



New Year Luncheon 2015

Headquarters Japan

Headquarters needs to unite more closely with each chapter and share and communicate our activities with each other toward the further development of our organization.

Based on that policy, Ikebana International organized a New Year Luncheon 2015 open to all members of I.I. with the intention of sharing our activities with members throughout the world and making them known universally. On January 22, 2015, Headquarters sponsored the inaugural New Year Luncheon 2015 attended by our Honorary President H.I.H. Princess Takamado, Madame Akie Abe, wife of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, other distinguished guests and approximately 200 members from Japan as well as from Taipei and Singapore. Ikebana International President Nobuko Usui noticed that everyone who attended the luncheon enjoyed it and understood that our organization is an international organization that indeed has the ability to fulfill its mission of spreading peace and friendship around the world through Ikebana. In 2015, we can say that Headquarters opened a new window to members throughout the world.



Welcome H.I.H. Princess Takamado with the clapping of hands



H.I.H. Princess Takamado and the spouse of Prime Minister, Mme. Akie Abe watched the exhibition of chapter's flower arrangements

207 ^{Belfast}

Autumn Moon Workshop

Belfast #207 U.K.

On October 11, 2014, Belfast Chapter member Helga Hughes (Ohara School) conducted a workshop on Autumn Moon arrangements. Helga demonstrated two Autumn Moon arrangements using seasonal plant materials from her own beautiful garden, one in a moon container and another in a bamboo container with a gold fan. She had prepared Japanese gold fans and bamboo containers for all attendees, who then made arrangements in these using similar materials from their own gardens. It was a fun and relaxing afternoon, and all the hard work and preparation that Helga had done was much appreciated.

Capturing the Essence on Plants

Tokyo Founding Chapter, Japan

I.I. Tokyo Founding Chapter opened the first monthly meeting at Aoyama Diamond Hall under the management of newly elected President, Ms. Hiroko Abe. And also the demonstration by Ms. Jun'yo Honma, the managing teacher designated by headmaster of Ryuseiha was held together with other three Ryuseiha teachers. Ms. Jun'yo Honma performed her art in the whole space on the stage and represented the way to express the "aspect" what one found in the plants. More than 200 participants enjoyed an extraordinary space with the life of many flowers and plants. After the demonstration, Mme. Maali Siam, wife of the Ambassador of Palestine delivered her speech as the chairperson of I.I. Fair 2014 scheduled on Dec. 8.



Demonstration by Ms. Jun'yo Honma



(L to R) Ms. Hiroko Abe (TFC President), Mme. Maali Siam (Wife of the ambassador of Palestine and Ikebana International Fair 2014 Chairperson), Ms. Jun'yo Honma, Ms. Hosen Kobuyama, Ms. Kohfu Maruyama

19 ^{Seattle} 55th Anniversary and Annual Exhibition

Seattle #19 USA

On May 24-25, 2014, we hosted the Annual Exhibition of 2014, which celebrated our 55th anniversary and was also in honor of one of our most faithful members, Lily McMahan, a former president who continued to serve, holding many different offices and chairing committees in many capacities. The exhibition theme this year was Inspiration from Flowers. The ribbon-cutting ceremony featured our distinguished guests, Japanese Consul General Omura and Consul Uenishi. Chapter President Rosemary Frerk joined them in the ribbon cutting to officially open the exhibition.

Approximately 408 people attended the event. Thirty-eight Ikebana displays were presented, and ten different schools of Ikebana taking part the two-day exhibition. Many members volunteered to make the exhibition a wonderful way to reach out to the public. Four demonstrations were attended by large audiences. Lily McMahan would have been pleased to see her many friends and coworkers involved in putting together the 55th annual celebration. Charles Coghlan and Mackie Jurcan co-chaired the event and were congratulated for the successful organization of our most important annual event, where we teach the public about the art of Ikebana.



Caption: (l to r), Seattle Chapter President Rosemary Frerk, Japanese Consul General Omura, and Consul Uenishi



A picture from the workshop

51 Kamakura

Workshops and Zazen Meditation

Kamakura #51 Japan

Kamakura Chapter enjoyed a busy workshop meeting on October 16, 2014. We began our meeting with a welcome and introduction from the head priest of Kencho-ji Temple, Mr. Takai. After briefly discussing business, members and guests chose whether to participate in *zazen* meditation or immediately begin arts workshops. About 66 percent of attendees chose to practice *zazen* and reported the experience to be relaxing and peaceful.

Three workshops were available: ikebana, one-stroke painting led by special guest artist Ms. Tai Ozeki, and *furoshiki* wrapping. We spent about one hour rotating among the workshop offerings. Afterward, a light lunch was served: miso soup cooked at Kencho-ji Temple and a small bento box of vegetables, egg, and two *onigiri*. Members and guests were given an opportunity to purchase various painted goods painted by Ms. Ozeki and her assistants, and a small silent auction was held.

