

The Garden Path

Northern Lights

March/April 2019



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Dorie Vollum

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FRONT COVER  *Hiroshi Nakamura, Sun Pillar.*
Photo courtesy of katomi / Studio Eye

BACK COVER  *Ray Pfortner*

HAIKU

Falling with the rain
a white camellia blossom
The moss darkens
–Peter Kendall

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THE GARDEN PATH

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS
Email marketing@japanesegarden.org

Dear Members –

In May, my tenure as Board President will end, and I’ve been thinking of what this experience has brought to me.

I have had the good fortune to serve the Garden during a pivotal moment in its history. Having a role to play in facilitating the completion of the Cultural Crossing project has been truly life-altering.

Here in Portland, this Garden has allowed me to deepen ties within the city I love, by getting to know donors, sponsors, and community partners.

In Japan, it has opened doors to new relationships and life-long friendships.

In the Garden, I’ve come to know many of the dedicated volunteers and members and look forward to seeing their familiar faces at events and exhibitions.

I’ve also had the privilege of serving with some of the most dedicated and generous members of the Board of Trustees. They give Portland Japanese Garden their time and their wisdom, and I am grateful for each and every one of them, past and present.

And the staff! They are remarkable! They help to move the Garden forward in all the best ways. Many thanks to Steve Bloom, who mentored me through my first Capital Campaign and always tried to keep it fun, even on the rare occasion when it wasn’t.

Being the Board President has given me a wonderful excuse to get to the Garden even more often. If you have visited during Member Hours, you’ve probably seen me giving tours to donors, friends, and family. I love being in the Garden first thing in the morning, and I doubt I will ever tire of sharing the stories I’ve been told of its 55-year history. With every visit I observe something new--the placement of a stone, a budding *bonsai*. With every cultural event and exhibition, I learn a bit more about Japan.

It has been a remarkable journey of adventure, education, and relationships. Without the opportunity to serve I might not have had the chance to experience such things. The acknowledgement I’ve received for the work that I’ve done is greatly appreciated, but my gratitude for the experience is immeasurable.

Sincerely,



Dorie

March

2/9- 3/24 Art in the Garden: *Ice & Stone*

2 Ikebana Demonstration

3 Hina Matsuri, The Doll Festival

9 Storytelling (*Hanasaka Jiisan*, The Old Man Who Made Trees Blossom)

9-10 Bamboo Fence Building Workshop (\$)

12 Estate Planning Workshop

18 Garden+ Lecture: Sou Fujimoto (\$)

23 Shamisen (Japanese banjo) Performance

28 Garden+ Lecture: Kyoko Yoshida, Masatsugu Ono, and David Karashima (\$)

30-31 Oregon Camellia Society Exhibition

31 Photographer Member Hours

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

RECURRING CULTURAL CORNER DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE CATHY RUDD CULTURAL CORNER

Tea Ceremony: 3/16, 3/20, 3/27, 3/31, 4/3, 4/6, 4/10, 4/17, 4/20

Bonsai: 3/4, 3/11, 3/17, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/21, 4/29

Koto: 3/10, 4/13, 4/28

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.

April

6-7 Saga Goryu Ikebana Exhibition

6-7 Misonodana Tea Presentation

13 Estate Planning Workshop

13-14 Ohara Seattle Ikebana Exhibition

24 Shakuhachi (bamboo flute) Performance

4/27-5/27 Art in the Garden: *Northern Lights*

28 Koto Performance

28 Photographer Member Hours

29 Garden+ Lecture: Christian Tagsold (\$)



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2019: Annual Membership Meeting & Reception

With special guest Kengo Kuma, and with a special presentation by authors Botond & Balazs Bognar about their recently published book *Kengo Kuma: Portland Japanese Garden*.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2019 Annual Membership Meeting & Reception on Monday, May 13 at 5:30pm at the Portland Japanese Garden.

