

Sakura News

Ikebana International

Volume 65 Issue 3

June 30, 2021



International
President
Miho Okawara

Dear I.I. Members,

It is now mid-May, 2021. The third state of emergency of COVID-19 has been extended for nearly a month here, by which people are requested to refrain from non-essential outings until the end of May. It was heartbreaking to see the news on TV last night that the raging variants of coronavirus are putting a strain on hospitals. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the medical professionals and essential workers. I would also like to express my sincere sympathy to those who were infected with the virus.

This will be my sixth and last time to write for Sakura News during my two-year term of International president. I can recall that, except the first one, I have been always thinking about the spreading coronavirus when I was writing the message on my computer.

I wonder what my two-year tenure as International president has meant. Am I going to be remembered as the unfortunate one serving during the pandemic situation? It may be true as I attended the NCAR Conference as planned and the 2020 New Year Party at Palace Hotel was held successfully, and the rest was all an unexpected and unprecedented experience for me. I have not even met with board members of I.I. Headquarters in person since our board meeting shifted to online in March 2020. The Regional Conference to be held in India has been postponed to November 2022, and the next World Convention to May of 2023.

Even under the difficult situation, I would like to stay positive, so let me dare to mention some positive outcomes and cheer ourselves up. First, through the use of IT, we have been getting through this challenging time by keeping to the safety-first principle. We introduced the online monthly board meeting of I.I. Headquarters in March 2020, probably ahead of any other local chapter, and as well we have promoted remote work among our office staff. Thanks to these measures, no one including board members has been infected with coronavirus. Ever since the beginning of this world-wide threat of the virus, I have strongly determined not to have any infection case among the people of I.I. Headquarters and the office staff. I am thankful to the board members and the staff for their understanding and cooperation so far.

Secondly, as face-to-face monthly meetings were halted, the only option left was online Ikebana events, which eventually have given me opportunities to get connected with I.I. members across the world. Headquarters hosted the online New Year Gathering in February 2021 with an attendance of 2,800 members from all over the world, and the presence of Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado honored us so much.

The online events of overseas chapters were joined by the members of other parts of the world, by which they were able to be connected through their computer screens.

The postponement of the two gatherings of the World Convention and the Regional Conference can be interpreted as more time given by God for preparation so as to make the events more exciting, and we all look forward to them.

Lastly, let me mention myself. Under a normal time, as International president, I would have been busy attending Ikebana events at nearby chapters and working at the Headquarters. Instead, I was able to spend more time for myself including for practicing Ikebana and recalling faces of 6,500 I.I. members over

flowers. I can say that my thoughts and prayers have always been with you (meaning each I.I. member) for the last two years.

I do hope everyone will stay safe and healthy. My determination which I mentioned earlier, not to have any infection case among the people of I.I. Headquarters and the office staff, is the same feeling I have for all of you. You can enjoy Ikebana anytime as long as you are alive, so please stay healthy. Let me conclude my message by expressing my heartfelt gratitude for supporting me over the past two years. Thank you very much.

Miho Okawara
International President

Membership Drive Campaign

Noriyo Nagasaki, *International Third Vice-President*

Headquarters is happy to know that Ikebana International members are doing well and remain passionate about Ikebana under very challenging circumstances.

The coronavirus has been raging around the world for more than a year. Due to the severity of the situation, membership has unfortunately decreased significantly and around one in ten members did not renew. This is a very serious issue and will affect all future activities of our organization.

Therefore, HQ would like to propose that the Membership Drive Campaign of April 15th for the prosperous future of Ikebana International should be at forefront of this campaign.

Let's work towards a brighter future by expanding the circle of friendship through flowers that our predecessors have built over the past 65 years. It would be very much appreciated if you could enlist new members and/or give a family member or close friend a one-year I.I. membership. Please visit our website for details at <https://ikebanahq.org>, Members Only, password 1956sakura, "Membership Motivation."

A Certificate of Appreciation will be presented to those chapters which successfully increase their membership as a result of this campaign, with an announcement in Sakura News and Chapter Activities, plus website details.

In the midst of this pandemic, we are more aware than ever of the wonderful healing power of flowers and the joy of arranging flowers. We hope the positivity of Ikebana will be communicated to many more people and, as a result, the work of Ikebana International will expand.

Your continued support and cooperation is highly appreciated. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at i.i.thirdvp@ikebanahq.org

Revised List of Elected Directors Form

Midori Murayama, *International Second Vice-President*

In consideration of Ikebana International Personal Information Protection Policy, HQ has revised the List of Elected Directors Form.

