

The Garden Path

A Restorative Space

Fall/Winter 2024



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FRONT COVER  *Momiji, 2023 - Eiraku Zengoro XVI Sokuzen (1917-1998) Ninsei style Earthenware, Urushi lacquer, resin, and 24K gold Diameter 12cm by Naoko Fukumaru*

PAGE 3  *Jonathan Ley*

BACK COVER  *Grew Up Together - Blue & White (2021) Imari porcelain, ca. 1800s Repaired with resin, urushi, and 24K gold by Naoko Fukumaru*

HAIKU

Round and round
Koi in the quiet pool
Below the falls

– Peter Kendall



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Dear Members,

Fall has arrived! This is a special time of year throughout the Pacific Northwest, but especially so at the Garden when our landscape shakes off the last bits of late summer green and embraces the reds, yellows, and oranges of autumn. We have a lot of exciting programming happening these coming months, including a fascinating art exhibition of kintsugi artwork by Naoko Fukumaru.

In this season, where the transition of time races into view, it only feels appropriate to acknowledge the continued growth that an organic place like Portland Japanese Garden experiences. As you may recall, after 20 years of service to our organization and community, Steve Bloom will be retiring from his position of CEO at the end of the year. The Board of Trustees is now assessing the need for a new CEO and anticipate this careful and intentional evaluation will continue into 2025. In the meantime, as you are all likely aware, Lisa Christy, our stellar Executive Director, is now guiding the management and leadership of the organization moving forward for a seamless transition.

Times of transition can be unnerving, but rest assured we are energized about the days ahead. Portland Japanese Garden is a living and breathing place that evolves according to the will of its community, the changes that come with each generation, and nature itself. We are ready to step forward into the future with you and know that with our passion, energy, and commitment, we will do amazing things for the community here in Portland, and all around the world.

On that note, November marks the beginning of our annual fundraising campaign. I hope that you'll donate to support the vital work our organization does. As a lifelong Portlander, I'm very proud that such an authentically maintained and beautifully designed garden is located here at home: When I have friends visiting the area, I bring them to Portland Japanese Garden. When my extended family flies into the city, I bring them to Portland Japanese Garden.

As has been the case throughout the country, the past few years have been challenging for our city to navigate, but the Garden has remained a beacon of hope, serenity, harmony, and peace throughout. We are so fortunate that our predecessors worked tirelessly to transform what was once the damaged grounds of an abandoned zoo into a haven that reveals the true kindness, heart, and compassion of our city to the travelers who arrive here from all over the world. Thank you for your support—we quite literally could not continue our work without you.

With gratitude,

Paul Schommer
President, Portland Japanese Garden
Board of Trustees



"The Tree," one of the world's most photographed maples in the Strolling Pond Garden last autumn.
 📷 Hunter Chesnut

Member News & Events

Free Member Benefit! Enjoy the Beauty of Lan Su Chinese Garden

All of November

Lan Su Chinese Garden, one of Portland's most treasured spaces, will open their doors to Portland Japanese Garden members throughout the entire month of November. Advanced registration for reciprocal access is required. Information on how to access free member tickets online will be shared in our weekly e-newsletter.



The Strolling Pond Garden in autumn.
 📷 Wayne Williams

Celebrate Veterans Day at the Garden

November 11

Portland Japanese Garden will be offering free admission for active military personnel, military veterans and their families who accompany them on Veterans Day, Monday, November 11. Veterans Day at Portland Japanese Garden is sponsored this year by *The Oregonian*.



Go: Watch a Tournament 5,000 Years in the Making

November 16 & 17

Visit Portland Japanese Garden and watch players compete in the Peter Freedman Memorial Oregon State Go Tournament. Guests will also have the opportunity to learn more about *go*, an ancient board game that is believed to have been played in Japan since the Nara Period (710-794). Visitors to the Garden will be able to quietly observe the tournament games in progress and attend public presentations by Stewart Towle of Portland Go Club to learn about the origins and cultural history of this 5,000-year-old game of skill.

Exclusive to Members: Welcome in the New Year in the Garden!

January 1

Start the new year right with a visit to Portland Japanese Garden. On January 1st we open exclusively for members and their guests and will commemorate the holiday with a tranquil and refreshed atmosphere. There will be hot tea served all day, free tours of the Garden, and traditional Japanese New Year's décor.

