

Tsuru 鶴 Soars

Friends of the Gresham Japanese Garden Newsletter



Kyoudou Center Open House



What is this building going to be? That has been the number one question from passersby. Stop by Saturday, November 18 from 9am to noon to see the view from the inside out. At 11am, GJG will present an overview of the project and what the Gresham Japanese Garden is all about.

Talk with the garden director, Jim Card, and volunteers who put in many hours making the vision a reality. Everyone is invited.

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, Nov. 18th - 9am to noon



PHOTOGRAPHER'S VIEW

*cool nights
bring autumn colors
and memories to share*

- Bill Peterson



Gresham Japanese Garden

Kyoudou Center
Event Hall and Community Space

Rentals and Reservations
info@GreshamJapaneseGarden.com or visit GreshamJapaneseGarden.org

Volunteer Highlight

by Mary Marrs



Scott Evans, volunteer extraordinaire

Scott Evans modestly says that he's good at working outdoors with his hands. And, volunteering at the Gresham Japanese Garden since early August, he's proven to be a natural at pitching in with all sorts of projects.

The Garden's largest endeavor this year was the renovation of the newly named Kyoudou Center, and Scott was there to assist volunteers Chuck Page, Jim Card and Kent Thompson building the deck

and the accessible ramp. Scott says that Chuck is a good person to work with. He reminds him of working with his dad; be prepared and try to be one step ahead in order to be helpful.

The other project Scott worked on was the long sinuous retaining wall behind the Kyoudou Center. Because of his height (over 6 feet tall) and strength, Scott was invaluable in placing the 80-pound landscaping stones for two weeks straight, not daunted by the rain or the hard work. How many stones did he install? Probably around 650!

Scott says it's been a good fit and everyone is friendly and likes to have fun, like him.

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"I usually keep to myself," he said, "but volunteering here has brought me out of my shell." He added that it has helped him be more outgoing.

Scott was definitely not a wallflower when the Garden hosted the North American Japanese Garden Association regional workshop in September either.

He was there all four days, happy to help with the set up and clean up for the meetings, workshops, and evening events. On the last day of the workshop, Scott was there with others laying the stones in the nobedan.

Along with supporting those projects and activities, he's learned about other aspects of the organization, including gardening and pruning. So what's his favorite part of volunteering at the Gresham Japanese Garden? "Everything!" Scott says enthusiastically. He's appreciative that other volunteers make it enjoyable, and he says it's peaceful.

Garden Director Jim Card agrees that Scott seems comfortable with the volunteer organization and enjoys the opportunity to use his skills. "He's willing to take on the challenges we've offered to him," Jim said.

Scott is glad that he's found a place where he can contribute and be part of the community. Recognizing the collective hard work of everyone, he believes in the familiar saying that "many hands make light work." It sure does.



GARDEN TIPS

Prevent vegetable or annual flower growing areas from becoming saturated and hard-packed this winter by planting a cover crop you can turn over in the spring. Crimson clover germinates easily in our climate as does annual rye grass.

When you turn it over, the cover crop will decompose adding tilth and nutrients to the soil. Healthy soil is 10% air in minuscule pockets and this process will help inject air into the soil.

— Jim Buck, Garden Volunteer and Organic Gardener

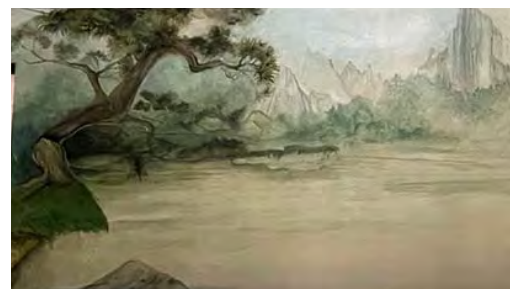
Chrysanthemum Display



The chrysanthemum, a symbol of longevity and immortality, the national flower, and the Imperial Emblem of Japan.

This year, Barry Baertlein with [Oregon Chrysanthemums and Hostas](#) has adorned Tsuru Island's azumaya with unique varieties of chrysanthemums in honor of Chōyō, the chrysanthemum festival. Please visit Tsuru Island and view.

Interior Mural



Commissioned by GJG to paint a landscape scene typical of Japanese paintings, Cassie Fisher has done her homework.

As you walk into the Kyoudou Center, you'll enjoy the mural on the east wall that evokes a tranquil feeling.

Visit [CassieFisherPainting](#), or see her work yourself November 18th from 9am to noon. (See front page article.)

Inspired by Nature and Community

by Mary Marrs



Entry garden designer, Francheska Snyder

Francheska Snyder is so inspired by the natural and geologic beauty of the Columbia River Gorge that she brought those elements into the design of the Kyoudou Center's entry garden and *nobedan*, (stone pathway).

Columnar basalt pillars are iconic in the Pacific Northwest, and Francheska included them to represent the cliffs of the Gorge. She also added species of native plants found throughout the terrain, tall slender evergreen trees that mimic the waterfalls, and a meandering stone path that flows like the Columbia River.

"That's the process of designing Japanese gardens," Francheska said, *"being inspired by the natural environment around you, and bringing that beauty into a garden."*

It was just last year during a North American Japanese Garden Association (NAJGA) event in Gresham that Garden Director Jim Card asked for her help.

At that time, the Kyoudou Center renovation was still just a dream. But Francheska, owner of Niwa Method, a landscape business specializing in Japanese gardens, already had plenty of experience.

