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Ikebana International

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cherry blossoms whirl  
in the water of the ricefield  
night of moon and stars  
Buson

Program: **Ohara Legacy**  
Date and Time: Friday April 20, 2018 12:00 pm  
Program Chair: Yoshiko Grave  
Location: San Francisco County Fair Bldg., 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.  
Admission: Visitors are welcome. Contact Elizabeth Bestul at 408-244-5576 or via email: [eliza2345@yahoo.com](mailto:eliza2345@yahoo.com)

**Kayoko Fujimoto** began teaching Ohara ikebana in 1952 after coming to the USA from Japan with her husband and two young sons. She has distinguished herself not only in her local ikebana activities but has been recognized by the Emperor of Japan in 2010 with the prestigious Order of the Rising Sun, Golden and Silver Rays for her outstanding service to Ikebana and promoting the traditional culture Of Japan. She had the rarified lifetime membership awarded to her by the Ohara School, received the Bunka Hall of Fame induction for contributions to Japanese ikebana and enhancing community relations. She is also a charter member and founder of both I.I. and ITF in the Bay area as well as a member of the Ohara Chapter, North American Ohara Teachers' Association, and the Suiyo Flower Club. She continues to actively teach and demonstrate.

**Mitsuko Maruyama** was born in Ohita, Japan and came to the United State at the age of 15. In 1971, she began ikebana studies in the Ohara School. In 1977, she earned her first teaching degree and has earned successive degrees since then. In May 2008, she received Ohara School's First Term Master's degree. For over 40 years she has been an active member of ikebana organizations. Currently, she is President of the Ohara Ikebana School of Northern California Chapter. She is a member of North American Ohara Teachers Association. She is past President of Ikebana International San Francisco Chapter and the Ikebana Teachers Federation. She has demonstrated and exhibited ikebana at numerous flower shows including those presented by Ohara Ikebana School Northern California Chapter, the Asian Art Museum and Cherry Blossom festival in San Francisco.

**Setsuko Iwami** was born in Kyoto, Japan and had studied Ikenobo Ikebana for five years in Japan before moving to the Bay Area where she began studying Ikebana with Ohara School and continues her studies with her teacher, Ms. Suiko Maruyama. She currently holds the rank of Associate 2<sup>nd</sup> Term Master. Setsuko is a board member of the Ohara School of Ikebana, Northern California Chapter and currently serves as Recording Secretary and a member of North America Ohara Teachers Association. She serves on the boards of Ikebana International San Francisco Bay Area Chapter and Ikebana Teachers Federation. She has given demonstrations and exhibited arrangements at various flower shows, including those hosted by the Ohara Ikebana School of Northern California, Ikebana International Bay Area Chapter and San Francisco Cherry Blossom Festival.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

“Our spring has come at last with the soft laughter of April suns and shadow of April showers.” *Byron Caldwell Smith*. April showers and Spring wind blasted away the Sakura blossoms in my garden. A few blooms still linger but the branches are now covered with lime green leaves. These leaves can be pickled and wrap Sakura Mochi, a sweet dessert enjoyed during the Sakura season.

The Sakura or cherry trees and their beautiful blossoms are the symbol of the sublime spirit of Japan. The exquisite beauty of the Sakura blooms has inspired viewing rituals and traditions called Hanami. People gather under the pink canopy of Sakura blossoms to celebrate the return of spring and the passing of the dread of winter. During feudal times, Sakura was an important symbol of the samurai class. These highly cultured men of war compared themselves to the petals falling from the trees in their prime, signifying the beauty of their short well-lived live. There are over 600 varieties of cherry trees grown today. The most popular one in Japan is Somei Yoshino. The blooms are pale pink and blooming time is in April. The oldest cherry, the Yamata Jindai Zakura planted on the premise of Jisso-ji Temple in Mukawacho Yamanata is estimated to be 1,800 to 2,000 years old.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival takes place every spring in Washington D.C. Over 3,000 cherry trees were gifted to the city from Tokyo Mayor in 1912 as a gesture of friendship. The US returned the favor by sending 3,000 flowering dogwoods. The dogwood blooms immediately following the cherry. One would wonder if this is the origin of “Friendship Through Flowers”?

