



Ikebana International
San Francisco
Bay Area Chapter #31

Ikebana International

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Cherry blossoms, yes
They're beautiful...but tonight
Don't miss the moon!.....So-in

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Date and Time: **Friday, March 16, 2012 at 12:00 noon**
Program: The Joy of Springtime
Demonstrator: Sumi Metz, Aratame Ryu
Program Chair: Irene Jenkins
Location: San Francisco Co. Fair Bldg., 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park
Admission: Members admitted free. Guests are welcome if \$5.00 admission fee is paid in advance. No payments accepted at the door. For payment information e-mail Sandra.Hatcher@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu or phone (916) 485-9056.

LET'S WELCOME SPRINGTIME TOGETHER

Spring, the season many of us love the best, has arrived and we welcome the appearance of **Sumi Metz** for our March program. With her deep understanding and thorough knowledge of ikebana, Sumi is well known for her vibrant, fascinating creations. She always brings a spirit of joy and beauty to the stage when she demonstrates. Often inspiring her audience, she shows us new ways to see and use a wide spectrum of materials in ikebana.

In 2000 Aratame Headmaster Seigyo Aratame invited Sumi to join his then-fledgling school which was founded in 1993. Aratame School began attracting students in this country and, recognizing Sumi's artistic talent and business acumen, the Headmaster asked her to become his assistant and appointed her President of Aratame Ryu USA. Prior to this Sumi studied Wafu ikebana for nearly three decades, earning her Senior Professor rank in that school.

Born and raised in Nagasaki-ken, Japan, the young Sumi was fascinated watching her sister arrange flowers at home. She developed her lifelong love of flowers which was further refined in cultural education classes at school.

After moving to California with her husband in 1965 Sumi settled first in San Francisco and later moved to San Jose. During her early years here she raised her son and daughter and studied English. She also owned and operated a popular restaurant for 14 years. She joined Ikebana International in 1980 and has served on the board of directors several times. She also is a member of the Ikebana Teachers Federation.

Sumi maintains an impressive and busy schedule, often demonstrating and exhibiting for I.I. as well as schools, businesses and other organizations in the Bay Area. Her work has been seen at the Asian Art Museum, the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, Bouquets to Art at the de

Young Museum, and the San Francisco Cherry Blossom Festival. She also has exhibited in Paris, Toronto, Canada, Monterey, CA. A special honor came when she was selected as the Oversea Member Demonstrator for I.I.'s 9th World Convention in Tokyo. She also provides ikebana instruction for schoolchildren in Cupertino.

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Ikebana Friends,

Proxy Votes! Those are very important words this month! Your vote counts in determining how I.I.'s Bylaws will be restructured to bring us into compliance with regulations of the Japanese government. Early this year all members were mailed an explanation of the major changes I.I. needs to make to its International Bylaws. A Proxy Vote form was included in that mailing.

I urge you to exercise your voting rights by completing the Proxy Vote form you received from Tokyo Hq. Bring it with you to the March 16 program and deliver it to the Membership Reception table. The form requires your Membership Number. If you do not know yours, our Membership Chair, Sandra Hatcher, can supply it for you. Contact her at the table or e-mail Sandra.Hatcher@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu, or call her at (916) 485-9056. If you have lost the form, Sandra will have some at the table. If you cannot attend in March, please mail your proxy vote form to me and I will send all votes from our chapter members to Tokyo in one packet. Thank you very much for your cooperation and attention to this important matter. ***PLEASE VOTE!***

Now on to less weighty matters! There probably isn't anyone better than Sumi Metz to bring us springtime joy. It will be such a pleasure to watch her create her unique, inspired ikebana this month. Sumi is one of our most dedicated, talented, and inspirational members. I hope you can join me on March 16 as Sumi brings us the bright happiness of the season.

Last month Kathy Toy gave us such a special treat with her demonstration. She showed Ohara School at its most beautiful. Can we ever forget her description of the circles in our lives, snipping a few circles to enhance the character of her gorgeous arrangement? And the exhibit arrangements were luminous.

We have some exciting events to enjoy in the coming months. In April Thanh Nguyen celebrates Earth Day with us, and in May, our last of the current season, we will be entertained by the wonderful Theatre of Yugen.

John Muir, the celebrated naturalist, wrote some words I find most revealing. "I decided to go out for a walk and finally concluded to stay out until sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in". In friendship through flowers, I hope you too will enjoy such a walk.

