute

## Updates On The Road Ahead

### CAMPUS UPDATE FOR THE JAPAN INSTITUTE

Portland Japanese Garden is more than 12 acres in Washington Park. It is also an expression of harmony and peace and the realization of a dream to discover the ties that bind us. The spirit of collaboration and community that motivated the Garden’s design in 1963 now guides our plans for the Japan Institute.

The Japan Institute will allow us to offer more shared experiences in Japanese culture, art, and connection to nature. Portland Japanese Garden is in the process of acquiring a campus – located just three miles away from the Garden in nearby Forest Park – as the Japan Institute headquarters to accommodate expanded programming. Previously owned by the Salvation Army, the property served as center for healing for more than 100 years. We strive to honor this legacy with the continuation of service to others.



Top: White Shield Center. The new site of the Japan Institute campus.

Bottom: Chief Curator and Director of the International Japanese Garden Training Center, Sadafumi Uchiyama, teaching at a recent Maple Pruning Workshop.

The purchase should be completed by early spring 2022 and we hope to move into construction shortly thereafter. The property is comprised of four buildings built between 1914-1965 on 3.65 acres of secluded, forested land. Portland Japanese Garden has retained architecture and interior design firm, Hacker, and landscape architects, Walker Macy, to reimagine this campus for the Japan Institute. Long-time members will recall that Hacker and Walker Macy collaborated with Kengo Kuma to bring the Cultural Crossing expansion to life in 2017.

Once completed, the space will accommodate a host of new and expanded programs. This includes providing outdoor classrooms for garden workshops, housing artists-in-residence, and hosting culinary events that make use of a full-service kitchen. Barring any unforeseen slowdowns, the hope is to welcome our staff and visitors into the new facilities in the summer of 2023.

### KENGO KUMA RETURNS TO DESIGN THE “JEWEL” OF NEW CAMPUS

Portland Japanese Garden is delighted to announce that Kengo Kuma, designer of the Tokyo Olympic Stadium and one of Time magazine’s 100 most influential people of 2021, will redesign the interior of one of the buildings at the new Japan Institute campus. As you may recall, Kuma designed the award-winning Cultural Crossing expansion for Portland Japanese Garden in 2017 which marked his first public project in North America. For this next endeavor, Kuma and his team will partner with Portland-based Bullseye Glass to work in art glass for the first time in his illustrious career.

Together, Kuma and Bullseye will transform what is currently an aging chapel into an auditorium and performance center.

“Kuma-san has been such a good friend to Portland Japanese Garden” says CEO Steve Bloom. “His designs masterfully intersect nature and architecture which both complement and showcase our programming. We are thrilled to welcome him and his talented team back to create the ‘jewel’ of the new Japan Institute campus!”

## Ambassador Koji Tomita and Actor George Takei Join International Advisory Board

### Support from Around the World

The International Advisory Board (IAB) supports Portland Japanese Garden by sharing its mission of inspiring peace and harmony to a global audience and by making connections with leaders in Japan and around the world. In 2021, the Garden announced the appointment of Asian art scholar and philanthropist Mimi Gardner Gates to the IAB.

Today we are pleased and honored to announce the appointment of two more towering figures to the IAB. They have shepherded change and have dedicated their life to service: His Excellency, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the United States of America Koji Tomita and pioneering actor and activist George Takei.

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As the Japan Institute is launched in 2022, the talents of Ambassador Tomita and Mr. Takei and their fellow International Advisory Board members will enable us to deliver innovative programs, global collaborations, and experiential education.



### KOJI TOMITA

Ambassador Tomita's diplomatic career in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) spans 40 years. In 2021, President Joe Biden received his Letter of Credence accepting Tomita as Japan's Ambassador to the United States. Prior to this appointment, Tomita served as Japan's Ambassador to South Korea and Israel and as former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Personal Representative to the G20 Summit in Osaka in 2019.

Having been Director-General of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs' North America Bureau and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C., Ambassador Tomita has helped foster friendship between Japan and the United States and add to a foundation of mutual support and respect he has described as "unshakeable."

Ambassador Tomita's relationship with the United States began when he spent a year studying abroad in North Carolina in 1977. He has helped lead efforts to strengthen the Japan-US relationship. He was also responsible for the preparation of Prime Minister Abe's highly successful official visit to the United States in 2015.

Ambassador Tomita writes in his spare time and has published two books (in Japanese): *Churchill: Leadership in Crisis* and *Margaret Thatcher: Iron Lady Who Changed Politics*. The latter won the Yamamoto Shichihei Award.