226 Jordan

Women's International Day

Jordan #226 Jordan



Jordan Chapter celebrating Women's international day

On Monday, March 28, 2015, Jordan Chapter #226 held its second March activity in celebrating Women's international Day and mother's Day in cooperation with Nice Day Company, a beautiful flower and gift shop in Amman. Mr. Anas Al Khalil gave an interesting informative lecture entitled Flower Preservation. All who attended the lecture have benefitted from this enjoyable, learning experience. A big thanks go to Mr. Raed, Anas Al Khalil, Mr. Amer Fathi, our dear Chapter President Mrs. Faten Al Saoudi, and her fantastic and vibrant committee for making this event a great success. Chapter President Al Saoudi and the Executive Board and committee of Ikebana International Jordan

extended their gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Anas Al Khalil for giving us this great opportunity to know more about flower preservation and this beautiful place (Nice Day Company) in Amman.

216 Melbourne FL

Chiko, Creating a Scene on a Flat Tray

Melbourne FL #216 USA

At Melbourne Florida Chapter's meeting in October, 2014, Leslie Vogt presented "Chiko, Creating a Scene on a Flat Tray". After she described the key elements in this design, members proceeded to create their own designs using elements brought from home. These designs although accomplished quickly were uniquely beautiful in simplicity.

77 New Delhi

Festival of Light

New Delhi #77 India

New Delhi Chapter President Divya Ansal hosted a Diwali luncheon at the Great Kebab Factory restaurant. Diwali, the joyful Festival of Light, marks the start of the year for businesses in Delhi. Eight chapter board members made festive arrangements at their respective tables. They used dry material, gold- and silver-sprayed leaves, and fresh flowers. This was followed by a lavish lunch hosted by Chapter President Ansal. Following the lunch there was a big raffle, and the flower arrangements and other gifts were raffled to the members present. Everyone enjoyed the event and wished each other a happy and prosperous New Year!

227 Basel

Culturescapes Tokyo 2014

Basel #227 Switzerland



Ikebana by Antica Rietschi and Herta Stark

The first event of the 150th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and Japan, CULTURESCAPES TOKYO 2014, was the Bunraku performance at the Theater Basel. It was the first time that this renowned Japanese puppet drama came to Switzerland, and the first evening was like an opening ceremony.

Theater Basel was almost sold out! Not only was the audience welcomed by Taiko drumming, but the foyer was decorated with three beautiful, large ikebana arrangements created by members of Basel Chapter.

155 Montreal

Sumi-e Workshop

Montreal #155 Canada

Claire Poirier Sugai visited Montreal Chapter in 2013, and we had the pleasure of her return visit last November. On November 25, 2014, she led a *sumi-e* workshop, the Japanese ink-painting technique that uses the tonal spectrum and expressive nuances of ink. It is also a form of meditation. To prepare us for the workshop, she took attendees through a number of relaxation techniques to purge us of daily stresses. She also displayed books, inkstones, and ink blocks. It was a pleasure to attempt this art form. One of our members, Madeleine Murphy, offered Japan-related items for sale and kindly donated the proceeds to Montreal Chapter. The event concluded with a raffle, and members brought in goodies for the tea table.



131

Miami

45th Anniversary

Miami #131 USA

At the Miami Chapter meeting on September 16, 2014, Miami Chapter President Mieko Kubota announced the events to celebrate the chapter's 45th anniversary in November and the Ichiyo School demonstration and workshop to be given by Elaine Jo on October 26 and 27 as part of the anniversary events.

In preparation for the workshop and demonstration by Ichiyo Headmaster Akihiro Kasuya, Chapter President Kubota also distributed a booklet explaining Ichiyo style and techniques to chapter members.

45th anniversary
florear arrangement cake



6

London

Summer and Autumn

London #6 U.K.

Belinda Jelf, one of London Chapter's committee members, delighted us with a stylish interpretation of the four seasons. Having studied in Tokyo at the Sogetsu School for six years, Belinda had much experience of the iemoto's ideas. These she passed on to us with panache, showing considerable creative skill with her wonderful containers as with the arrangements.

Her first two arrangements were Spring, Belinda made the wheel out of bamboo edging for gardens with twigs to represent spokes, the second a silver ring was of plastic, both arrangements making a dramatic statement. Winter was a simple arrangement of white amaryllis, Summer a bolder display with yellow calla lilies, ending on Autumn with a stunning construction made of 2 large bamboo branches on stands to provide a fitting climax to her demonstration.