You can find this form on our website, "Members Only, News, Form." Please download this form and submit it to HQ.

HQ would like to request that chapters make and register an official email address if your chapter does not yet have one. Thank you for your cooperation.

Chapter Activities Report

Shizuko Okubo, *Corresponding Secretary*

Thank you for devising activities in each chapter and sending the chapter activities report to Headquarters despite the coronavirus disaster. These valuable reports from chapters are extremely encouraging and gratifying.

The reports and photos are shared with all members in two ways. They are published in "Chapter Activities" or in "Activities" on our website

<https://ikebanahq.org/archives/activities>. We look forward to your submissions.

I am working on posting future articles as follows with Ms. Inoue, the Publication Manager.

In "Chapter Activities"

- There is no set deadline for submitting the chapter activities report, however, please submit it as soon as possible after your regular meeting. It was a response for the coronavirus pandemic, but please continue to do so.
- Reports of 8 chapters will be included in a "Chapter Activities", which is published 3 times a year and sent with I.I. Magazine. (24 chapters a year will be included).
- Photos need to be attached in a high-resolution format along with the email containing chapter activities reports.
- Headquarters will try to introduce chapters as fairly as possible so there is no bias.

On our Website: <https://ikebanahq.org/archives/activities>

- Activities from 1-2 chapters will be posted approximately every 10 days on the website for those that could not be selected for publication in "Chapter Activities."

Fundraising Activity

Atsuko Ikejiri, *Development Director*

In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, we have set up a committee and discussed the new approach to the "fundraising."

Until now, the main method was to "sell what you made or collected to raise funds," but we studied and came up with "a new method that does not require initial investment (preparation, time, labor, etc.)." We named the project "Hand to Hand," by which we adopted a method of collecting unnecessary items on hand and exchanging them for stamps or cash.

In February of this year, the directors of the Headquarters cooperated with this project and donated unused or miswritten postcards, unused stamps, book cards, gift certificates, etc. The stamps and cash obtained from these items totaled 59,848 yen which was donated to the secretariat of Headquarters in late March.

The work wasn't as hard as anticipated and we were surprised to accomplish better results than expected. Currently it is difficult for people to gather due to the coronavirus pandemic, but it was a new discovery that unnecessary items in the house were useful for contributing to the funding of I.I.'s activities.

We think there are various methods and means for "fundraising efforts." We would like to continue thinking about new initiatives in the future, so please let us know if you have any suggestions based on methods adopted by each chapter.

Development Director: i.i.development@ikebanahq.org

.....

Nominees for 2021-2022 International Board of Directors, Auditor and Accounting Auditor *Kyoko Ehara, International Nominating Director*