This year's event is not-to-be-missed. Guest speakers will be scholar Botond Bognar, the Edgar A. Tafel Endowed Chair in Architecture at University of Illinois; Balazs Bognar of Kengo Kuma & Associates, and our design 'dream team' of Kengo Kuma and Sadafumi Uchiyama.

Also present will be Mr. Yoshiro Ito, Director and Honorary Chairman of Itogumi Co., Ltd., Honorary Chairman of the Federation of Hokkaido Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and President of the American-Japan Society of Hokkaido. Mr. Ito has been a leader, mentor, and friend of the Garden and our City for 60 years through the Portland-Sapporo Sister City Association.

Garden CEO Steve Bloom will present an annual overview to members. We will be honoring Board President Dorie Vollum and welcoming incoming Board President Robert Zagunis. We will also be recognizing our retiring Board of Trustees members.

A reception will immediately follow the Annual Meeting.

We invite you to come earlier in the afternoon (from 3:30 to 4:30pm) as Botond and Balazs Bognar sign copies of their new book: *Kengo Kuma: Portland Japanese Garden*.

Gateway Members will have early access to this book signing and will receive an additional discount on their book purchase, more details to come via e-mail.

Refreshments and light appetizers will be served between the book signing and the start of the Annual Meeting.

This is a member-only event and reservations are required.

Copies of *Kengo Kuma: Portland Japanese Garden* will be available for sale to our members through our website.

For more information and to RSVP please visit: japanesegarden.org/events/annual-membership-meeting/



Meet the Garden's New Membership Manager

Portland Japanese Garden's new Membership Manager, Megan Adams, is a familiar face. She started at Portland Japanese Garden three years ago as Assistant Operations Manager of Admissions, then became Operations Manager in 2018. Earlier this year, she accepted her new role of Membership Manager and is looking forward to meeting you!

Along with the past three years' experience welcoming visitors and members alike into the Garden, Megan brings over 15 years of diverse Customer Service experience to the Membership Department. She has some innovative ideas which include expanding our membership program for underserved groups within the greater Portland community.

"After working here for several years, I've gained an appreciation for what the Garden means for so many people. I'm looking forward to being involved through membership because it creates a new opportunity to share the Garden's mission," she said.

You will see Megan at membership events, at the Welcome Center, or even walking in the Garden. If you see her, say hello!



Summer Hours Begin

From March 11 through October 1, the Garden will be open until 7pm.

Last Admission at 6:30pm

Member-Only Extended Hours

Photographer member extended hours on the following days in March/April:

3/31 (7-8am), 4/28 (6:30-8am)

Members and their guests can also enjoy extended hours (7-9pm) on the following summer evenings:

5/12, 6/12, 6/30, 7/10, 7/28, 8/24, 10/19

Estate Planning Workshop

On March 12 and April 13, the Garden will host a workshop led by regional estate planning expert Gene Christian. We hope you will consider joining us.

There will be no obligation or solicitation at these sessions. Gene is well versed in the multitude of ways to incorporate charitable giving into your estate plan, including ways to save on your taxes now.

To RSVP or learn more about the workshops please contact:

Matthew Maas
Major Gifts Officer
mmaas@japanesegarden.org
503-542-9301

Please note that all events are subject to change.
Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.

1 Chris Ruggles

2 Mike Centioli



1

“In my opinion, the trees look better than ever. I hope you’ll take a moment to appreciate the hard work of our team when you’re walking through the Garden.”

— ADAM HART,
Senior Gardener



2



3

Pruning Inspires New Growth: Ready for Warm Spring Weather

Members who look closely enough this month will notice something extra special at the Garden.

For the first time in recent memory, the gardening staff at Portland Japanese Garden “touched every single pine in the Garden during pine pruning season.”

It is also the earliest the team has ever finished pruning at Portland Japanese Garden.

“We put nearly 500 hours into pine pruning this season. By my count, there are 82 pine trees and

another 31 mugos (pine shrubs) that were worked on, that’s something to be proud of,” said Senior Gardener, Adam Hart.