I am looking forward seeing you at our April program to celebrate the Legacy of Ohara. When entering Golden Gate Park to the Hall of Flowers on Martin Luther King Drive, you may still get a glimpse of the splendor of Somei Yoshino Sakura blossoms.

In Friendship Through Flowers,  
Thanh Nyugen

## DONATIONS

We would like to thank Rayko Kurasaki for her generous donation in memory of Sally Sutherland Nancy Locke for her generous donation in memory of Pearl Kimura and Sally Sutherland. If you would like to support our Chapter by making a gift in memory of someone, a family member or friend, please make your check payable to “Ikebana International” and write your gift’s purpose in the check’s memo space. Mail your check to Louise Ow Ling, Treasurer; 2764 McAllister St. #5, San Francisco, CA 94118. All donations are acknowledged and may be tax deductible, as provided by law.

## PARKING UPDATE:

The County Fair Hall staff has implemented new parking rules concerning the use of the back parking lot. You must unload and then park **ONLY** in our assigned parking area on MLK Drive between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Ron Brown will contact the Day Chair each month to notify them of space availability. Any available space will be assigned and marked specifically for our demonstrator(s). **Do not park in any open space in the back lot.** The park patrol will now be monitoring the back parking lot. Any vehicles not parked in a designated assigned spot will be cited and/or towed! The fines for parking illegally or being towed are significant. The Board appreciates your adhering to this new mandate from the Hall authorities. Parking on MLK drive is marked with signs. Drivers parking there must place a card with our logo on the dashboard reading “Ikebana International (707) 293-0614”. Cars without the dashboard sign will be cited.

## **IKEBANA SUPPLIES**

The Supply Table would like to thank the following individuals for generously donating at our March program: Barbara Gordon, Sumi Metz, Nora Dowley, Michiko Shimoda, Susan Okada, Reiko Kurosaki, and Marty Dorn.

## **TEA TABLE**

We enjoyed the tasty refreshments generously donated by Viviane Gordon, Yuliya Wetherell, Teodora Ngo, Phyllis Au, Yvonne Ip, Jennie Cho, Gladys Low and Joan Suzuki. If you can provide hospitality treats please sign up at the meeting or contact Hospitality Co-Chairs Teodora Ngo ([pingn8@gmail.com](mailto:pingn8@gmail.com)) or Sophia Wu ([suhuiswu@gmail.com](mailto:suhuiswu@gmail.com)).

## **MEMBERSHIP**

It's time to renew your membership!

Membership applications will be available at the membership desk in April.

Please mail in your renewal if you are unable to attend.

Active teachers **MUST** check the teaching box and list areas in which they teach.

## **COMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

Flower Show by Katsuko Thielke and her students

May 5 & 6, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Los Altos Public Library in the Civic Center

13 S San Antonio Road, Los Altos

Demonstrations at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

**Highlights from our March Program “Spring Sea”**



**Yoshiko Williams**



**Yoshiko Williams**





**Yoshiko Williams**

## Side Table Arrangements



**Alka Bhargava**



**Ron Brown**



**James Crowther**



**Jan Goehring**



**Pia Groth**



**Sumi Metz**

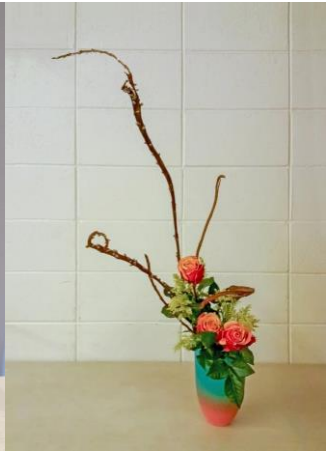


**Rayko Kurasaki**

**Gloria Lee**



**Sahshah Middleton**



**Mitsuko Maruyama**



**Susan Okada**



**Michiko Shimoda**



**Katsuko Thielke**



**Joan Suzuki**