Celebrate One of Japan's Most Important Holidays: *O-Shogatsu*

January 12

O-Shogatsu, or Japanese New Year, is a time of celebration for the start of a new year and hopes of happiness and prosperity to come. Activities include the exciting *shishimai*, or lion dance, a performance of the *Ryomen Odori* (double-masked dance), and other family-friendly activities.



For all the latest details on Garden events, including dates and times, go to japanesegarden.org/events and for reminders and updates, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter at japanesegarden.org/newsletter



Caryl Stern, Chief Impact Officer for LionTree, speaking at the Garden's Annual Reception for the Golden Crane Recognition Society. 📷 Nina Johnson

A Catalyst for Innovation and Progress

Former CEO of UNICEF USA on Shared Pursuit of Peace with Portland Japanese Garden

In 2024, Portland Japanese Garden welcomed Caryl Stern to speak at the annual reception for its Golden Crane Recognition Society, a group of donors whose profound generosity helps the organization's immediate and long-term vitality. For more than 40 years, Stern has tirelessly worked in service to others, including a decade-plus tenure as President and CEO of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) USA and as Executive Director for the Walton Family Foundation. Stern is currently Chief Impact Officer for LionTree, an independent investment and merchant bank, where she focuses on philanthropic efforts through impact investing in products and services that will work toward solving global problems.

Ahead of her remarks, Stern sat down with us to chat about her work and blossoming friendship with Portland Japanese Garden and Japan Institute. The landscape made an immediate impression on her. "There's an aura to this place you feel as soon as you arrive," Stern noted. "The architecture is magnificent. Just the juxtaposition of the green and blue skies and natural wood—the colors are magnificent. Everything you see represents that whole notion of the Garden being a place of peace."

Portland Japanese Garden was established in 1963 in the aftermath of the tragedies of World War II, when hostility toward those of Japanese ancestry was more frequent and more intense than it is in contemporary times. Its founders correctly predicted that through nature-based cultural diplomacy, a better understanding of Japanese culture could be shared to foster appreciation and perhaps even friendship. The story of the Garden's founding resonates with Stern, whose own family sought peace in a world that treated them cruelly simply because of their ancestry.

"My 91-year-old mother is a child of the Holocaust," Stern shared. "She came to the United States when she was six with her four-year-old brother with neither of their parents. They wound up living in an orphanage on the lower east side of Manhattan. That experience, instead of rendering her angry, rendered her thankful. She felt blessed that people cared enough to bring her over an ocean and take care of her. This inspired my mother to raise us to not only be proud Americans, but to be proud that we could exercise the rights the U.S. enabled in us—standing up and helping those who may not be able to stand up for themselves."

"When I think about what my mother experienced, and how she raised me, the Garden resonates with me because it's built on so many of the same ideas," Stern continued. "[Portland Japanese Garden] was built on healing and forgiving, it's built on learning and taking the time to find common ground. It's built on the concept of stopping and reflecting and finding new ways to connect."

If Stern sees this capacity in Portland Japanese Garden to foster societal betterment, it is because her life work embodies these characteristics. Stern has coupled her work with time as a board member for organizations such as the We Are Family Foundation, the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, the Martin Luther King Memorial Foundation, and the United Nations International School. Her work today with LionTree differs in many ways from Portland Japanese Garden—but that's a good thing. A better tomorrow cannot be achieved by just one approach. The Garden and the sibling organization through which it is expanding its programming, Japan Institute, are always looking to build connections and relationships with likeminded individuals and organizations that take different avenues toward peace.



Caryl Stern chatting with an attendee at Japan Institute's New York Peace Symposium in 2023. 📷 Jane Kratochvil

"I work in the intersection of purpose and profit," Stern explained. "I explore new models that will make investments into companies that are making products or providing services that will solve world problems. Whereas philanthropy will live in the moment, we get to work with long-term strategies. It's the difference between cleaning up pollution and investing in companies that will make products that ultimately result in less pollution. The world is looking to corporate America to solve problems, so I'm excited to see how I can capitalize on this moment to create a more sustainable future."