1. Directors	
01 Sakata, Nobuko (President)	Born in Ehime, Japan / Ohara School / Joined I.I. New York Chapter in 1999 / 10th World Convention Business Committee Delegates & Alternates Director (2012) / International Publication Director (2014-2016) / International Recording Secretary (2016-2018) / International 1st Vice-President (2019-2021)
02 Arai, Mikie	Born in Tokyo, Japan / Sogetsu School / Joined I.I. Saitama Chapter in 2008 / Saitama Chapter 2nd Vice-President (2017-2019) / Saitama Chapter President (2019-2021)
03 Doi, Naoko	Born in Niigata, Japan / Ryuseiha / Joined I.I. TFC in 2003 / Transferred to Saitama Chapter in 2007 (Founding Member) / Saitama Chapter 1st Vice-President (2014-2016) / Saitama Chapter President (2016-2019) / International Recording Secretary (2020-2021)
04 Inumaru, Reiko	Born in Tokyo, Japan / Ohara School / Joined I.I. in 2006 / TFC Protocol Co-Chairperson (2014-2015) / TFC I.I. Fair Co-Coordinator (2016) / TFC 2nd Vice-President (2015-2017) / 11th World Convention General Affairs Information Co-director (2017) / International Public Relations Director (2017-2019) / International Treasurer (2019- 2021)
05 Kameoka, Kumiko	Born in Osaka, Japan / Saga Goryu / Joined I.I. in 2011 / International Treasurer (2013-2015) / International Historian (2016-2018) / 11th World Convention Ikebana Demonstration Co-Chairperson (2017) / International Corresponding Secretary (2018-2020) / International Assistant Treasurer (2020-2021)
06 Kawamura, Rieko	Born in Tokyo, Japan / Sogetsu School / Joined I.I. in 2013 / TFC Secretary (2014-2015) / 11th World Convention Program City Tour Director (2017) / International Treasurer (2017-2019) / International Website Director (2019-2021)
07 Matsutani, Keiko	Born in Shizuoka, Japan/ Ikenobo / Joined I.I. Kuala Lumpur Chapter in 1996 / K.L. Chapter Japanese Representative (1997-1999) / TFC Protocol Chairperson (2000-2002) / TFC Special Program & Tour Chairperson (2002-2003) / TFC Office Manager (2004-2005) / 9th World Convention Ticket Director / TFC Treasurer (2005-2007) / International Website Chairperson (2011-2013) / 11th World Convention Protocol Co-Chairperson (2017) / International Historian (2018-2019) / International Amendment (2019-2021) / 12th World Convention Protocol Co-Chairperson (2019-2021)
08 Murayama, Midori	Born in Tokyo, Japan / Koryu-Shoseikai / Joined I.I. in 2012 / TFC Corresponding Secretary (2015-2017) / TFC 1st Vice-President (2017-2019) / TFC I.I. Fair Co-Coordinator (2017-2019) / International 2nd Vice-President (2019-2021)
09 Nagasaki, Noriyo	Born in Yokohama, Japan / Kozan School / Joined I.I. Kamakura Chapter in 2000 / Kamakura Chapter President (2010-2011) / International Publication Director (2016-2018) / New Year Luncheon 2019 Chairperson / International Protocol Director (2018-2020) / International 3rd Vice-President (2020-2021)
10 Nakayama, Chie	Born in Yokohama, Japan / Kofu School / Joined I.I. in 2011 / TFC Exhibition (2014-2015) / International Historian (2020-2021)
11 Nakajima, Junko	Born in Tenshin, China / Sogetsu School / Joined I.I. in 2005 / International Translation Director (2006-2007) / TFC Recording Secretary (2012-2014) / International Translation Director (2016-2018) / 11th World Convention Recording Secretary (2017) / International Recording Secretary (2018-2020) / International Translation Director (2020-2021)
12 Narabe, Masumi	Born in Hokkaido, Japan / Koryu-Shoutoukai / Joined I.I. in 2015 / TFC Exhibition Committee (2015) / TFC Treasurer (2016-2017) / TFC I.I. Fair Assistant Treasurer (2016) / TFC I.I. Fair Information (2017-2019) / TFC I.I. Fair Recording Secretary (2019)
13 Obikane, Chisato	Born in Tokyo, Japan / Koryu Shookai / Joined I.I. in 1986 / TFC Treasurer (1987-1988) / TFC Public Relations (2005-2007) / TFC Way and Means (2007-2009) / International Third Vice-President (2010-2012) / International Assistant Treasurer (2019-2020) / International Coordinating Director (2019- 2021) / 12th World Convention General Affairs Chairperson (2019-2021)
14 Okubo, Shizuko	Born in Aichi, Japan / Sogetsu School / Joined I.I. Auckland Chapter in 1986 / International Public Relations Director (1997-1998) / TFC 1st Vice-President (2010-2012) / International Historian (2012-2014) / International Nominating Director (2014-2015) / International Protocol Director (2016-2018) / International 3rd Vice-President (2018-2020) / International Corresponding Secretary (2020-2021)

15	Oura, Masako	Born in Kyoto, Japan / Sogetsu School / Joined I.I. in 2014 / TFC Protocol Committee (2014-2020) / 11th World Convention Information Committee (2017)
16	Sugimura, Chiaki	Born in Tokyo, Japan / Ichiyo School / Joined I.I. in 2012 / TFC Recording Secretary (2015-2017) / TFC Parliamentarian (2017-2018) / TFC Recording Secretary (2018-2019) / International PR Director (2019-2021) / 12th World Convention Recording Secretary (2019-2021)
17	Takada, Tomoko	Born in Yokohama, Japan / Sogetsu Scholl / Joined I.I. in 1990 / TFC Protocol Chairperson (2002-2004) / TFC 2nd Vice-President (2004) / International Nominating Director (2005) / International Development Director (2006) / TFC 2nd Vice-President (2008) / 11th World Convention Protocol Chairperson (2017) / International Protocol Director (2020-2021)
18	Ueda, Yoko	Born in Hokkaido, Japan / Sogetsu School / Joined I.I. Singapore Chapter in 2000 / TFC Historian (2014-2016) / TFC Parliamentarian (2016-2017) / TFC 3rd Vice-President (2017-2018) / International Publication Director (2019-2021)
19	Sato, Wienia	Born in Poland / Sogetsu School and Ikenobo / Joined I.I. in 1998 / International Recording Secretary (2000-2002) / International 3rd Vice-President (2002-2004) / TFC Historian (2004-2005) / TFC 2nd Vice-President (2005-2007) / International 2nd Vice -President (2007-2008) / International 1st Vice-President (2008-2010) / International President (2010-2012) / TFC President (2013-2014) / 12th World Convention Director (2019-2021)