The eight full-time gardeners credit mild weather and additional staff which helped move the process along smoothly. Pine pruning is no easy task. It takes years to learn and requires meticulous care. Pine pruning workshops taught by the gardeners last up to six hours. Given the the care, time, and skill required, the completion of all the Garden’s pines marks a significant achievement this year for the team of gardeners.

1-3  Chris Ruggles



1

Springtime Festivals Celebrate Children

Hina Matsuri, The Doll Festival

Sunday, March 3
11am - 2pm

Jordan Schnitzer Japanese Arts Learning Center

Hina Matsuri (Dolls Festival) brings a special time to pray for the growth and happiness of girls.

Because it takes place on the third day of third month, which is the season for peach blossoms in the lunar calendar, the springtime celebration is also known as the "Peach Blossom Festival." Tradition held that the fragrance of peach blossoms possessed special powers to drive away evil spirits.

During the festival, families display *Hina* dolls in their homes. The arrangement always includes the Emperor and Empress on the first tier. Each region in Japan has evolved its own distinctive style of *Hina* dolls and displays them according to local tradition, carefully packing them away at the end of the festival.

The Garden's *Hina* doll collection, kindly donated by the Dozono family, goes on display each year at the Cultural Corner. Festival activities include children choosing their favorite *yukata* to wear for a photo with the *Hina* Dolls. And in the Classroom, guests can participate in a flower workshop hosted by the Ohara Ikebana School to celebrate the Peach Blossom Festival.



2

Kodomo no Hi, Children's Day

Sunday, May 5
10am - 1pm

Events located throughout the Garden

Children's Day has become a beloved family tradition at Portland Japanese Garden. Come celebrate the health and well-being of your little ones at the annual *Kodomo no Hi*, or Children's Day.

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. With a range of activities like *origami* helmet-making, a *haiku* scavenger hunt, *taiko* drum performances, a kid-friendly tea ceremony, and our famous *koi* parade, this event has something for children of all ages.

Most events will take place at the Cultural Village, in the Yanai Classroom, Atsuhiko and Ina Goodwin Tateuchi Foundation Courtyard, and the Cathy Rudd Cultural Corner. The *koi* Q & A will take place at the *koi* pond. The *koi-nobori* parade will take place throughout the Garden.



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Environmental Stewardship:

Garden Expansion Awarded LEED Gold

Earth Day (April 22) is quickly approaching – about two years after the opening of the Cultural Crossing Expansion and the perfect time to reflect on the LEED Gold Certification achieved by Portland Japanese Garden through the expansion project. LEED, or Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, is a globally recognized symbol of excellence in green building.

Projects pursuing LEED certification earn points across several categories, including energy use and air quality. The more points you earn, the higher your rating. A project then earns one of four LEED rating levels: Certified, Silver, Gold, or Platinum.

Green building practices can look deceptively simple. In the Cultural Village, which officially opened to the public in April 2017, many of the elements added for LEED certification will never be seen by visitors.

“The project is designed to optimize sustainable strategies in order to improve the buildings’ social and environmental impact,” said Jonah Cohen of Hacker Architects, the firm that worked on the Cultural Crossing project in conjunction with Kengo Kuma & Associates.

EARTH ENERGY

Several sustainable strategies were incorporated into the design, including a comprehensive thermal comfort system that includes a ground source heat pump using geothermal wells bored 300 feet deep into the earth.

“The geothermal wells combined with radiant flooring and heat recovery ventilation system are all highly efficient. They significantly reduce the amount of energy needed to heat, cool, and ventilate the buildings,” said Cohen.

Combined, Cohen said, these systems diminish the need to burn fossil fuels on-site, eliminate the need for large noisy mechanical units, decrease the size and quantity of bulky air-handling ductwork, and ultimately reduce operational costs.