Starting simply with graph paper and a vision, she began designing the nobedan using the traditional *tatami-ishi* measurement of 6-feet by 3-feet sections for the flat stone pavers, hand-placed cobbles, and crushed gravel. Using various sizes and arrangements of stones makes the path functional and aesthetically beautiful.

Since it was an entry garden, Francheska started with the "outside" perspective, even though most Japanese entry garden designs are based on viewing from the inside. She wanted to make sure that people approaching the Kyoudou Center felt welcomed and invited into the space.

As plants were added, she positioned them to bow inward. She also planted 'Soft Caress' mahonia near sitting boulders to offer a comforting feeling. And, she kept the bowl-shaped boulder that acts as the community doggie water dish.

With the knowledge that the Kyoudou Center is community and event space, Francheska made sure the nobedan path was wide and open giving people

the ease to mingle and move from Ebetsu Plaza to the Kyoudou Center's porch.

Along with planting native species of grasses, mahonia, ferns, maples, and pines, Francheska incorporated plants from the garden's shade house such as the large white pine, two mature incense cedars that have wonderful character, red and yellow twig dogwoods, and five hinoki that needed to get in the ground.

Overseeing the construction of the nobedan and planting done by NAJGA and community members over the past month, Francheska said the volunteer support was amazing.

"Working with everyone has been endearing and inspiring!"

"Working with everyone has been endearing and inspiring!" She added that because of everyone's participation, it really felt like a community space, and made her glad to be involved.

Looking back, Francheska said that she never thought she'd be installing such a major feature. Including the entire remodel of the Kyoudou Center, she said it's a big deal.

"It's been a surprising experience for me, and I'm happy and honored to be part of it."

Pruning Program Classes



LINCOLN PROUD, INSTRUCTOR

Lincoln has a wide background in horticultural and garden experience that spans many styles and climates. His formal training took place at Longwood Gardens where he completed the Professional Gardener training program. Since then he has studied in Japan and worked at many gardens including the Portland Japanese Garden, a private estate in Texas, as well as the Boyce Thompson Southwest Arboretum and Wallace Desert Garden in Arizona. Most recently, Lincoln is involved at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden and now the Gresham Japanese Garden.

Structural Pruning Upright Japanese Maples: Saturday, November 18th, 12:30pm–2:30pm - \$45

LINCOLN PROUD, INSTRUCTOR: This course is offered when the Japanese maples are in silhouette. It's the best time to see the structure of your upright maples. The class will begin with a short lecture on basic botany and growth habits of upright maples and then Lincoln will prune various upright maples and teach how the fundamentals are applied in various circumstances. Finally, you will learn how you can prune your own maple trees.

Fundamentals of Pruning, on Zoom: Thursday, December 7th, 6:00pm–8:00pm - \$20

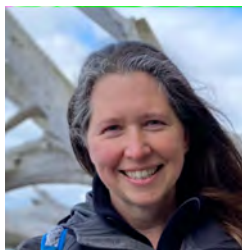
LINCOLN PROUD, INSTRUCTOR: In addition to how to make cuts and shape plants, Lincoln will discuss why we prune, what tools should be used, and even some basic plant biology—all of which form the foundation and provide the necessary background knowledge needed to prune woody plants correctly. After covering these topics, he will describe how to approach a variety of plants found in landscapes. *Zoom courses are recorded and available for two weeks after the course date.*



FRANCHESKA SNYDER, INSTRUCTOR

Francheska Snyder is the current owner/operator of Niwa Method, a landscape business specializing in Japanese gardens. She has previously worked at the Portland Japanese Garden, Shofuso Japanese House and Garden, and Wyck Historic House and Garden. She holds a certificate in Ornamental Horticulture, a 3rd Term Master Level certificate from the Ohara School of Ikebana and is a recognized Chanticleer Scholar. She also uses her time and talent on the board of Leach Botanical Garden, and now consulting and teaching for the Gresham Japanese Garden.

All-day Hands-on Pruning Workshop at Vanport International's Japanese Garden in Boring, OR - Saturday, January 6th, 10:00am–4:00pm - \$100



MARYANN LEWIS, INSTRUCTOR

Maryann Lewis is an APA Certified Aesthetic Pruner® and co-founder and past president of the Aesthetic Pruners Association. She began teaching in 2005 as an adjunct instructor at the Academy of Art San Francisco and in 2012 began teaching various aesthetic pruning classes with the Marin Master Gardeners Pruning Guild. In 2022 she was one of three pruning instructors for the International Japanese Garden Training Center's Waza to Kokoro seminar. Additionally, Maryann has taught workshops and given presentations for the American Conifer Society, The Hoffman Center for the Arts in Manzanita Oregon, the JM Winery in Woodinville Washington, and now the Gresham Japanese Garden.

Fundamentals of Conifers, on Zoom: Thursday, February 8th, 6:00pm–8:00pm - \$20

MARYANN LEWIS, INSTRUCTOR: In the Northwest, we know there is more to conifers than Christmas trees! Learn fundamental pruning techniques for your favorite conifers including pines, spruce, hinoki and how to interpret cultivars. This class will help you feel comfortable making pruning decisions so you can enjoy your conifers even more. There will be time at the end of the course for questions and answers. *Zoom courses are recorded and available for two weeks after the course date.*

[REGISTER HERE](#)