



Southeastern U. S. Ohara Chapter

Newsletter Autumn 2019

We successfully concluded our Autumn seminar in September with an outstanding program led by Associate Professor Akihiro Nishi. Having him come to Highlands three years in a row was a wonderful learning experience for our chapter. He complimented us in his report to Headquarters by saying that he saw real progress in our skills. We were also fortunate that Kay Storck was able to act as our interpreter. She added so much more than just a literal translation with pertinent questions and follow-up. My seminar co-chair, Karen LaFleur-Stewart's meticulous planning and attention to detail was clearly evident throughout the week.

In this fall season of change, we said sayonara to the Stone Lantern and our shared storage space. Fortunately, we have been able to secure a new storage space with a bonus of shelves located close to our former storage and for the same cost. We've added new lighting, which with the new paint and flooring in the Community Center, have made our physical surroundings more conducive to learning.

I would like to convey my special thanks to everyone who attended and husbands who jumped in and contributed to make the seminar so successful. As I write this letter, plans are already being made for the 2020 seminars. If you weren't able to join us in 2019, I hope that you will be able to attend in 2020.

Beth Bowers-Klaine
Chapter President

Chapter News



Sibbie Wilson presented her students: Marcia Wright, Susan Thorpe and Susan Mitchell with their Third Term Masters' Certificates. She also announced that three of her students, Julia VanHuss, Susan Thorpe and Karen LaFleur-Stewart were now Teaching.

Professor Akihiro Nishi held a demonstration at the Ikebana International New York Chapter. Southeastern Ohara members **Sushila Matthews** and **Marjorie Davanzo** attended.



Mark your calendars

2020 SEMINAR DATES

*****June 2020*****

*****June 11,12,13, 2020*****

Summer Seminar

Jose Salcedo, First Degree Master

NOTICE NEW DATES FOR SUMMER SEMINAR

September 2020

Autumn Seminar

September 24,25,26, 2020

Instructor To Be Announced

Members in the News

Imagine Museum of St. Petersburg Florida
Kimono Exhibition
Susan Thorpe



Karen LaFleur-Stewart presented an Ohara lecture and demonstration “Ikebana - Bonsai’s Parallel Art” at the North Carolina Arboretum’s 24th Annual Carolina Bonsai Expo on October 12, 2019



Photographs courtesy of Patti Hill, Ikebana International Asheville Chapter #74

Southeastern U.S. Ohara Chapter

Ikebana of Richmond held the Ellen Gordon Allen Annual Lecture and Demonstration on October 3, 2019 the guest presenter was Grand Master Ingrid Luders. She also conducted three workshops: Traditional Chrysanthemum, Realistic Landscape and Hana Kanade. Included in attendance at the event among the 90 guests were Southeastern Ohara members: Alice Buch, Linda Taylor, Marjory Davanzo, Christina Dunn and Judy Sheldon.



SEMINAR NEWS

The eagerly anticipated 2019 Fall Seminar brought to the Community Center changes that are welcome....and changes that are not. Along with the prospect of the return of dear friends, the presence of long absent participants, and Sensei Nishi were all delightful recurrent, joyful pleasures. The spaces left open by faces that could not return were haunting, especially with the backdrop of the final days of the Stone Lantern. Along with ginza containers' mute evidence of withdrawing friends brought, like fall, wistfulness for the past.

Wednesday set-up was, happily, less challenging than in other years. With the help of the Highlands staff who set up the room and faithful ikebana husbands and Dori Moschovi, Shoji screens were put up, buckets readied and our former storage space completely emptied. The big camera lights were roped to the rafters, supplemented with new clip lights and a few LEDs installed (Thank you Tom Klaine!). Consequently we were able to enjoy a room that was lighter than it has ever been. Diane and Russ Harker set up the AV system so that soft-spoken, translator Kay Storck could be easily heard. Typically reliable, the timely flower delivery was missing stems, even included a few wilted ones so plans for a supplemental delivery on Wednesday had to be made. With fewer plants and buckets to handle and no extra fragile materials, conditioning was completed by 4:40 pm.