### GEORGE TAKEI

Beloved by many, George Takei first became known to worldwide audiences as helmsman Hikaru Sulu in *Star Trek* and many more movies and television series. Blessed with a warm, baritone voice, Takei has also lent his vocal talents as a narrator to works such as the Peabody Award-winning radio documentary *Crossing East*. Takei is also best-selling author—his fifth book, an Eisner Award-winning graphic memoir titled *They Called Us Enemy* was released in 2019.

Dedication to his craft is only outmatched by Takei's care for his fellow person. Understanding his fame gave him a platform to speak on behalf of the marginalized, Takei has become a powerful advocate of social justice, LGBTQ+ rights, and marriage equality. His advocacy was born from a personal place. During World War II, Takei and his family were unjustifiably imprisoned in United States internment camps along with 120,000 other Japanese Americans.

Takei fosters bonds between the United States and Japan. Chairman Emeritus of the Japanese American National Museum, he previously served on the board of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission under President Bill Clinton and in 2004 was conferred with the Gold Rays with Rosette of the Order of the Rising Sun by Emperor Akihito of Japan.

1 Photo Credit  
2 Photo Credit



The Umami Café is the Garden's way of sharing the art of tea with a broader audience. Here, guests will experience the pairing of world-class Japanese tea with traditional gracious, attentive service, and delicious edible delights. The Umami Café is open Wednesday – Monday, 9:00AM-3:30PM. Make reservations at [japanesegarden.org/umami](http://japanesegarden.org/umami)

TOP Marketing Dept  
BOTTOM LEFT Jonathan Ley

BOTTOM RIGHT Aaron Lee



Jonathan Ley

## *Chadō (The Way of Tea)*

### Learning About Japanese Gardens through Tea

The Portland tea scene kicked off in the late 1990's after the emergence of several companies that focused on whole loose-leaf tea. However, Portland's gardens have always been an important conduit for tea enthusiasts. With a dedicated tea garden, traditional teahouse (Kashintei Tea House), and a tea café (Umami Café), Portland Japanese Garden has fostered a unique environment for the experience and education of tea.

*Chadō* (the way of tea) is intrinsically linked to Japanese gardens and understanding the *kokoro* (heart) of Japanese gardening. *Chadō* has four core elements:

#### *Wa* – 和 (Harmony)

At a tea gathering, harmony plays between host and guest, occasion, mood, and season. Sensitivity to the changing seasons, and harmony with these changes are part of the practice of tea.

#### *Kei* – 敬 (Respect)

Respect is extended not only to the other people with whom one interacts but also to one's daily life, and even to inanimate objects such as tea utensils.

#### *Sei* – 清 (Purity)

Cleanliness and orderliness are important: entry to the teahouse is preceded by ritual cleansing at a stone basin and even cleaning floors is part of the process.

#### *Jaku* – 寂 (Tranquility)

A master reaches the highest level once she has put the ideals of *wa*, *kei*, and *sei* into practice and begins to approach the utter stillness and silence of *jaku*.

The Way of Tea is a beautiful vehicle through which to learn about Japanese gardens. It also emulates the ideals and values the Garden wishes to share: beauty, the restorative power of nature, attention to detail, and consideration for one another.

# 2022 Art Exhibitions & Artist-in-Residence

## Art in the Garden

Portland Japanese Garden has been a destination for those who seek to experience world-class Japanese art and culture in an immaculate garden setting.

In 2022, the Garden will exhibit artworks exploring the exquisite range of Japanese craftsmanship from historic objects to contemporary design, as well as illuminating the origins of some of the familiar plants found around our yards. This year will also introduce the Japan Institute's inaugural Artist in Residency program. So, mark your calendars as we share some sneak-peaks into what to expect in the upcoming year.



### Art of Vitality: The Peter Shinbach Bamboo Art Collection

January 1 - April 17, 2022 | Tanabe Gallery Only

The Tanabe Gallery is honored to host an exhibition of Portland resident, Peter Shinbach's fine art bamboo collection. Showcasing his newest acquisitions, this latest exhibition includes work by some of the most revered names in Japanese bamboo art: Maeda Chikubosai I, Kibe Seiho, and Honda Syoryu. Bamboo represents a millennia-old cultural symbol for vitality, suppleness, and resilience. In Japan and other Asian cultures, it is valued for its strength and rapid growth, making it a critical natural material for building homes, designing furniture, and crafting accessories. This display will feature both functional bamboo forms such as baskets and *ikebana* vessels, as well as more sculptural pieces from the contemporary masters who push the creative envelope of the art form.