"I have amazingly warm and phenomenal feelings about the Garden," she concluded. "This garden brought people together, people from all across the globe, people anxious to work together to bring peace to our world. We gathered to learn from one another and to experience the appreciation of beauty that affiliation to this organization brings. Furthermore, this garden, like all spaces for peace, is a catalyst for innovation and progress. It inspires creativity by sharing its magnificence and by showing us the pure glory that is achieved by its diversity—the enhancement of the beauty of each individual plant by its placement near others that are completely different."

To read the full article, visit:
japanesegarden.org/stern



Measure twice, cut once is cliché, but good advice when it comes to pruning maples.

Enter the World of Japanese Maple Pruning

A Peek into a Lifelong, Multigenerational Effort

A maple tree in a space like Portland Japanese Garden can appear like a map of a river and its tributaries, with limbs extending out in a manner simultaneously gnarled and elegant. Stunning in all seasons, Japanese maples seem as though they were placed by divine intervention. It is no wonder that some in Japan consider visiting them a form of communion with nature. In autumn, when these trees transform into stunning displays of crimson, gold, and tangerine, people in Japan will venture out to mountains and wildland to engage in *momiji-gari* (maple tree viewing).

Maples in the wild are beautiful in their own way, but in Japanese gardens they are shaped into idealized forms, something that is the result of *整姿 seishi*, or the grooming and organization of the branches. With careful consideration of each tree's location and how it contributes to a space's composition, gardeners transform it into a more idealized form, while considering its natural form and character through *sentei* (the pruning of branches). While the best way to learn is through our Maple Pruning Workshops, a coveted member-only program, we hope that this peek into a few basics can help spark an interest in this fascinating horticultural activity.

Be in Harmony with the Seasons

Upright Japanese maples should not be pruned while they are still small. In the first year of pruning look to remove dead wood and branches that rub together—doing so will help bolster the tree's long-term health. Just keep in mind that you should avoid creating large holes in its canopy. Moving forward, it's good to be aware of the quieter, often less noticeable innerworkings of your tree as the year progresses and plan accordingly. Just remember—the chart below reflects seasonality in Portland. Consult with local nurseries and horticulturalists on how maples behave in your neck of the woods. Pruning is best thought of as a lifelong and maybe even multigenerational effort. Make sure you consider how decisions today will influence the choices you'll have to make tomorrow.

PRUNING CALENDAR

February	The sap will start to flow—if you prune too late, the tree may bleed excessively.
March	As spring arrives, leaf buds will begin to emerge. You can prune dead branches during this time.
April	Leaves will begin to populate the maple's branches.
May - June	Stems begin to grow and elongate.
July - August	Rather than making large cuts, consider only doing some touch-up or minor conditioning.
July - September	This is the time to prune branches that are less than 1.5 inches in diameter.
November - January	Once the maple has dropped its leaves, the time to make large cuts has arrived.

Identify Your Pruning “Goal”

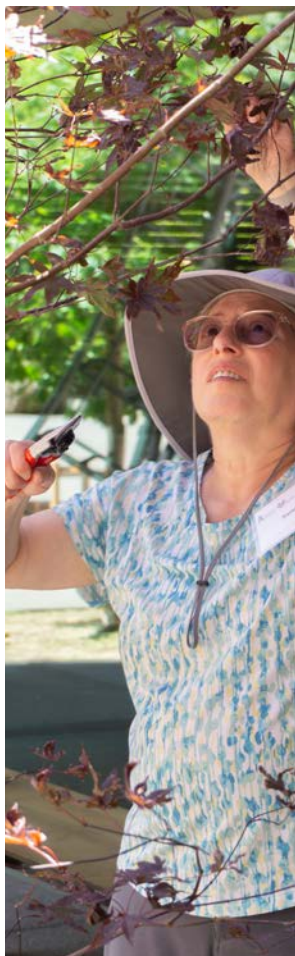
“Measure twice, cut once” may be a cliché but that approach is essential when pruning—you can't take back the cut. Before doing anything, it's important to determine your goal. Are you cleaning up? Reducing density? Shaping the tree? You also want to remember that no maple exists in a vacuum—take account of the space it's planted in and how that may influence its growth and shape. Step back regularly and review what you're doing from a zoomed out perspective. When you begin, start by removing dead, diseased, and broken branches before moving onto the overgrown and crowded ones. Generally speaking, thinning foliage at the top and keeping limbs toward the bottom will help redistribute sunlight and encourage tree growth.