In the middle of the afternoon we welcomed Sensei Nishi back! After selecting his containers, boards and kenzans for the upcoming arrangements, Sensei Nishi was presented with a unique, special gift by Beth and Susan Thorpe: a personally labeled (it includes his name) bottle of Kentucky bourbon plus, a small bottle of soy sauce aged in emptied bourbon barrels. Sensei accepted both with delight!



Southeastern U.S. Ohara Chapter

Sensei Nishi a well respected professor of the Ohara School continues to provide beautiful illustrations of various forms for publication in their periodicals. Sensei Nishi is the artist who composed the arrangements found on the Ohara School web page and on page 6 of fall seminar notebook. Also in the seminar notebook is his arrangement of blueberry and chrysanthemum from Soka, 2015, 7, p 54, the composition of mini coconut palm, mosaic plant, ophiogon 'black dragon, oncydium, kuramashinobu fern from Kikyo, 315, p. 21 and the composition of green aeonium, black aeonium, and Chinese juniper from Kikyo 215, p. 19. (These are also found on pages 15, 21 and 33 of the Fall 2019 Seminar notebook.) In addition, Sensei displayed proof copies of eight arrangements that will be used in the November 2019 SOKA issue.

Thursday morning, Elizabeth Clark and Jaclyn McCauley arrived early to distribute flowers for the morning lesson. After a welcome from President Beth Bowers-Klaine and group introductions, Beth introduced both Sensei and our translator, Kay Storck to begin our ikebana studies

Thursday's first arrangement was a Moribana Color Scheme Color Method Slanting Style using three materials - purple mums, croton leaves and azalea. A scan of the room revealed diversity in branches brought by participants, including branches of viburnum, Japanese maple, camellia, azaleas and fruit trees.

In his descriptions and preparations for arranging, Sensei Nishi offered several critical points. Kenzan placement is key to inserting main stems correctly. The object in the slanting moribana is always the material placed furthest to the left or right. Mum leaves (which were in poor condition) need extra misting especially from the back, the site of transpiration pores, to help revive leaves as much as possible.

After completing critiques and during a tasty Kitchen lunch, Sensei Nishi described the origins of the 300 year old Portuguese recipe behind the delicious cake he brought as a gift for us to enjoy.

Before the afternoon lesson, Sibbie presented three of her students with their certificates. Susan Thorpe, Marcia Wright, and Susan Mitchell all received the beautiful calligraphy of their Third Term Masters certificate. Sibbie also commended both Julia Van Huss and Karen LaFleur-Stewart for being active teachers.



Moribana, Color Scheme, Color Method, Slanting Style

With flowers in place at our tables, Sensei introduced participants to the Moribana Hosun. (Hosun means very small and square.) Sensei selected a small, plugged bonsai container approximately 5" long and 2.5" wide. Several participants used their blue rectangles purchased at NAOTA. Sibbie supplied pine branches to combine with Green Trick Dianthus and small blue asters. (Sibbie is also the provider of miscanthus plumes used later.)

Sensei Nishi advised us that the asters should be long enough to be seen, and that the "wild hair" needles of the pine branch should be removed. If the container is extremely small, there is insufficient room for the water to be exposed.

Thursday night all members were invited to join Bert Pruitt and Anne Brissey for dinner at the Highlands Country Club. It was a wonderful opportunity to make new friends and get reacquainted with old friends.



Moribana, Landscape, Realistic Method, Hosun

After a night of well-earned rest, Friday morning preparations were ably handled by Alice Buch, Barbara Beers and Susan Mitchell who distributed materials for the Cascading Style Heika. Their challenge: to untangle and deliver contorted bittersweet branches equally, without losing the berries. In addition, miscanthus plumes (thank you Sibbie!) and yellow mums were in the tall buckets.