Likewise, intentional strategies help improve the overall quality and performance of the buildings. Ample daylight in all occupied spaces is a result of the openness of the design. Floor-to-ceiling, wall-to-wall windows reduce the demand for electric lighting while providing an even and soft quality of interior light, moderated by deep roof overhangs.

Large sliding doors on the outside corners of the buildings interpret traditional Japanese vernacular architecture and help open the buildings to courtyard breezes. This strategy, in tandem with the deep eaves, allows the buildings to be less reliant on mechanical cooling during the hot summer months.

THAT CREEK ISN'T BROKEN

Below the parking lot is another hidden gem – or more specifically a hidden holding tank. That tank is part of a remarkable rainwater runoff system developed by Garden Curator Sadafumi Uchiyama. It starts atop each of the buildings. The “living rooftops” made of porous thin ceramic panels are covered with native sedums which collect and use much of the rain.

Rain that isn’t captured by the green roofs falls into troughs in the courtyard placed directly below the roof panels (look again: the buildings have no gutters). The water is channeled under the courtyard to the stone creek, which starts by the Umami Café and runs all the way down the hill. Dry in the summer, the creek channels runoff during the rainy season, naturally filtering it as it runs down the hill. Once clean, water enters the hidden holding tank under the parking lot where it slowly releases into the city sewer system. The capacity of the tank is 26,930 gallons!

A GREEN FUTURE

The last step in the construction process was re-landscaping the site to make it greener than before. Before building began, many trees and shrubs from the site were carefully removed and taken to an off-site storage area; all were then reintroduced

to the new landscape after the new buildings were in place. In addition, hundreds of new, native plants, shrubs, and trees were added, creating a beautiful, green environment with reduced erosion, better soil health, and improved air quality.

“All of this is necessary for the literal and metaphorical growth of the Garden,” said Kengo Kuma.

Kuma believes in environments surrounded by fresh air and nature. Materials such as wood and stone, intentionally placed, echo the surroundings.

This green approach served as the North Star guiding the Cultural Crossing project, and it now sustains the Garden, creating a welcoming space for encounters with nature and cultural experiences for generations to come.

To learn more about environmental stewardship in our Cultural Crossing project, head to: japanesegarden.org/LEED

Help us conserve resources by electing to go green and receiving *The Garden Path* in digital form only. Contact our membership team at membership@japanesegarden.org



2



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2

Northern Lights: Ceramic Art of Hokkaido Revisited

April 27 – May 27

Northern Lights: Ceramic Art of Hokkaido Revisited returns to the themed exhibition held at Portland Japanese Garden a decade ago that celebrated the diverse and dynamic artistic styles produced by the members of the Hokkaido Pottery Society. Guest curated by Sachiko Matsuyama, this exhibition revisits many of the artists represented in the original *Northern Lights* exhibition while also introducing new and emerging artists who demonstrate the future creative directions of Hokkaido ceramics.

Hokkaido is the northernmost island of Japan. Relatively new to the world of Japanese ceramics, Hokkaido has long been admired for its pristine lakes, virgin forests, and unspoiled scenic beauty. It was not until the late 19th century that settlers from all over Japan began moving to Hokkaido, bringing with them a wealth of new trades including the production of fine ceramics from many of the distinguished kilns around the country.

While many of Japan's historic ceramics regions are steeped in their individual traditions of styles, techniques, and materials, Hokkaido potters come from a variety of formative backgrounds, having developed their skills in traditional apprenticeships or through academic training in art studios and colleges. They demonstrate a wide range of styles and approaches, while Hokkaido's distance from the traditional ceramics centers of Japan allows these potters freedom to be more experimental in their creative process. In addition, the relatively young tradition of pottery in Hokkaido allows artists to seek out diverse materials such as varying clay types, glazes, and firing techniques from across Japan.

Returning from the 2008 *Northern Lights* exhibition will be potter Machiko Fukumorita, whose stylistic interpretation of the fruit of the Chinese Lantern plant utilizes locally sourced Hokkaido clay and spray on glaze. The work provides a visual meditation on the decay of the fruit's outer covering through a decorative pattern of perforations in the clay surface.