### Fashion and Fantasy: The Art of Netsuke Carvings

February 11 - April 17, 2022 | Pavilion Gallery

Once immensely popular across Japan, *netsuke* (pronounced nets-keh), small accessories fashioned from wood, ivory, or porcelain, blurred the lines between function and art in their heyday. *Fashion and Fantasy* will showcase the fascinating world of these miniature Japanese carvings traditionally used to secure small pouches to men's pocketless *kimonos*. Drawing on a recent gift from the Jim Coonan collection, this exhibition presents a glimpse into this little-known art form from pre-modern Japan. Each *netsuke* is highly detailed, imaginatively depicting people and animals from everyday life as well as folktales and fables. As you stroll across the manicured landscapes of Portland Japanese Garden, discover the whimsical world of these miniature fashion statements.

### Gifts from Japan: A Horticultural Journey Told Through Botanical Art

May 13 - July 4, 2022 | Pavilion Gallery

*Gifts from Japan* illuminates the unique stories of many plants that are widely grown throughout the world that originated in Japan. Each artwork presents a window into the Japanese and Japanese American experience, following Japan's export of its rich horticultural history, including peonies, lilies, wisteria, camellias, and irises, as well as roles played by the immigrant families who cultivated public and private gardens. The exhibition invites visitors into an immersive journey of evolving cultures, horticultural technologies, and botanical art from the turn of the 20th century to contemporary times. The exhibit features a collaborative collection of richly captured botanical illustrations from The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens (CA), the Botanical Artists Guild of Southern California (CA), and guest botanical artists from Japan.



### The Art of Jun Kaneko: The Garden of Resonance

October 1, 2022 - January 8, 2023 | Pavilion Gallery, Tanabe Gallery, and throughout the Garden

Portland Japanese Garden is delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed artist Jun Kaneko (b. 1942 -). Kaneko, recently honored with 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 their bold scale and placement. *The Garden of Resonance* will showcase works spanning this celebrated artist's career ranging from large, outdoor installations to his earlier paintings and other works on paper. Juxtaposed alongside the stunning foliage of the Pacific Northwest, creating a backdrop of constantly changing color and texture, this exhibition will offer a transformative experience to visitors of all types, while bringing out the best of what makes this Japanese garden truly special.



### Artist in Residence: Rui Sasaki

Rui Sasaki is one of Japan's most cutting-edge contemporary artists whose works have consistently delighted global audiences with numerous international accolades including the Corning Museum of Glass' Rakow Commission (2019) as well as the Grand Prix at the Toyama International Glass Art Exhibition (2021). Working primarily with glass, Sasaki's immersive works capture ephemeral interplays in nature such as those between the rain and sun, or winds and leaves, making for a truly multi-sensory experience. Her previous research work at Portland Japanese Garden was a testament to Sasaki's mastery at, according to *The New York Times*, "activating her installations," through her meticulous studies of how viewers interact with and experience with the otherwise static glass pieces. Sasaki will be the Japan Institute's inaugural artist in residency in the summer of 2022, and will create site-specific works and installations inspired by her immersion in the natural beauty of Portland Japanese Garden.





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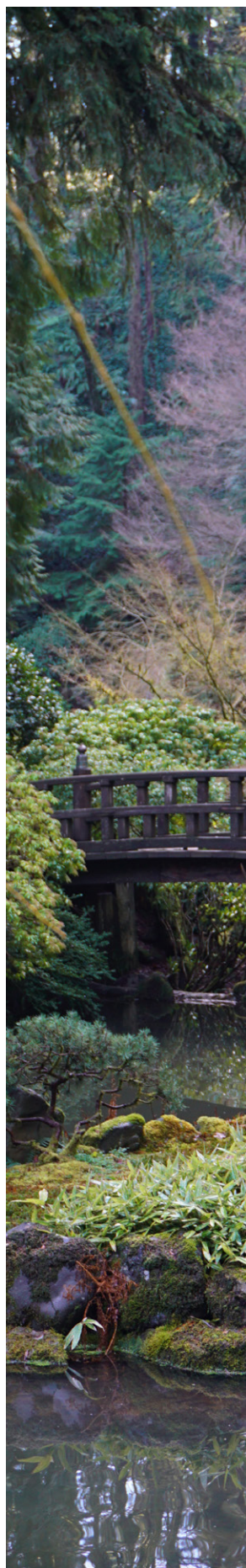
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If you would like to make a donation or have any questions about the Golden Crane Society, please contact Director of Development Edwina Kane at (503) 595-5225 or ekane@japanesegarden.org.



Tyler Quinn



Tyler Quinn





Marketing Department

PHOENIX  
LEGACY  
SOCIETY



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.

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](mailto:ekane@japanesegarden.org).