To begin the lesson, Sensei Nishi compared the different treatments used handling freshly cut bittersweet vs. dried bittersweet. As he assembled his arrangement, Sensei noticed the tightness of the miscanthus plumes (they had been hair-sprayed). After realizing the cause of the tightness, Sensei added that plumes needed to be spread for a more natural appearance. Friday's lunch included the mandatory seminar ingredient: broccoli cornbread, which was enjoyed while ginza hopefuls placed their final bids. Containers from both Judy Melton and Ginny Mathews were up for sale this time, reminding us of the passing years, lending a poignant mood to ginza bidding. Those who know Ginny and Judy were reminded of some of the wonderful arrangements they composed in their containers and of our special times with those dear friends. At 12:45, the ginza ended; Susan Thorpe and Elizabeth began their tabulating so that the happy winners could collect their new treasures.



Heika Cascading



Shohinka Heika

Saturday morning, with flowers (Areca palms, roses to supplement branches previously used) waiting at our seats, delivered by Maria Wright, Diane Harker, and Susan Thomas, our last morning lesson explaining Bunjin Moribana began. Sensei Nishi compared Bunjin Moribana to Hana-isho Rising Form, indicating that

Bunjin Moribana is the more advanced arrangement. Sensei demonstrated the best method to re-unite two palm fronds of different lengths, facing each other, so as to appear as if they emerging from an actual plant.

To begin the afternoon, Sensei demonstrated and assembled an exquisite Shohinka. Sensei Nishi gently reminded us that Shohinka is an especially challenging arrangement, one that requires that THE very most elegant beautiful branches and flowers be assembled. Shohinka is an advanced arrangement. In this way it is like Bunjin but it is not based on Chinese screen prints. His primary caution was to suggest that we avoid overfilling our vases - spare and simple is the goal. Material selection of the most interesting and best pruned materials is key to making a form as beautiful as that of Sensei Nishi. A Chapter Dinner at the Community Center, catered by The Kitchen, brought an end to our second seminar day.



Bunjin Moribana



After enjoying the final, enjoyable meal delivery from the Kitchen, reloading of cars began. When the group settled, Sensei offered the final lesson of this seminar, a sweet Hana-isho Circular Form. Sunflowers were the focal flowers, supported by galax, bear grass, astilbe, bittersweet and hypericum.

Placing the 3 graduated-length sunflowers anchors the arrangement, so that the flowers appear to be “marching” around the perimeter. Placed low, the sunflowers should flow outward as if wreathing the container. Sensei reminded us that the overhead camera gives you the best view to use for checking critical placement sites.

With critiques completed, the final lesson’s debriefing began. Sensei Nishi remarked that this visit to Highlands was his third one in three years. Having seen many of us on those visits, he commented that he observed that repeaters were making progress toward our goal of learning the nuances and subtleties of ikebana.

The Circular Form was a lovely capstone on which to conclude Autumn Seminar 2019.



Hana Isho-Advanced-Circular Form

Upcoming Events & Programs

FEBRUARY 2020

February 27, 2020

Headmaster Hiroki Ohara's Ikebana
Performance

With the Microsoft Mixed Reality device
HoloLens 2

Hosted by: Consulate-General of Japan in
Seattle

Ikebana International Chapter Seattle Chapter
19

ASUNARO d.b.a. Japan Fair

6-8 PM

Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall

200 University Street

Seattle, WA

<https://www.seattlesymphony.org>

February 29, 2020

Headmaster Hiroki Ohara's Ikebana
Demonstration at

The 2020 Northwest Flower and Garden Festival

11:45 – 12:45

The Washington State Convention Center

705 Pike Street

Seattle, WA

<http://gardenshow.com>

Limited seating of 250

MARCH 2020

March 13,14,and 15, 2020

Exhibition

Community Center in Treasure Island, Florida

Ikebana International St Petersburg Chapter

Contact: Susan Thorpe

shthorpe@tampabay.rr.com

APRIL 2020

April 15 – 16, 2020

Two Day Workshop

Miami Valley Chapter

Dayton, OH

Contact: Beth Bowers-Klaine;

beth.kaine@gmail.com

April 30 – May 1, 2020

Ohara Workshop (4 lessons)

