

# I.I. ACTIVITIES

## Ikebana Grand Prix 2012

Headquarters Japan

## Eliane's Morimono

Geneva #143 Switzerland

# 143

On November 2, 2012, Geneva Chapter had the extreme pleasure to receive Eliane Hosui Gagneux, Sub-Grand Master and Honorary President of the European Ohara Teachers Association.

Eliane introduced us to the interesting morimono style of the Ohara School. Each participant was requested to bring an orchid with two stems, and we provided each a black wooden work board. Eliane as usual came with her arms full. She had prepared a comprehensive eight-page syllabus for everyone and prepared and filled twenty-six plastic bags with materials.

Our first task was to extract the orchid from its pot and wash all its roots. After Eliane's introduction and many subsequent explanations, we had the opportunity and pleasure to create our very own morimono arrangement.

Each participant tremendously enjoyed the workshop event and particularly Eliane's assistance and constructive comments. Eliane Gagneux enjoys sharing her knowledge and gives generous time and attention to each participant. We had a fantastic time. Sincere thanks and gratitude to Eliane.



Eliane Hosui Gagneux standing behind her morimono arrangement

## Mieko Kubota in Miami

Miami #131 USA

# 131

During the weekend of September 29-30, 2012, Mieko Kubota presented a free public demonstration of Ikebana sponsored by the HistoryMiami museum.

Approximately seventy people gathered to watch her create beautiful arrangements and to hear her speak about the cultural aspects of Ikebana. On the wall behind her were three large calligraphic works by Mieko with the words Ikebana, Kado, and Celebration, which she used as guides for her presentation.

The arrangements she created were typical of those created for the seasons and holidays in Japan. Her eight designs exhibited a wide range of Ikebana styles, from traditional to modern freestyle. She was accompanied by Japanese musicians playing a shakuhachi and two kotos. Meiko drew inspiration from the music in her designs.

Arrangements made by Miami Chapter members in a hallway at the HistoryMiami museum.

She was assisted by her granddaughter, Emiko Squires.

A two-day public exhibition by seven members of Miami Chapter corresponded with the demonstration at the museum. Eleven arrangements were created showing a variety of styles from various schools of Ikebana. Some arrangements were very dramatic and large, while others were simpler. Information about the local Ikebana chapter was handed out by chapter volunteers. Guests to the museum seemed delighted and charmed with the variety and beauty of the chapter's exhibition. They also enjoyed Mieko's demonstration not only being serenaded by the music, but also learning about Japanese culture and the "way of flowers."



Present Ikebana International award



From November 18 to 21, 2012, I.I. Headquarters participated in the Ikebana Grand Prix 2012 held at Kita-Senju, Tokyo, and gave four Ikebana International Awards to encourage the creativity of Ikebana artists. This contest was organized by the Imperial Academy of Ikebana for the objective of preserving this Japanese traditional art, offering an opportunity to all Ikebana

# HQ

Headquarters artists, encouraging creativity, and sharing understanding about Ikebana.

A total of 208 participants, divided in 6 categories, joined the contest, and 2,621 visitors attended this year's exhibition. Representing a sponsoring organization, the International President Lily Zhang participated in the inauguration on November 18, 2012, and gave Ikebana International Awards on January 12, 2013.

I.I. started to support the Ikebana Grand Prix in 2009. The International Board approved granting Ikebana International Awards to the winner of each category of the Ikebana Grand Prix. In 2012, I.I. granted 4 trophies and book vouchers, plus 3 magazine back issues and the second I.I. *History Book* with each trophy. I.I. will continue to support the Ikebana Grand Prix as a Public Purpose Project each year.

# HQ

Headquarters

## I.I. Fukushima Green Campaign Next Generation Workshop

Headquarters Japan

From October 12 to 13, 2012, I.I. Headquarters organized the Fukushima Green Campaign – Next Generation Workshop in Iitoyo Elementary School, Soma City, Fukushima Prefecture.