Ruth Anderson & Michael Beebe  
Esther "Ricky" Appleman  
Carole Beauclerk  
Barbara Bell  
Diane Benjamin  
Melanie Billings-Yun  
Steve Bloom  
Judy Bradley & Dave Mitchell  
Susan C. Brown  
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Richard C. Stetson Jr.  
Ernie Stoddard  
Ann & John Symons  
Drs. Mayho & Calvin Tanabe  
Carmen Wong  
Anonymous (4)

Global  
Ambassadors

Including 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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Warren and Robin Anderson  
Barbara Bell  
Bokksu, Inc.  
Kay Bristow  
Candy Cassarno  
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Ann Dunn  
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The Japan Foundation, Center for Global Partnership  
Joto Sake  
James D. Lynch & Robby Cunningham  
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Lisa Maulhardt & Joseph Okies, Jr.  
MCAA Mashiko Ceramics and Arts Association  
Allen Mercer & Helen Angelica Wong  
Lee & Mary Jean Michels

Rikki Ninomiya  
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Tarbell Family Foundation  
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Memorials and Honoraria  
August 1 – November 30, 2021

IN HONOR OF JEME BRELIN  
AND CAROLINE ADAMS

Christopher and James Adams

IN MEMORY OF ERIC  
CHRISTENSEN

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Kellie & Mark Lippman

IN MEMORY OF STEVE AND  
LINDA TUBBS

Arwen Bird

Marketing Department



## Phoenix Legacy Society

### Estate planning helps ensure Portland Japanese Garden's long-term vitality

Portland Japanese Garden is fortunate to have a diverse array of donors who generously give every year. Their gifts range from \$5 to over \$100,000. Each and every one of these gifts helps ensure our ability to sustain the Garden, offering a peaceful respite to the community and programming that's connects us to each other through nature.

Beyond these annual donations, we are privileged to recognize 44 donors in the Phoenix Legacy Society. These donors commit to support the us through their estate planning (or wills). As a future gift, legacy gifts are incredibly unique and important. Because the gift may not be realized for years, it makes a profound statement about the donor's belief in what we do every single day.

Founded in late 2019, just prior to the pandemic, the Phoenix Legacy Society is a fledgling program for Portland Japanese Garden. We'd like to take a moment to thank our 44 inaugural Phoenix Legacy Society donors, listed on page 16. We are grateful for your commitment and support. You have helped pave the way for our long-term vitality!

Is Portland Japanese Garden part of your estate plan? Please let us know. Interested in learning more about Phoenix Legacy Society? Visit our website or contact Director of Development Edwina Kane ([ekane@japanesegarden.org](mailto:ekane@japanesegarden.org)).

1 Jonathan Ley  
2 Jonathan Ley



Masumi Timson plays koto at Night of 1,000 Cranes

Photo by Nina Johnson

## An Eventful 2021

As we cautiously come back from a year where we prioritized the health and safety of our community and staff, we were thrilled to bring back something we've sorely missed--that sense of human connection. Here's a glimpse of our community recently coming together.



Akemi Saitoh, Mimi Gardner Gates and Aki Nakanishi discuss the possibilities for an upcoming collaborative project.

Photo by Nina Johnson



Don Olson, Owner of Torii Mor Wine, is honored at Night of 1,000 Cranes

Photo by Nina Johnson



Aki Nakanishi, Hugo Torii, Drake Snodgrass (Board President Elect), Steve Bloom, Mimi Gardner Gates (International Advisory Board Member), Robert Zagunis (Board President), Akemi Saitoh (Hosomi Museum Foundation), Daisuke Kakisaka (expert stonemason of Anoshu of Shiga), Minoru Inaoka (great carpenter of Sankakuya) and Sada Uchiyama gather at The Antique Gate before a special site visit.

Photo by Nina Johnson



Board President Robert Zagunis at our inaugural Phoenix Legacy Tea

Photo by Nina Johnson



Foundation Board Members Sandy Chandler and Dede Dejager celebrating Night of 1,000 Cranes

Photo by Nina Johnson



Golden Cranes celebrate the opening of the Ukiyo-e to Shin Hanga art exhibition

Photo by Marketing Dept.



Gardener, Jonathon Vandersloot, helps prepare the Garden for winter

Photo by Nina Johnson



Jan Waldmann, Sosui, serves tea at a recent Tea Ceremony.

Photo by Nina Johnson



Consul General of Japan in Portland Masaki Shiga and Hiroe Shiga enjoy a koto and cello duet at Night of 1,000 Cranes

Photo by Nina Johnson

**DID YOU KNOW...?**

2022 marks the year of the Water Tiger, one of five types of Tigers.

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