2. Auditor for 2021-2023

01 Usui, Yoshimasa.

3. Accounting Auditor for 2021-2022

01 Koyano, Mikio Koyano CPA Office

The 12th World Convention

Wienia Sato, *Convention Director*



It has been a difficult year. Here in Japan, while we welcome the month of May with the enchanting tweets of birds, enormous blooming and bustling nature, I am sad to report that we are now facing the third lockdown since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. The sad news holds true in almost every corner of the world with many countries still in lockdown, cultural activities and tourism suspended. At these times, it is the art of Ikebana which allows us, for a moment, to forget about the world filled with contradiction and instead turn to refreshing our minds and building the strong connection between man and nature.

In the meantime, many members of Ikebana International have found ways to enjoy the art of Ikebana via Zoom meetings and virtual demonstrations and virtual Ikebana exhibitions. Although it is not the same as experiencing Ikebana with all our senses, these solutions are helping until our old and safe times will someday return. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you for inviting me to your Zoom activities and sharing your passion and love for the art of Ikebana. Thanks to you, the art of Ikebana will stay with us forever.

I would like to confirm that the 12th World Convention, which was rescheduled for the year 2023, will be held in Tokyo, from May 1st to May 4th, at the New Otani Hotel. This landmark venue offers a quiet and peaceful ambiance for the convention and because it is in the heart of the city, it offers easy access for those who wish to explore the metropolis. Also note that precautionary measures within the city have been improved.

As we are now experiencing the next lockdown in Tokyo, the COC committee will resume their work on the convention as soon as the situation permits.

The following chairperson are in charge:

Honorary Adviser: Etsuko Hattori
Convention Coordinator: Makiko Yamaki
Program Chairperson: Nobuko Usui
Finance Chairperson: Nobuko Matsubara
Business Chairperson: Rumiko Matsumura
General Affairs Chairperson: Chisato Obikane

Registration Chairperson: Yoko Hanada
Hospitality Chairperson: Minako Matsuoka
Protocol Chairperson: Tomiko Uesato
Recording Secretary: Chiaki Sugimura
Secretariat: Kaeko Kasuga

Our goal is to organize a safe and satisfying convention for all participants. The Ikebana demonstrations by great masters of Ikebana schools will be the highlight of this event. You will have a unique opportunity to explore a wide range of Ikebana styles, from classic to modern, as well as a wide range of Ikebana schools which you might have wanted to know more about.

In order to help deepen the knowledge about Ikebana, we are preparing special Ikebana hands-on workshops by various Ikebana schools. You will have the opportunity to learn directly from some of the best Ikebana artists, study the latest trends in Ikebana regardless your own Ikebana school, try new techniques and, in general, gain valuable new experiences and insights that you can share with others and ultimately enhance the further spread of Ikebana.

This coming autumn, we ask you to watch the **I.I. International website** where we will announce detailed plans of the **12th World Convention**. We are using this medium to get the Convention information to you as soon as possible and as up to date as possible. As it is difficult to predict what will happen tomorrow, please understand that the plans for the convention are subject to change. We ask for your patience, understanding and continued support.

If you have questions, suggestions or special requests regarding the convention program please feel free to contact us at: ikebanaconvention@ikebanahq.org

We wish you good health and the ability to achieve real happiness to live comfortably. And we really hope and look forward to seeing you all at the 12th World Convention.

Thank you for your continuous strong support and assistance.

Asian Regional Conference

Nobuko Sakata, *International First-Vice President*

Asian Regional Conference Committee Chairperson and HQ had tentatively set the new dates of ARC on November 1 – 4, 2022, when the COVID-19 situation in India seemed to be improved in mid-February this year. Shortly thereafter, circumstances changed rapidly and now India and some other countries and districts are hit by severe waves of infection. We are watching the situation carefully and according to circumstances, it might be necessary for us to discuss again how to do the ARC. In spite of this critical situation, the committee members are positive and looking forward to holding the conference in the near future. On behalf of I.I. HQ, I send our prayers, encouragements and all the best to those who are fighting against COVID-19.