Artists displaying work at the Garden for the first time will include Masayo Tada, who uses a novel technique in which he creates a mold from a prototype, then uses the mold to shape the surface of the clay object. His piece suggests a sculptural representation of a traditional utilitarian vessel.

The opening of this exhibition will include demonstrations of wheel building technique by members of the Hokkaido Pottery Society, and opportunities to learn more about the creative process of its members through associated lectures and tours. A detailed schedule will be announced.

Select works from the exhibition will be available for purchase.

YEAR OF HOKKAIDO

This year commemorates the 60th anniversary of the sister-city relationship between Portland and Sapporo, the capital of Hokkaido. In honor of this relationship which served as a foundation to the creation of the Portland Japanese Garden, we are celebrating the Year of Hokkaido in our exhibitions and events.






3

EXHIBITION EVENTS

**GOLDEN CRANE
OPENING RECEPTION**
Apr. 26 / 5pm - 8pm

**MEMBER EXHIBITION
EXCLUSIVE**
May 25 / 8:30am - 10am

- 1  Machiko Fukumorita, *Chinese Lantern Flower*
- 2  Masayo Tada, *Birth*
- 3  Shichiro Koyama, *Bishamon tortoise-shell lattice vessel*

Photos courtesy of *katomi* / STUDIO EYE

New Curator of Art Brings Innovation and Global Network to Portland

Welcome Laura J. Mueller, Ph.D.



Portland Japanese Garden embarks on its eleventh year of Art in the Garden exhibitions with a new Curator of Art taking the helm in 2019.

“The retirement of esteemed scholar Diane Durston as an art curator at the Garden meant grand shoes to fill. Finding such an experienced and multi-disciplinary talent was no easy task. We had to search worldwide, never once under emphasizing the great significance of this role within the art community and to the Garden itself. There was a lengthy and rigorous search for the right professional for this job and we found her,” said Aki Nakanishi, The Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education at Portland Japanese Garden.

Laura J. Mueller, Ph.D., joined Portland Japanese Garden in January. She comes to Portland from New York City, where she has been a prolific and successful independent art consultant and curator for more than a decade. Her expertise includes a wide range of Japanese art forms both traditional and contemporary, and her global experience has cultivated a global network of cultural influencers. Dr. Mueller has curated several exhibitions, including *Garden of Unearthly Delights: Works by Ikeda, Tenmyouya & team-Lab; Competition and Collaboration: Japanese Prints of the*

Utagawa School; Adornment in Clay: Ceramic Netsuke from the Richard R. Silverman Collection; and, *Strong Women, Beautiful Men: Japanese Portrait Prints from the Toledo Museum of Art.*

Before completing her doctorate in Japanese art history at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, specializing in the study and research of Japanese woodblock prints, she completed an M.B.A. and M.A. in arts administration at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Mueller has spent more than six years in Japan as a scholar and art professional. She completed research under the Japanese *Monbukagakusho* (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) and The Japan Foundation dissertation fellowships at Gakushuin University in Tokyo, Japan.

Dr. Mueller will oversee the Garden’s art exhibitions and their related activities. “She will build upon the Garden’s already noteworthy art program and help elevate the Garden world-class profile on the global stage,” said Portland Japanese Garden CEO, Steve Bloom.

Thank you for your support!

Annual Fund Donations

Contributions received
11/16/2018 - 1/15/2019

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Wilma A. Zicker
And those who wish to remain anonymous (7)





The Golden Crane Society

Cumulative giving to the Annual Fund from January 16, 2018 through January 15, 2019



Tyler Quinn

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The Japan Foundation, Center for Global Partnership
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Golden Crane Legacy Society

Members of the Golden Crane 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 Golden Crane special events and receptions.