Observe Japanese maples in-person

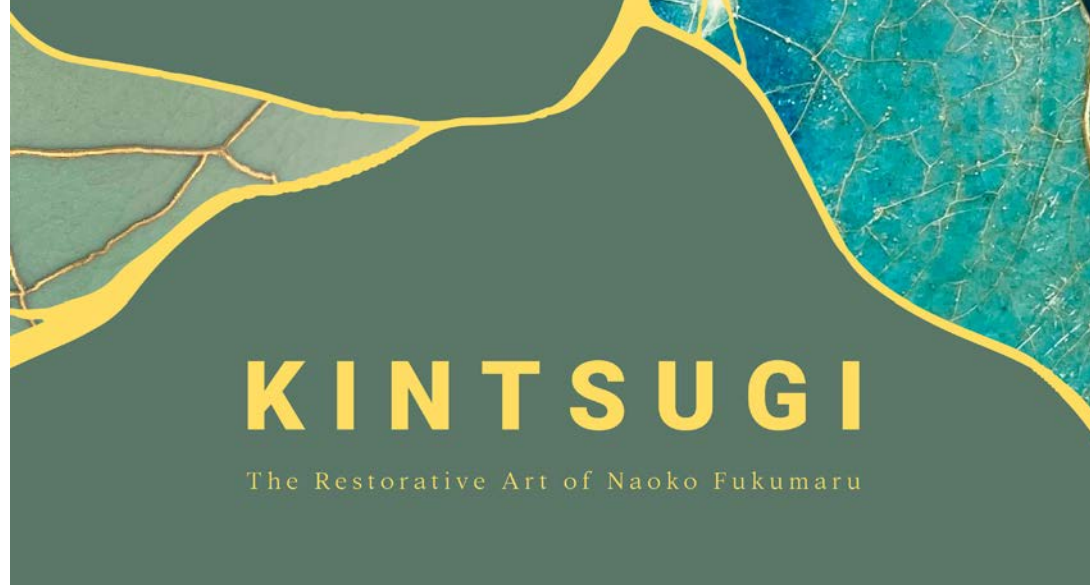
It may be tempting to get started after reading an article (like this!) or viewing a video, but the best maple pruning technique comes from observation and in-person education. Next time you visit Portland Japanese Garden, take time to observe the maples and the shapes they take, knowing that everything you see was done carefully and intentionally.

We also recommend becoming a member, so you can enter the lottery for these special programs. We should also note that those in the Golden Crane Recognition Society are able to enter the lottery one week before members. Access to these workshops is complemented by a host of worthwhile benefits enjoyed by our members, including exclusive hours to the Garden, early access to many ticketed events, and discounts at the Gift Shop.

To read the full article, which has more tips on maple pruning, visit japanesegarden.org/pruning-tips



A student at one of Portland Japanese Garden's maple pruning workshop in summer considers her next cut.



Exhibiting Artist Profile: Naoko Fukumaru

Kintsugi Expert and Master Conservator Transforms Trauma into Beauty Through Her Work

Please note: This article mentions a topic that may be difficult for some to read, namely domestic violence.

On September 28, Portland Japanese Garden debuted its final art exhibition of 2024, *Kintsugi: The Restorative Art of Naoko Fukumaru*. In both the Pavilion and Calvin and Mayho Tanabe Galleries, the show will feature the artwork of kintsugi artist and master conservator Naoko Fukumaru. “Kintsugi is a five-hundred-year-old Japanese method of restoring damaged ceramics with natural *urushi* lacquer dusted with powdered gold, seen as enhancing beauty by celebrating imperfection and impermanence,” shares Fukumaru.

Fukumaru was born and raised in Kyoto, a city with cultural output that has influenced Japan and the world entire for centuries. “I was so fortunate to be raised in a in a city surrounded by temples, shrines, gardens, traditions, and cultures,” she shares. “Growing up in Kyoto strongly influenced my artistic and creative sense.” However, kintsugi itself would not capture her full attention until she settled in Vancouver, British Columbia. “I moved to Canada about five years ago,” Fukumaru shares. “I was at the very bottom of my life—my marriage of 21 years had broken down and I was experiencing domestic violence. Despite this, I was hesitant to leave because I had two children. But after some time in Canada, my mind began to change. The beautiful nature and its honest and caring people helped me realize I shouldn’t be an unhappy mother and that violence shouldn’t be tolerated. I decided to flee to a women’s shelter. I thought things were going to get better. The physical violence ended, but the grief and trauma kept coming like big waves, one after another.”