Sakura News can be read
on our homepage.

Visit I.I. Website <http://ikebanahq.org>
Log in to Members Only page, password: 1956sakura

The Online Shop Reopened

Kumiko Kameoka, Assistant Treasurer

The Online Shop was reopened on April 1st and now “Online New Year Gathering 2021” DVD is available by JPY 2,100 including postage and handling charge.

Please note that delivery might be delayed due to mailing conditions under COVID-19. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Important Banking Information

Reiko Inumaru, Treasurer

Foreign Currency Check

All major banks in Japan have stopped to accept the foreign currency checks whose payment is made overseas.

PayPal Private Limited

Unfortunately, due to legal and regulatory constraints, PayPal Private Limited is unable to process donation payments for non-registered charities and nonprofit organizations (NPOs), political party/organizations, religious institutions, personal/organizational fundraisers, etc., in countries under its jurisdiction. Accordingly, we ask that all donations sent to Japan, be made by bank transfer.

We apologize for the inconvenience this might cause, and thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Payment Options

All payments to Ikebana International must **be in Japanese Yen net of any bank charges**.

1. CREDIT CARD – PAYPAL ON I. I. WEBSITE

For Membership Dues and Online Shopping

PayPal Handling Charge: +5%

1) Credit Card: Visa, Master Card, American Express, etc.

2) PayPal Account Transfer: account@ikebanahq.org

2. MONEY TRANSFER – MIZUHO BANK, LTD

For Membership Dues and Donation

Receiving Bank Charge: + JPY 4,000 / Transfer

Bank Name : MIZUHO BANK, LTD. Kudan Branch.

2-4 Kanda Jimbo-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0051, JAPAN

Branch Number: 532

Account Name: Ikebana International

Account Number: 0719019

Swift Code: MHCBJPJT

Special Note:

The remitter is requested to pay all bank charges levied by the sending bank and any charges applied by intermediary banks in addition to the receiving bank charge of JPY4,000.

3. MONEY TRANSFER – JAPAN POST OFFICE

Only for Japan Domestic, because Japan Post Office terminated the international money transfer service as of March 2020.

Account Name: Ikebana International

Account Number: 00170-4-719272

Tribute to Mr. Kim Schuefftan, Editor of Ikebana International

Anna Nakada, Past International President

Kim Schuefftan, beloved editor of Ikebana International magazine from 2001 to 2021, and a distinguished book and journal editor in Japan since 1963, died on May 22, 2021 in Saitama Prefecture, Japan. He was 84.

An American transplanted to Japan, Kim was born on September 27, 1936 in Santa Monica, California. He attended Reed College and graduated with a BA from the University of California, Berkeley in 1960 after which he came to Japan and stayed, making his home in Gunma Prefecture. He was fluent in English and Japanese.

In a professional career spanning 56 years as editor/writer, he worked as an acquisition editor, copyeditor, proofreader, book ghostwriter and article writer, his media being books, magazines, journals and pamphlets.

He was an editor/writer for Kodansha International Ltd. (1966-1989), specializing in Japanese crafts, art and cooking. In 1989 he became a freelance editor including contributing editor and writer for Wingspan, All Nippon Airways inflight magazine (1988-2018); editor and writer for the International Society for Educational Information (ISEI); copyeditor for Japanese Culinary Academy's Complete Japanese Cuisine; copyeditor for Shuhari Initiative 2017, 2018, Mukoita I Cutting Techniques – Fish and Mukoita II Cutting Techniques – Seafood, Poultry and Vegetables.

In Memoriam, February 2021 - May 2021

TFC	0	Ms. Chiyoko Morioka	Fukuoka	76	Mr. Kyokusai Hatada
Washington D.C.	1	Ms. Willene Drake Hirshorn	Copenhagen	93	Ms. Setsuko Monno Bergholdt
Houston	12	Ms. Patricia Craven	Manila	108	Ms. Aurora Villanueva
Melbourne	29	Ms. Cherie Glasser	Cebu	145	Ms. Rebecca C. Peralta
Melbourne	29	Mr. Philip Keon	Helsinki	193	Ms. Kaarina Tukiainen
San Francisco Bay Area	31	Ms. Pauline Pezzolo	Vienna	223	Ms. Hilde Wolf
Philadelphia	71	Ms. Shigeko Kawano	Basel	227	Ms. Vreni Buergerl-Heggli

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

Errata with our deep apology: the printed Issue, p.8, on the bottom line, "players" should be "prayers."