Summer and Autumn

3

St. Louis

Annual Exhibit at Japanese Festival

St. Louis #3 USA

As it has for the past 36 years, St. Louis Chapter held its annual ikebana exhibition during the Japanese Festival at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. It was open to the public August 30–September 1. Approximately 34,000 visitors had an opportunity to view nearly 100 arrangements in both traditional and modern styles. Ikenobo, Chiko, Ohara, and Sogetsu schools were demonstrated each day, and the arrangements put on display. The St. Louis Ikenobo Ikebana Society and the St. Louis Chapter cosponsored the exhibit, with 100% participation by members.

The theme for the 2014 annual festival was the dianthus flower. Arrangements included dianthus as well as seasonal flowers and foliage from members' gardens. Visitors were given an opportunity for hands-on experience, which was especially appealing to children. Yoshiko Mitchell was Coordinator of the Ikebana Program for the Japanese Festival. Celebrating the history, culture, and people of Japan, the Japanese Festival at the Missouri Botanical Garden is one of the largest and oldest in the U.S.A. It began in 1977. Plans are being made for another ikebana exhibit at the festival in 2015.



Guests and members at St. Louis Annual exhibition

12

Houston

Differences in Ikebana Schools

Houston #12 U.S.A.

On October 17, 2014, at the Asia Society Night Market marking the Society's Noh Mask Exhibition, Houston Chapter members presented a discussion of the similarities and differences of ikebana schools. Ikebana International magazines were displayed to encourage interest in I.I. membership among the estimated 1,500 visitors to the Asia Society's gala event.

93

Copenhagen

Sogetsu workshop

Copenhagen #93 Denmark

At the chapter meeting on September 13, 2014, Inger Tribler presented a vivid account of her experiences of the Ikebana International European Annual meeting in Berlin, where she received instruction given by Sogetsu Headmaster Akane Teshigahara. Mrs. Tribler described the arrangements, workshops, and events of the conference and gave a demonstration of what she learned at this important ikebana conference. Then attendees prepared their flower arrangements on the subject of free style with seasonal flowers and branches of their choice. Results were very nice and varied.



Inger Tribler

84

Columbus

International Annual Exhibit

Columbus #84 U.S.A.

Columbus Chapter's Annual Exhibition was held October 17–19, 2014, at Franklin Park Conservatory. Ohara, Ikenobo, and Sogetsu school members participated and displayed their beautiful autumn ikebana: 69 arrangements, including 3 floors, 44 tabletops, 8 pedestals, and 14 miniatures. Many visitors enjoyed our ikebana and experienced the beauty of Japanese culture.



150 Years of Diplomatic Relationships

Zurich #214 Switzerland



214^{Zurich} In 2014, there were many activities in Switzerland as we celebrated 150 years of diplomatic relations between Japan and Switzerland. One highlight was the exhibition in the rooms of the Japan Information and Cultural Center of the Japanese Embassy in Berne. In presence of the Minister of the Embassy, the presidents of the three Swiss chapters—Basel, Geneva, and Zurich—opened the exhibition on October 24, 2014, and welcomed around 100 guests; 36 members from eight different schools presented 47 arrangements.

An arrangement by Zurich Chapter

55th Anniversary

Madison #28 USA

28^{Madison} Chapter 28 in Madison, Wisconsin, USA, recently celebrated 55 years of active membership. The President of I.I. kindly sent all members a personal letter and certificate in recognition of this momentous occasion, which was read to the members at the October meeting. In addition, to celebrate its 55th Anniversary, Madison Chapter #28 invited E-Ling Lou, President of the North American Ohara Teachers Association to give a demonstration and workshop. Ms. Lou presented the upright, slanting and landscape arrangements of the Ohara School. Everyone greatly enjoyed the lesson.



Pictures from the Madison Chapter 55th Anniversary Celebration event

Shogetsudo Koryu School Demonstration

Melbourne #29 Australia

29^{Melbourne} Members of Melbourne Chapter and their guests were pleased to welcome Shihosai Uematsu, iemoto designate of the Shogetsudo Koryu School, at the meeting on Tuesday, November 11, 2014. In the morning, Mr. Uematsu gave a demonstration of ikebana works focusing on the Seika form, and in the afternoon he led a workshop, which was attended by 44 members from all schools of the chapter, on the subject of Ryureika, a modern form of Seika.

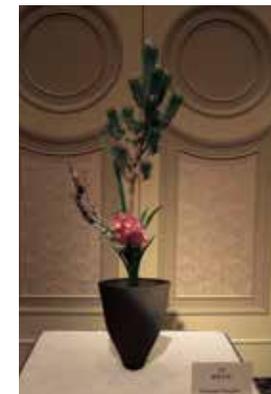
Mr Uematsu explaining the principles underlying the Seika form.



Chieko Yazaki, teacher of the Shogetsudo Koryu School of Ikebana, and Mr. Uematsu.



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Fukuoka Chapter



Taipei Chapter



Singapore Chapter



Toyko Founding Chapter

ikebana
Gallery