Jose Salcedo

Ikebana International Wilmington Chapter

Wilmington Arboretum Auditorium

Contact: Bev Maurer

bevwillm@gmail.com

JUNE 2020

June 11, 12, 13, 2020

Southeastern U. S. Ohara Chapter

Summer Seminar

Highlands, NC

Instructor: José Salcedo, First Degree Master

SEPTEMBER 2020

September 24, 25, 26, 2020

Southeastern U. S. Ohara Chapter

Autumn Seminar

Highlands, NC

Instructor: To be announced

OCTOBER 2020

October 12 – 16, 2020

NAOTA 19th Conference

Headmaster Hiroki Ohara

San Diego, CA

NOVEMBER 2020

TBA

Demonstration by Susan Thorpe, Ikebana

International of St. Petersburg

Directory of Ohara Teachers

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Teaches in home selected Fridays at
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Linda Taylor
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Teaching and Demonstrations

Susan Thorpe
St Petersburg, Florida
727-515-1497
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Teaching and Exhibition

Julia VanHuss
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704-366-2504
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Demonstrations

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Teaching, Workshops,
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Contact directly

Ohara Reference Page

Corrections, Additions and Notifications of Events

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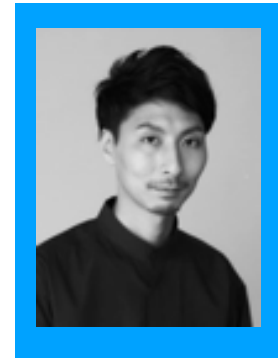
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Lagniappe: A little something EXTRA

Ikebana x Technology **Japanese Flower Art Meets Mixed Reality**

Dear President of Chapter/Study Group of the Ohara School:

Japan has long been known for its exceptional cultural traditions and technological innovation. With the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympic Games on the horizon, Japan is continuing its quest to explore new possibilities where humanity and technology are bridged to inspire the next generation. As part of these new ventures into the future, a project that joins Ikebana with cutting-edge technology will take place on February 27, 2020 at the Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall in Seattle, a fastest growing technology hub in the United States.



Headmaster Hiroki Ohara will host a world-premiere Ikebana performance incorporating Microsoft's Mixed Reality technology device, the HoloLens 2. This Ikebana x Mixed Reality performance will allow the audience to see the process of creating Ikebana through the Headmaster's eyes. It will not only be entertaining, but it will also showcase new paths of cultural presentation and exchange. As part of that effort, we will work with schools to provide the youths an opportunity to experience Japanese culture, open their eyes to new horizons of technology and stimulate their creativity and imagination.

We would like to share this never-before-experienced opportunity with not only those in Seattle but with an audience worldwide. Therefore, we will promote this event through print and digital media, specifically television broadcasting, outside Seattle as well to ensure this event gets the maximum exposure.

With a capacity of 530 for the hall, we will encourage people in various fields to come see the event. Please call for people outside your Chapter/SG to participate. Seat reservation and invitation is required, so please fill out the attached reservation form for all participants through your chapter/SG and return to the International Division of the Headquarters at your earliest convenience to secure seats.

In addition to this performance, he will host an Ikebana demonstration at the Northwest Flower and Garden Festival at the Washington State Convention Center on February 29. It is planned that he will conduct a demonstration using a variety of local flower materials and talk about the Ikebana x Mixed Reality performance done on February 27 while displaying a slideshow of photos of the performance.

We look forward to your participation.

This event co-hosted by :

Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle
Ikebana International Chapter 19 (501(c)(3) non-profit organization)
ASUNARO d.b.a. Japan Fair (501 (c)(3) non-profit organization)