Twenty-seven members from Tokyo Founding Chapter, Kamakura Chapter, and Sendai Chapter held an Ikebana workshop for 36 6th-grade children, who were very enthusiastic about their first Ikebana lesson.

International Publication Director Hiroko Abe gave a talk on the history of Ikebana with the theme "Touch Japanese Traditional Culture." Ms Ichifu Meikyo, Noriko Matsudaira, and Marie Kawai made different arrangements with the same flower materials as the children used and provided explanations. On behalf of I.I., Past International Presidents made a donation to the school in memory of the late I.I. Winston-Salem Chapter #63 member Mrs. Michiko K. Hopkins.

The school principal showed a DVD about the disaster of March 11 and shared his experience with I.I. participants, then showed them an area devastated by the tsunami that once was a beautiful shore.

The event was very successful. Not only was it beneficial therapy for the traumatized children, but the school principal considered letting children create an Ikebana arrangement for their graduation. He wished to publish I.I. participants' comments in the school newsletter, which is distributed to all parents.





## 20-Year Anniversary

Fort Worth #38 USA

38 Fort Worth

On September 14, 2012, Fort Worth Chapter celebrated its 20-year anniversary of reactivation, honoring Beverly Harden for all her contributions to the chapter over the years—making her an Honorary Member of the chapter—and recognizing 7 members and former members for their history with the original chapter and the 1992 Reactivated Chapter. Of our 36 members, 21 were in attendance, along with 21 members of Beverly Harden's family, honored former members, former members and visitors, for a total of 51 people. We enjoyed a day of ikebana reminiscences, presentations, flower exhibits, bento box lunches, an anniversary cake, raffles, and pictures. It was truly a day of friendship through flowers.



Fort Worth Chapter members, guests, and Beverly Harden's family

## Arrangements with Fruits and Vegetables

Middle Georgia #112 USA

112 Middle Georgia

On October 18, 2012, Middle Georgia Chapter enjoyed an Ichiyo School demonstration and workshop on morimono arrangements presented by chapter member Dee Boren. Members had been asked to bring fruits and vegetables of their choice to use during the workshop. Mrs. Boren provided a handout defining morimono and proceeded to demonstrate an arrangement using vegetables and another using fruits. She emphasized the need to coordinate color and texture for contrast and for a harmonious effect in the designs. For many members, this was their first introduction to morimono, and they evidently had quite a bit of fun creating their arrangements and viewing those made by other members. It was a most enjoyable workshop.



Dee Boren and the morimono arrangement she created during the October 2012 workshop

## Recycle Workshop

Sun Cities #167 USA

167 Sun Cities

Sun Cities Chapter's November, 2012 demonstration/workshop was a Thanksgiving theme given by Professor Harumi Maejima of the Keisen-Kai school. Their philosophy is to recycle and use things around the house. We used baskets with a cup kenzan and autumn flowers.

Harumi demonstrated two arrangements using different style baskets from her home, and the third arrangement was made in a basket similar to the ones we were all using. Harumi also founded and is President of the Japanese Culture Club of Arizona.

Harumi Maejima at her demonstration/workshop



## Rising, Inclining, Rimpa

San Diego #119 USA

119 San Diego

Ohara Grand Master Akiko Bourland demonstrated three ikebana arrangements and one Heika arrangement. The creations of Rising Form, Inclining Form, and

Rimpa were extremely vibrant and artistic. For the Rising Form, she used cattails and sunflowers, which showed the simply beautiful line of this arrangement. For Inclining Form, the kookaburra and roses exhibited the definite, pleasing angle. The main materials for Rimpa were snowball branches and mums (large, medium and small). She impressively defined the artistic value of design resembling screen paintings. For an added dimension, she placed the Heika arrangement composed of snowball branches, lily, bittersweet, and persimmons behind the Rimpa arrangement.