Joan Finnie
President

CONTAINER SALE

Used containers will be on sale at the March meeting. They have been donated to the chapter by Doris Bergman and the estate of Isabel Weichel. Visit the sales table and bring cash or check.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

We are very grateful to these donors who sent contributions recently. We deeply appreciate their thoughtfulness and generosity.

From

Michiko Hosoda	In memory of Kuwako Takahashi and Pearl Kimura
Sumi Metz	To the General Fund for programming
Pauline Pezzola	In memory of Miriam Smith for the Garden of Fragrance

Membership dues provide only a small part of our expenses since most income from dues must be sent on to Tokyo headquarters. Consequently we must raise funds throughout the year to sustain our programs. A donation to the General Fund is used for that purpose. Checks should be payable to "Ikebana International" and mailed to treasurer Fiona Li, 535 Cherry Avenue; San Bruno, CA 94066. If there is a specific purpose of the gift, please include a note or write it in the check's memo space. All donations are acknowledged. Please consider making a gift donation to your chapter. Donations are especially suitable as memorials, wedding, anniversary, and graduation gifts, and donations made to support monthly programs

REFRESHING REFRESHMENTS

February's tea table offered delicious treats from Carole Gray, Joan Heblack, Kazuko Kajisa, and Leslie Kodama, and we thank them. Everyone partook of them, but only a few members brought them! Hospitality Chair Kajisa encourages members to bring refreshments for the table each month. Please bring your refreshments table-ready on a tray or dish. Mark your tray with your name and phone number and be sure to pick it up afterward.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Here are some changes and updates for your Membership Directory:

Corrections:

Benitez, Benita	510-236-9829	metlsmth@earthlink.net
Enshu	645 30 th St., Richmond, CA 94804	
Hikita, Tsuyoshi	415-356-2412	tsuyoshi.hikita@mofa.go.jp
Vice Consul	50 Fremont Street, Suite 2200; San Francisco 94105	

Additions:

Denison, Lynette	hikermv@aol.com
	257 Morning Sun Avenue; Mill Valley, CA 94941

Janigian, Mary Eddy janigian22@gmail.com
22 Marin View Avenue; Mill Valley, CA 94941

Priestly, Nadine Nadine.priestley@gmail.com
1112 Hamilton Avenue; Palo Alto, CA 94301

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?

If you change your address, phone or e-mail address, please be sure to notify our Membership Chair, Sandra Hatcher at Sandra.Hatcher@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu or call her at (916) 485-9056. This will insure that you continue to receive e-mail notices and the chapter's newsletter each month.

COMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

March 13-17, 2012: Bouquets to Art, the floral extravaganza held by the de Young Museum in Golden Gate Park. I.I. will be represented by Kayoko *Suiyo* Fujimoto, Ohara School; Fusako *Seiga* Hoyrup, Wafu kai; and Jane Naito, Sogetsu School. The Opening Night Preview is March 12. In addition to the chapter's representatives, many other members of I.I. install arrangements at Bouquets to Art.

March 30 – April 1, 2012: Sogetsu San Jose-South Bay Branch and Sogetsu North America co-host visit of Master Shinobu Okazaki from Tokyo for workshops and demonstration program at Doubletree by Hilton, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA. For information contact Kika Shibata at 408-279-8342 .

April 30-May 4, 2012: 10th I.I. World Convention at Grand Pacific Le Daiba, Tokyo.

May 18, 2012: I.I. San Francisco Chapter presents the celebrated Theatre of Yugen at its closing program of the current season. For more information, contact Program Chair Ron Brown at kodobrown@gmail.com.

May 19 & 20, 2012: Ohara Ikebana School of Northern California Chapter presents a flower show at the Jodo Shinshu Center; 2140 Durant Avenue; Berkeley, CA. Hours are 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Admission is free. For information contact Mitsuko Maruyama at mitsmaruyama@gmail.com or Kathy Toy at KToy@aol.com.

September 29 & 30, 2012: “ArtScape 2012” Sogetsu San Francisco flower show initiates the Branch's 40th Anniversary Year celebrations. San Francisco County Fair Building, Golden Gate Park.

March 16 & 17, 2013: 29th Ikebana Flower Show by I.I. San Francisco Bay Area Chapter at the San Francisco County Fair Building. Chair is Mitsuko Maruyama.

April 26 – April 30, 2013: 9th North American Sogetsu Seminar at JW Marriott, Los Angeles, hosted by Sogetsu Los Angeles Branch. Headmaster Akane Teshigahra will demonstrate.