



# San Francisco Bay Area Chapter #31

Internet website: [www.ikebana.org](http://www.ikebana.org)

E-mail: [Ikebanasfo@gmail.com](mailto:Ikebanasfo@gmail.com)

Telephone: (650) 854-8897

Ikebana International

985 Siskiyou Drive Menlo Park, CA 94025



a lightning flash  
the sound of water drops  
falling through bamboo  
Buson

**Program:** Ikebana Now  
**Date and Time:** Friday May 18, 2018 12:00 pm  
**Program Chairs:** Sandra Hatcher, Louise Ow Ling  
**Location:** San Francisco County Fair Bldg., 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. & Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.  
**Admission:** Visitors are welcome (\$5.00 admission fee at the door). Contact Elizabeth Bestul at 408-244-5576 or via email: [eliza2345@yahoo.com](mailto:eliza2345@yahoo.com)

**Yoshiko Gilli (Ohara)** was born in Nagasaki, Japan. She moved to Los Gatos 10 years ago, to be near her son and family from Fresno. She is currently a resident at the senior facility in Campbell. She enjoys working in the garden and belongs to the garden committee at the center, which occupies much of her free time and allows her to cut Ikebana material. She started Ohara Ikebana in Fresno in 1989. Mrs. Fujimoto has been her instructor since the beginning. She received the 2<sup>nd</sup> term associate master's degree in 2013. She belongs to Ohara Ikebana School Northern California Chapter, Ikebana International and Ikebana Teacher's Federation. She has participated in I.I. flower shows, Bouquets to Art at the de Young Museum, ITF's Cherry Blossom festival, and displayed and demonstrated at Ohara Chapter's flower shows and our monthly programs.

**MJ Kelly (Sogetsu)** began her love for growing plants as a young child helping her father plant and care for the family's big garden. Her dad was a son of an Iowa farmer who had a passion for growing vegetables and fruits. Even though Colorado's growing season is short he tended his garden and produced enough food to feed his family of 4 for almost all their needs. Her mother also had an interest in gardening. She had large flower beds and brought flowers into the house during the spring and summer. Since then she has directed her passion into growing and arranging flowers. She started by studying Western Arranging under Mary Fonseca and completed her certificate as a florist. Years later she decided to explore the art of Ikebana which she has admired for many years. At first she felt that this form of flower arranging was too rigid for her free spirit. This was before she worked with Sensei Kika Shibata who is guiding her into the new and exciting world of Sogetsu. MJ Kelly has been Sensei Kika Shibata's student for about 14 years and has earned a 4th grade teachers degree in Sogetsu. Her background is interior design and art. She has also been active as a past president for the Davis Flower Arrangers as well as the Sacramento Floral Design Guild and Ikebana International Chapter 26.

**Sharon Krawetz (Wafu)** studies ikebana with Fusako Hoyrup. She holds the Gakukan degree from Wafu School and is vice-president of the California Wafukai Chapter. Sharon is an active member and first vice-president of this chapter. She is also a member of the Ikebana Teachers Federation. She exhibits at both the San Francisco and Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festivals and provides a weekly arrangement at the Cupertino Sports Center. Even after more than forty years of flower arranging, Sharon finds the classes are never repetitive, as there are always new combinations of materials and containers. The concentration required while arranging, the joy of being around fresh flowers, and appreciation of the beauty of nature brings energy to her days. When not involved in ikebana, Sharon enjoys duplicate bridge, reading, traveling and keeping up with friends and family.

**Chizuko Nakamura (Ikenobo)** first studied ikebana with her mother in Japan, her birthplace. After coming to the USA, she studied with Mrs. Shumika Tada. For more than four decades she has pursued her studies and perfected her art in Ikenobo. She recently attended a training course at Ikenobo headquarters in Japan to further her expertise. She has received Ikenobo's highest diploma, Sokatoku. She demonstrates and exhibits frequently and participates at Ikenobo exhibitions. She has exhibited for the Ikebana Teachers Federation at the Cherry Blossom Festival and at various Japanese community centers and libraries. She is an active member of the Northern California chapter of Ikenobo and the Ikebana Teachers Federation.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Friends,

Two years have gone by so fast. At the end of this month, I am finishing my term as your President. This is my last monthly President's Message to you. I would like to thank you for your genuine friendship, your trust and your kind words of encouragement. Seeing familiar faces and meeting new friends at the monthly programs has always been the high points of my term in office.

It has been an honor to serve this Chapter. Whether you are active on the board of directors or a member who enjoys the monthly programs, participates in the flower shows, reads the newsletters to see what is going on, demonstrates from time to time for your school, you play an important part in the sustainable success of this Chapter. Like a motor with hundreds of moving parts, some are big and some small but all parts are needed for the engine to run well.

I will continue serving the Chapter in different capacities. I am very excited looking forward to our 2019 flower show which is only less than a year away. The steering committee met for the first time to kick off this event. Many hands will be needed and when we call for your help, please say "yes". We are not only a hard working but a fun-loving group. You won't regret being part of it. Looking a little farther in the horizon, the Chapter will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020. It is going to be BIG! It was unfortunate that we had to cancel the April program (our sincerest apologies to Ohara). We missed a great opportunity to enjoy a historical demonstration by three generations of Ohara sensei and seito. The May program will be the last one before our summer break. "Ikebana Now", the tittle is enticing and I can't wait. May is also the deadline for membership dues. Please don't forget to renew when you come on May 18.

Lastly, my deepest gratitude goes to each and every one on the Board of Directors who wholeheartedly supported and guided me. This teamwork has been the most rewarding experience in my life. You all are true friends one could ever have.

I wish you a summer of relaxation, good health, fresh inspiration, and full of new discoveries.

In Friendship Through Flowers,  
Thanh Nguyen