Teacher display arrangements were done by Michiko Kawamura (Heika arrangement) and Teruko Hanson (multisided radial form). Cris Bugarin narrated the demonstration. Pui Lan Ng and Michiko Kawamura were assistants. Master Gardener Mary Clemens presented a very informative slide presentation on the low water sustainable garden. Lovely table arrangements made by Pui Lan Ng were raffled after a luncheon provided by I.I. members.

## Ikebana in Paradise

St. Petersburg #65 USA

Professor Masumi Yonezawa standing by one of her demonstration arrangements

St. Petersburg Chapter celebrated its 50th anniversary, titled Ikebana in Paradise, at the Hilton Hotel in St. Petersburg, Florida from November 12 to 15, 2012, and an outstanding success it was.

Demonstrations by Japanese Master Instructors Yoka Hosono of the Sogetsu School and Professor Masumi Yonezawa of Ikenobo delighted the large audience of students, guests, and members of the public. The comments made by attendees reflected their amazement. Most could not believe what could be done with flowers and other natural materials.

Along with the demonstrations, all of the ikebana teachers who attended the celebration created arrangements, which were placed in the main areas of the hotel and open to the public to view. We had many visitors who stood in awe of the wonderful displays.

The classes for the students of ikebana were educational, informative, and innovative and also a coming together of many new and old ikebana friends creating exciting arrangements. Most of the materials used by the students were tropical in nature.

This synergetic example of friendship through flowers will not be soon forgotten by all who participated.



65 St. Petersburg

## Anniversary Celebrations

Hyderabad #250 India

250 Hyderabad

This year is being celebrated as the 60th year of Indo-Japan diplomatic ties and the 15th Year of Ikebana International Hyderabad Chapter. As part of this, a program Pushpa Raagalu—An Evening of Floral Jewellery and Ikebana was held on November 7, 2012. The Honored Guests for the event were Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan, Chennai, and Mrs. Nakano.

It was an innovative floral evening where members wore jewelry created with fresh flowers and spoke about the significance of the flowers. They used the same flowers for an ikebana arrangement. An ikebana exhibition was held.

On this occasion Hyderabad Chapter also released its second issue of the newsletter *Floral Pearl*. The program was well attended by the members and widely covered by the media.



Mrs. and Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan, Chennai, Mrs. Furukawa from Chennai, Charter President Horyu Meena Anantnarayna and President Ohryu Rekha Reddy with the Hyderabad Chapter committee members



## Tour at Gibbs Gardens

Atlanta #265 USA

On October 10, 2012, Atlanta Chapter enjoyed a tour of Gibbs Gardens. There are more than 16 gardens including fabulous Japanese Gardens in the 300-acre Gibbs estate. Members and guests enjoyed the myriad colors of fall. Especially, the Japanese Gardens were breathtaking in this season.

We found many plants and flowers that we use for ikebana, so we could talk about our arrangements and get some new ideas inspired by natural beauty.

265 Atlanta



## Ikenobo Styles

London #6 UK

6 On November 20, 2012, Mrs. Hansa Patel, Master of Ikenobo, gave a presentation of all the different Ikenobo styles, with eight arrangements ranging from traditional rikka shofutai and shoka styles to modern manifestations of these, including some freestyle interpretations. Her theme was the festive season, to which she brought her own distinctive colorful international interpretations, reminding us that in her childhood in Uganda, strelitzia were popular at Christmas, with her experiences of creative workshops, notably in Germany and Japan influencing her freestyle interpretations.

## 227 Basel Florigami

Basel #227 Switzerland

That gloomy, rainy Saturday morning in late October was ideal for an ikebana workshop. Its title Florigami was explained as Ikebana plus Origami.

Each participant received a set of origami paper and folding instructions. Herta Stark and Ursula Göldi had already put up five welcome arrangements. They proceeded to show step by step how to fold lilies, which were for the ikebana arrangements. Turning a flat piece of paper into an intricate form seemed extremely difficult, but after a while everyone got quite enthusiastic.