“I had long known of kintsugi, but until this point, I was not broken enough to fully understand its beauty and philosophy. Now I was so broken. I immersed myself into the metaphor of kintsugi and how it was beautiful. Often discarded and hidden away, imperfect things are considered to have diminished value. But brokenness is part of our history and flaws are integral parts of our identity; elements that shape our uniqueness. By magnifying imperfections in objects, these works lead us to accept fragility and imperfection in ourselves and in life. Kintsugi also acknowledges the life cycle of the objects, potters, and mistakes to allow the person to move on.”

“More than restoring that which is physically broken, I am restoring the broken spirit of the ceramics.”

NAOKO FUKUMARU | EXHIBITING ARTIST AT PORTLAND JAPANESE GARDEN

Kintsugi, or kintsugi that looks as beautiful as Fukumaru’s, is a long and patient process. It is not surprising that she devotes a considerable amount of thought to her work before any lacquer is applied. “I spend a long time with each ceramic, communicating and listening to how they want to be transformed,” she shares. “Some are conservative, and some are challenging and thought-provoking. More than restoring that which is physically broken, I am restoring the broken spirit of the ceramics.”

The Restorative Art of Naoko Fukumaru is on display at Portland Japanese Garden when it undergoes a dazzling transformation of the seasons—the last vestiges of summer green will be consumed by ruby red leaves in fall, and then, as the show reaches its conclusion, the white mists and fogs of winter. Fukumaru is excited to have her work accompanied by this awesome display of nature and for it be displayed in a Japanese garden. “My first job was cleaning my father’s little Japanese garden at our family’s auction house,” the artist recalls. “I started when I was eight years old, and I spent endless time in the garden—it became my safe place.”

Kintsugi artist and master conservator Naoko Fukumaru.
 Naoko Fukumaru



“I resonate with the mission of the Portland Japanese Garden, [*Inspiring Harmony and Peace*],” concludes Fukumaru. “I put broken fragments back together, sometimes in harmony with other materials, ages, and cultures. By doing so, I include my message that we can all work together to bring healing and peace to the world. I sometimes challenge the world by not placing the fragments in their original positions, exposing large losses and broken edges, adding unusual materials, or drawing designs. My challenges provoke vital discussions, force viewers to question their own beliefs, and spark social dialogue around important issues. Despite the challenges and distractions in life, the ultimate goal is to learn love, peace, and harmony through multiple lifetimes, leading to a future where the purpose of humanity lives in unity.”

Read the full article at japanesegarden.org/fukumaru

Kintsugi: The Restorative Art of Naoko Fukumaru can be viewed in our Pavilion and Calvin and Mayho Tanabe Gallery. To learn more, go to japanesegarden.org/kintsugi



A Garden guest enjoying a sake tasting led by Joto Sake. 📷 Nina Johnson

Sake as a Means of Cultural Diplomacy

Joto Sake, Portland Japanese Garden's Official Sake Partner, Seeks to Educate People on Japan's Signature Beverage

At the end of September, Portland Japanese Garden collaborated with its longtime and official sake partner, Joto Sake, for a special afternoon tasting. Timed to align with World Sake Day on October 1, Joto presented six special offerings from their portfolio, accompanied by light bites from Elephant's Delicatessen. Ahead of this highly anticipated event, the Garden sat down to chat about Joto and sake with Ryan Mellinger. Mellinger is a sake expert who has been with Joto for ten years. She currently serves as General Manager for Joto Sake within the Kobrand Corporation.

The New York-based Joto Sake was founded in 2005 by Henry Sidel, who studied Japanese at Carleton College and lived in Japan as a homestay student. Joto quickly ascended in prominence thanks to Sidel and the company fostering partnerships with high-quality sake breweries throughout Japan, each with their own unique offerings and meaningful backstories. Recognized for their carefully curated portfolio of admired sakes, Joto was acquired by Kobrand in 2016, an 80-year-old marketer of distinguished wines and spirits.