Esther "Ricky" Appleman
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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 Donor Relations Officer Matthew Maas at (503) 542-9301 or mmaas@japanesegarden.org

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

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1

Ice & Stone Golden Crane Reception

1
Ice & Stone creates a dialogue between Japanese viewing stones and the photography of Michael Kenna

2
The Garden's Art Curator Dr. Laura J. Mueller (third from left) welcomes (from left) Huntington curators Robert Hori and James Greaves and photographer Michael Kenna

3
(from left) Judy McElhany and Mieko Heriford enjoy one of the viewing stones



2



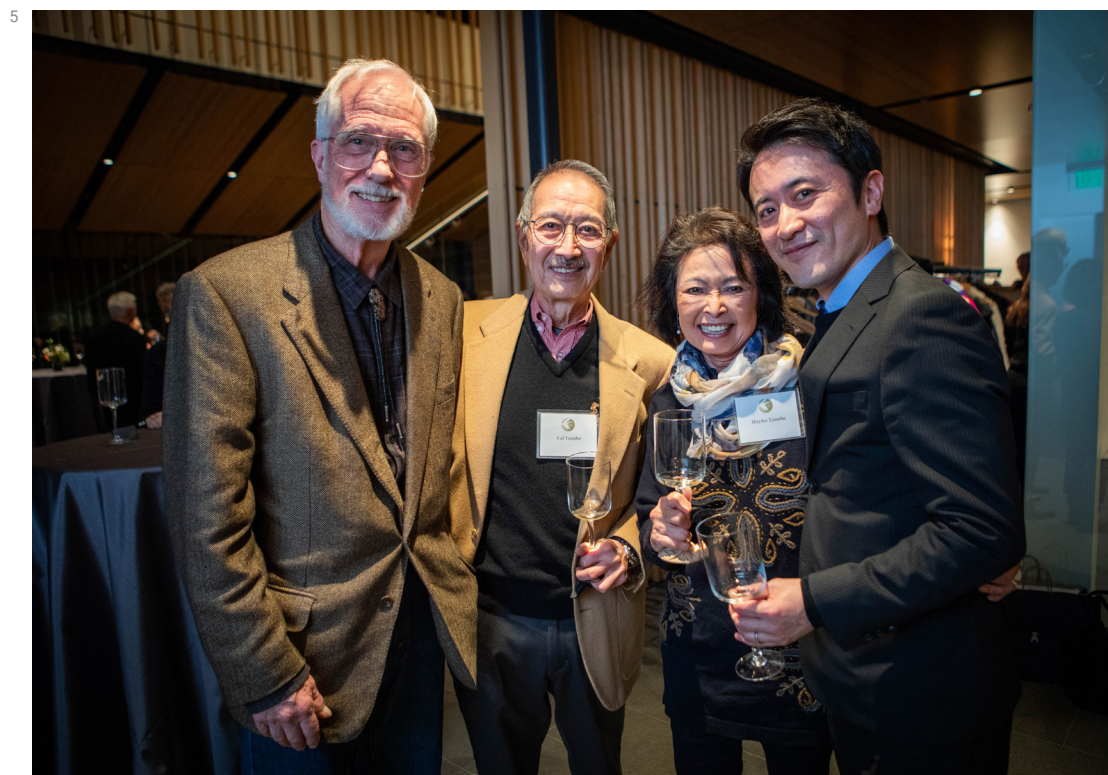
3



4

4
Huntington curator Robert Hori introduces the audience to the exhibition

5
The Garden's Akihito Nakanishi converses with (from left) Huntington curator James Greaves and Golden Crane members Drs. Cal & Mayho Tanabe



5

DID YOU KNOW? HOKKAIDO...

Hokkaido (北海道) is the northernmost island in Japan. Its name means "northern sea way." It contains the northernmost point in Japan (Cape Soya, at Wakkanai) at 45°31'22"N. Portland lies at the same latitude, at 45°31'12"N. Hokkaido lies across the strait from Siberia, and its geography and latitude grace the island with rich agriculture, beautiful snowfalls, and occasional viewings of the Northern Lights.