Lunch marked the end of the origami production. After lunch, ikebana utensils and materials were taken out! A wide choice of greenery was offered, and very soon exciting arrangements started to take shape, the paper flowers were de rigueur, and Florigami was not only an experiment but also great fun.

During the morning the rain had turned into snow, and everything, including the last autumn flowers, was now covered with a white blanket.



Florigami arrangements



Ikebana Grand Prix 2012

1. Special judge category: Aoba Ryu - Kazayuri Sekiguchi
2. Kakubana category: Isshui Koryu - Risen Naitou
3. Free Style category: Koryu Wakabakai - Yukiyo Kotani
4. Space Challenge category: Risho Takahashi

**ikebana**  
Gallery

208 Toronto

## Annual Show

Toronto #208 Canada

Toronto Chapter's annual show was held October 14, 2012, at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, Shokokai Court. Mitzi Yau chaired the event. The theme inspired our participants to create a wealth of interesting and exciting arrangements, experimenting in unconventional designs.

Demonstrations were carried out by Lois Orkin of the Sogetsu School, Irene Foulkes of Ikenobo, Marcia Lenglet of the Misho Ryu, and Tom Torizuka of the Ohara School. They all excelled in presentation and arrangement. Tom made a creation featuring a wall with ornamental kale, branches, and flowers providing an eye-popping end to the demonstration. A raised platform in the middle of the exhibition space provided all-round viewing of a large landscape arrangement by the hosting Ohara School. Sincere thanks to all participants and volunteers who made the show such a success.

Group arrangement by Ohara School members



## Cultural Diplomacy

Osaka #234 Japan

234 Osaka

On October 19, 2012, Osaka Chapter was honored by a lecture by Consul General of France in Kyoto, Mr. Philippe Janvier-Kamiyama. He is also director of the Institut Franco-Japonais du Kansai. The theme of his talk was "What is Cultural Diplomacy." He spoke about cultural exchange between France and Japan and cited a well-known Japanese saying, *Ki o mite mori o mizu* ("One cannot see the forest [Japan] for the trees [Tokyo]"). Harumi Yamamoto of the Sekishu School arranged autumnal tints.

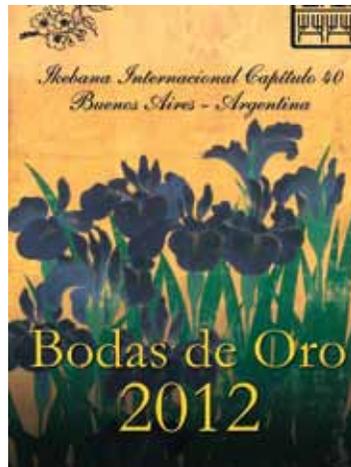
Mr. Philippe Janvier-Kamiyama addressing Osaka Chapter





## 50th Anniversary

Buenos Aires #40 Argentina



Poster for Buenos Aires Chapter's 50th Anniversary Celebration

# 40

Argentina

On October 19 to 21, 2012, Buenos Aires Chapter celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Chapter members and Guest of Honor, Mrs. Rika Ariyoshi, wife of the Japanese Embassy Minister, made some 25 beautifully displayed ikebana arrangements. The opening ceremony on Friday evening was attended by the Japanese Ambassador, Embassy Minister, and Cultural Affairs Attaché, local Japanese organizations' representatives, chapter members, and special guests. Plaques and diplomas were granted in recognition for outstanding services to Chapter Founding Members Orlanda Yokohama and Norma Yokohama, Past Presidents, and Ohara Founding Advisor Ms. Ofelia Tsuji, among others. The Di Tella University Vocal Ensemble delighted the audience with a joyful choral performance just before the anniversary cake and anniversary toast. Ikebana demonstrations by Ikenobo, Ohara, and Sogetsu schools followed on Saturday afternoon. The closing performance took place on Saturday afternoon with the Mukaito Taiko Group performance.