"Joto means 'high quality' in Japanese," Mellinger notes. "For us that means not only the actual quality of the product, but also having a unique story that really can help bridge that gap and connect people in the United States to the people in Japan. We develop brands from the ground up that have had no representation in the United States previously. All of the breweries in our portfolio are what we call *jizake* (local sake), brewers. Most of the *jizake* we work with only sell their sake within the region they operate—it's the equivalent of a microbrewery that might be really popular in Portland or Brooklyn, *maybe* exports to certain cities, but doesn't have the reach of a large national brand. We work with ten *jizake*, but even if you combined all of their production together, it is still only about a quarter of the size of a domestic sake brewer in the U.S."

Mellinger makes regular visits to the nation. "All of our partners are in different parts of Japan; our portfolio is diverse in that we represent many different regions," she notes. "We don't duplicate the regions with our breweries, so when we visit, we're visiting all over—from Akita up north to Hiroshima further south and even [the island of] Shikoku. It's important for us to be there in person, not only so we can maintain cultural authenticity, but because we're working with *people*. Zoom makes meeting much easier now, but there's a lot that is lost and can't be replaced by digital means."

Joto is embodying the concept of cultural diplomacy—beyond encouraging people to learn more about an essential drink to great success, it's also helping support an industry experiencing a temporary blip in fortune back home. This desire to help share the gifts of Japan is something shared between Joto and the Garden.

Ryan Mellinger, General Manager for Joto Sake within the Kobrand Corporation. 📷 Nina Johnson



"We're very proud to be a partner with Portland Japanese Garden, and to support the work your organization does in educating people about Japanese culture and, just as importantly, creating a space of refuge and peace for your community," Mellinger offers. "I read how you're considered a 'living classroom,' which I think is great. We're similar in that education is an important component of what we do—sake production is a unique method that is truly particular to Japan."

"Portland Japanese Garden is so important to community and to, especially people like myself who grew up in a city who don't actually have access that easily to nature in that way, or even peace and quiet sometimes," Mellinger concludes. "I think providing areas like the Garden are very important and are obviously a very big part of Japanese culture and philosophy. Having time to think and meditate and respect nature around you—I think we could all benefit from that more, and I think a glass of sake makes that even more enjoyable!"

Read the full interview and learn more about sake at japanesegarden.org/joto

Corporate Sponsorships with Portland Japanese Garden

The Garden Corporate Golden Crane Society is a distinguished group of local, national, and international businesses that provide vital support to Portland Japanese Garden's operations and programming, helping to sustain our beauty and serenity, and enabling us to continue serving growing numbers of visitors every day. To join our growing list of corporate members and enjoy the exclusive benefits, contact our Corporate Relations Manager Nici Grigg at (503) 542-9301, or ngrigg@japanesegarden.org.



To see this list online, go to japanesegarden.com/support-your-garden
For corrections, contact development@japanesegarden.org

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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 Claire Eisenfeld, Director of Philanthropy, at (503) 542-0281 or ceisenfeld@japanesegarden.org.

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Recognizing all those who have made a gift in support of our Path to Peace Campaign for Japan Institute, helping us be a leading global voice for cultural understanding, in pursuit of a more peaceful, sustainable world.

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Steve Bloom, CEO of Portland Japanese Garden and Japan Institute surrounded by loved ones, friends, and colleagues at a celebration honoring his 20 years of service to the organizations ahead of his January retirement. 📷 Jonathan Ley

A Year in Photos

2024 was a memorable and exciting year for Portland Japanese Garden. Here is a look at just some of the amazing moments that took place.



Aki Nakanishi, the Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education, and Hugo Torii, Garden Curator, at Tea and Conversation with the Curators, a special event held for those in the Golden Crane Recognition Society.



Misako Ito, Executive Director of the Japan Office for Portland Japanese Garden and Japan Institute, speaking with Takao Donuma, Garden Director of Portland Japanese Garden from 1985 to 1987 at a symposium at the University of Tokyo, co-presented with International Horticultural Expo 2027. 📷 Ken Katsurayama



Lisa Christy, appointed as Executive Director of Portland Japanese Garden starting in 2024, with Makoto Iyori, Consul General of Japan in Seattle, and his wife Yuko during a visit to the Garden.



Naoki Kuze, Portland Japanese Garden Board of Trustees Member and President and CEO of St. Cousair, Inc., prepares takoyaki (octopus ball) for guests at our Kanpai Japan Series Kick Off Reception. 📷 Nina Johnson



En Taiko performing at the Garden's Children's Day festival celebration.