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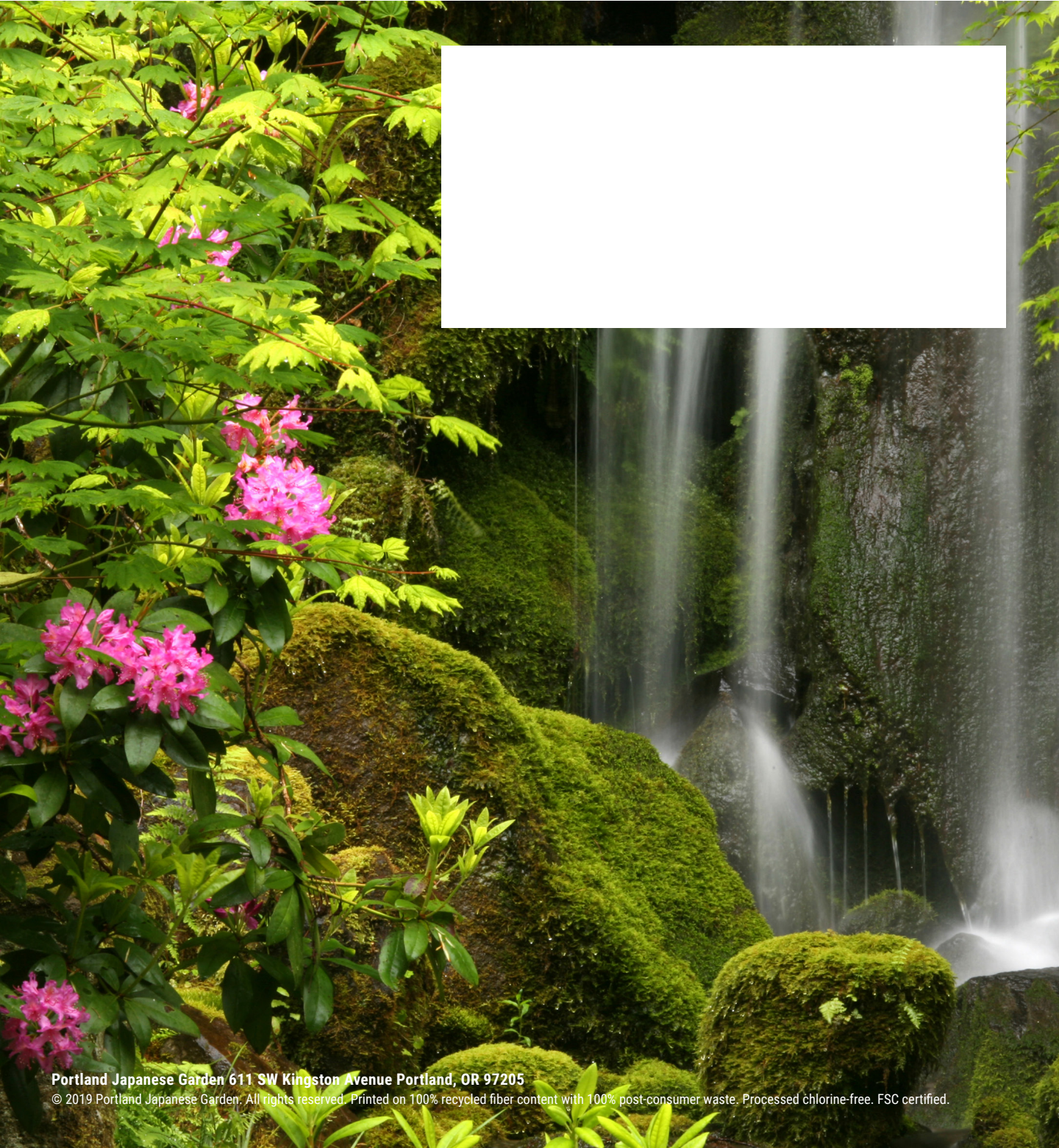
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