## Tradition Flowing into Modernity

New Delhi #77 India

# 77

New Delhi



Rimpa style

Flowers always bring beauty through our eyes into our souls. In moments of joy and sorrow they give us comfort and peace.

This beauty was brought into our hearts by Ms Meena Iyer, 2nd Master of the Ohara School, through her demonstration titled Tradition Flowing into Modernity. She demonstrated aptly how flowers arranged like a smile never fail to brighten our day.

She traced the flow of styles ranging from the traditional Rimpa, to the latest Hana-isho creation, all arranged with great elegance and simplicity. She started with a traditional water-reflecting style using lime-hued gardenia leaves with pink chrysanthemums. Her Rimpa arrangement using cockscomb and Asiatic lilies melted the heart. She used very exotic materials like papyrus, water reeds, anthuriums, and locally grown berries. Her Bunjin arrangement using karonda berries that were shades of red along with a beautiful single hydrangea spoke volumes.

Flowers may fade and die, but the memories they bring dwell in our hearts for a long time. Meena's flower arrangements shall linger in our memories too.

## Raku Pottery

Naples FL #160 USA

# 160

Naples

After the business meeting on November 7, 2012, Naples Chapter was granted a rare opportunity to be given a presentation of Raku pottery by artist and teacher Tracey Gurdyan. She showed some of her pieces and gave a very clear and interesting history of both the Japanese and American versions of Raku ware.



Contemporary Raku ware piece

## Shogetsu-Ryu

Kobe #181 Japan

# 181

Kobe

On October 12, 2012, Kobe Chapter enjoyed a demonstration by Mr. Shogetsu Kamokawa, Shogetsu-Ryu. After four years studying flower arrangement, he lived a hermit-like life in the mountains of Maizuru for five years in order to obtain a deeper understanding of nature. In 1967 he started the Shogetsu-Ryu to communicate his understanding of nature.

He feels that the branches of trees he encounters in the mountains beckon him to be used for arrangements. He decides the center first, carefully considering the overall balance. He has the lower branches receive the flow of the line from the upper ones and adds other materials among the spaces. He demonstrated

six arrangements in this way. We learned the importance of appreciating natural beauty and letting it speak for itself.

After Mr. Shogetsu Kamogawa's fascinating demonstration, we enjoyed watching the DVD of the 10th World Convention held in Tokyo last May.



Mr. Shogetsu Kamogawa decides the center of a pine branch first, then cuts by using the hatchet at a 90° angle to the bottom line of the container.

# 19

Seattle

## Meeting

Seattle #19 USA

Seattle Chapter held its first meeting of the fiscal year on September 20, 2012, at the residence of Kiyokazu Ota, Consul General of Japan in Seattle and Mrs. Junko Ota. Chapter President Katsuko Brooke welcomed members and guests and thanked Consul General Ota and Mrs. Ota for allowing the chapter to have the meeting at their beautiful residence. Mrs. Ota thanked the chapter for arranging ikebana at the residence when needed. She then played *The Flower Song* by Gustav Lange on the beautiful grand piano. Following the completion of the business meeting, Consul General Ota gave an address on the Centennial Cherry Blossom Celebration, focusing on how the cherry blossom represents Japan, how the cherry blossom is a symbol of Japan-US friendship, and cherry blossoms in Seattle. Following the Consul General's talk, we adjourned to the garden to have a group picture taken before enjoying refreshments and conversation.



Seattle Chapter meeting at the official residence of Consul General Kiyokazu Ota and Mrs. Junko Ota

## Kikuzukushi

San Francisco Bay Area #31 USA

# 31

San Francisco Bay Area

On October 19, 2012, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter held a demonstration of seven schools (Aratame, Chiko, Ohara, Sogetsu, Enshu, Ikenobo, Wafu-kai) at the San Francisco County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park. The theme was Kikuzukushi—The Many-Faceted Chrysanthemum.



Poster of Kikuzukushi demonstration of 7 schools



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