Left to Right: Oregon State Senate President, Senator Rob Wagner, artist and Chairperson of the Garden's Foundation Board, Sandra Chandler, and Oregon State Representative Tawna D. Sanchez enjoy a moment at the reception for the art exhibition, Vision of Place. 📷 Jonathan Ley



Ken Tadashi Oshima (far left) in discussion with (left to right) Dorothee Imbert, Shohei Shigematsu, and Yuko Hasegawa, as part of Japan Institute's first in-person installment of Living Traditions held at Wieden + Kennedy (W+K), an iconic Portland advertising agency. The event was supported by the Government of Japan. 📷 Arthur Hitchcock



Ann Burroughs, President & CEO of the Japanese American National Museum, and Board Trustee Emeritus, Dr. Calvin Tanabe, at the 2024 Annual Membership Meeting.
 📷 Jonathan Ley



The Membership Center opened this year and is located in the heart of the Garden, between the Strolling Pond and Flat Gardens, adjacent to the wisteria arbor.



Kengo Kuma (left), the acclaimed architect who designed Portland Japanese Garden's Cultural Village takes a tour of the Garden with Aki Nakanishi, the Arlene Schnitzer Curator of Culture, Art, and Education.



Paul Schommer addressing Garden members after officially being elected President of the organization's Board of Trustees.
 📷 Jonathan Ley



Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler and Sapporo Mayor Katsuhiro Akimoto on the east veranda of the Pavilion at an event celebrating the 65th anniversary of the two municipalities' sister-city relationship.
 📷 Jonathan Ley



Thousands visited and wrote down wishes to hang up on maple trees for SPREAD PEACE: Wish Tree by Yoko Ono, an art installation that happened simultaneously in several of the world's great gardens and Nobel Peace Center.



Leaders in Pacific Northwest cultural institution, nonprofit, and public service sectors who attended Portland Japanese Garden's Asian American Native Hawai'ian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Roundtable Discussion in May.



Curator Emeritus Sada Uchiyama returned this summer to lead a maple pruning workshop for the International Japanese Garden Training Center.



Reverend Zuigaku Kodachi returned for his 48th consecutive year of leading the Garden's O-Bon (Spirit Festival) event. Reverend Kodachi is the individual who initiated our hosting of the beloved annual gathering.



Portland Japanese Garden and Japan Institute staff meeting with the organizations' International Advisory Board in Tokyo.



Ryo Sugiyama, Curator of Nitobe Memorial Garden in Vancouver, British Columbia, rakes the Sand and Stone Garden.



His Excellency Ichiro Fujisaki, former Ambassador of Japan to the United States (center) with Ambassador Kurt Tong, Managing Partner at The Asia Group (right) and Andrew Wylegala, President of the National Association of Japan-American Societies, or NAJAS, at a reception welcoming NAJAS to Portland 📷 Jonathan Ley



Exhibiting kintsugi artist Naoko Fukumaru (left) and her daughters at the opening reception of her art exhibition, Kintsugi: The Restorative Art of Naoko Fukumaru. 📷 Arthur Hitchcock



Some of the incredible volunteers of Portland Japanese Garden in the Jan Miller Living Room sitting on the new cushions they generously helped secure funding for.



His Excellency Shigeo Yamada, Ambassador of Japan to the United States, taking in the Ellie M. Hill Bonsai Terrace during his summer visit to the Garden. 📷 Quincy Woo



Board of Trustees President Elect Trish Adams, Executive Director Lisa Christy, Chief Development Officer Jennifer Baumann, and Garden Curator Hugo Torii listening to speakers at the Garden's Annual Reception for the Golden Crane Society. 📷 Nina Johnson

DONATE TODAY

Kintsugi: The Restorative Art of Naoko Fukumaru, Portland Japanese Garden's final new art exhibition of 2024 is now open in the Pavilion and Calvin and Mayho Tanabe Galleries. Below is a piece by the exhibiting artist and master conservator, Naoko Fukumaru, *Grew Up Together - Blue & White (2021)*. Art exhibitions that showcase stunning work such as this are made possible by our incredible donors. To help support the Garden's programming and physical upkeep, make a gift at japanesegarden.org/donate

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