

KOFU BONSAI KAI KOFUKAI.ORG

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Our next meeting is Saturday February 15, 2020 at 7 PM

We meet at the Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, east classroom. Donations to the Kofu raffle and refreshment table are always welcome!

It's time to pay our dues!!! Our annual dues fund our activities such as hosting fabulous demonstrators, putting on exhibits and having a great holiday party to end each year. Expenses we must meet include rent, insurance, tax preparation fees, storage costs, demonstrators fees, professional photography, a gift photo for each exhibitor at the Bowers of their tree, refreshment and raffle expenses and more. I think our club offers an incredible bargain; an entire year of demonstrations and events for \$30/\$35! I've included a pdf form you can print and mail or just catch us at the next meeting. (If you paid dues any time after August 2019 you are paid up for 2020.)



Kofu Kai welcomes California Bonsai Society Visiting Artist

Sergio Cuan

This guy is an expert on deciduous trees. We have a lot of them, let's make this a critique.

As creative director for a major entertainment company in New York City, Sergio Cuan has been involved in a variety of creative projects around the world. He also has a passion for painting and horticulture. Early on he realized that bonsai is an ideal synthesis of both and he became fascinated.

A largely self taught bonsai artist, he has taken workshops with Bill Valavanis, Mauro Stemberger and Bjorn Bjornholm to further his studies. Although he works on many species including Engelmann

spruce, Rocky Mountain juniper and eastern white cedar, he has a particular interest in and passion for a wide range of deciduous species including maples, elm and beech among many others. In 2014 he built a bonsai garden in Northern New Jersey surrounded by hills, lakes and deciduous forests which features many species of bonsai from Japan, Europe and North America. He also conducts private workshops there.

Sergio's work has appeared in bonsai magazines and blogs and his trees have been shown at many exhibitions and have received awards including 'Finest Deciduous Award' at the 2014 National Bonsai Exhibition in Rochester, NY and 'Best In Show' at the 2016 Winter Silhouette Expo in Annapolis, NC.

He believes that bonsai is a true art form that has much in common with painting, drawing and sculpture, but unlike those forms, bonsai is alive and there is an interactive component that gives bonsai its own unique dimension. photo from Nestor Torres

Please contact Carol Upston Now if you will bring a tree to this demonstration.



President's Message

We Are Busy! (Volunteers needed)

Last year was challenging beyond the usual ups and downs that life regularly strews across our path. We lost Manny Martinez, a man who was not only a friend and teacher but a major contributor to club activities. There was a period of time when we all got past the the shock and took stock of our situation. After the initial sadness started to pass, people began to come forward and volunteer to help and to fill some of the gaps left by Manny's passing. The new CBS visiting artist program began to infuse

some new excitement into our meetings. Attendance went up, participation in general increased. Our August auction was successful and helped fill the bank account for club operations.

The good people at the Bowers Museum pledged to continue the warm reciprocal relationship that Manny had established and the show was really beautiful and well attended by both the general public and our bonsai colleagues. At some point we found out that another stalwart member, Paul Vasina had passed away. Now, having made it through all of these things and emerged from the black hole of the Holiday Season, several important events are rapidly approaching.

February 15 - Our usual meeting date will feature a critique by Sergio Cuan featuring deciduous trees. I know our club has a lot of members with deciduous trees. I'd like at least 10 to make sure we have an entertaining and educational program. Contact me if you can bring a tree.

February 22 and 23 - Kofu Kai hosts the annual Bonsai A Thon. This means that we put on the exhibit of eight trees downstairs in the demo area and staff it with at least one volunteer at all times. Contact me if you want to show a tree or can be there to docent. I have five trees coming, need three.

Sunday March 1 - The Annual Cherry Blossom Festival at the Bowers Museum has been moved up to this date which is great because it no longer conflicts with the Green Scene at the Fullerton Arboretum. Kofu Kai has five or six tables in the covered courtyard area with tree and accent displays and we chat with festival visitors about bonsai. We don't use backdrops, just black table covers so it's an easy set up and take down. I have space for three trees in addition to the ones I'm bringing. You can also work on a tree at the event. If you can attend and show a tree or just come by to talk to folks, let me know. Admission to the museum is free on the day, not including special ticketed events.

April 4 - 5 - The Green Scene plant sale at the Fullerton Arboretum will again feature an exhibit of bonsai trees from members of the Orange County bonsai clubs including us. Paul Minerich and Jim Pierce are coordinating the event. This plant sale is worth attending just for the shopping opportunities. Why not help out at the bonsai exhibit as long as you're there!

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! - Carol Upston



Last Month - These Guys are Awesome

After Dave Miles (left) generously donated a huge and magnificent California juniper to us, it was decided that our November demonstrator, Todd Schlafer would style the tree as his demo with the idea that it would be auctioned at a later date to benefit the club. It's way too big to style in one evening's demo so Bob Pressler took it back to his nursery so that Todd could work on it ahead of time and then finish at the demo. Well Todd also turned out to be a very generous guy and he also really loved the tree so he put in a LOT of time both before and even after the Kofu meeting and the tree looks fantastic. It's living happily out at Bob's nursery in Northridge and it's future sale will help earn money for our endeavors.

We will keep everyone posted on the tree and it's sale situation.

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The Future (2020)

February 15

Kofu Kai welcomes CBS Visiting Artist
Sergio Cuan

February 22 - 23

Kofu Bonsai Kai hosts the
Bonsai-A-Thon!!!
Huntington Botanic Gardens

March 1

Kofu Kai bonsai exhibit at the
Bower's Museum Spring Festival
One day only, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Free museum admission, Japanese music and
dance performances

March 21

Will Baddeley Carving Demo
at Kofu Bonsai Kai!

March 21 - 22

California Bonsai Society
Annual Exhibit and reception at the
Huntington

April 4 - 5 2020

The Green Scene
Fullerton Arboretum
Bonsai Exhibit by Kofu Kai and the other
Orange County clubs

April 18, 2020

TBA

Early May

Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai annual show
Serenity Through Bonsai
Nakaoka Community Center
Gardena

May 16

Kofu welcomes CBS visiting artist
Marjia Hardic

May 23,24,25

Santa Anita Bonsai Society show and sale
Los Angeles Arboretum
Arcadia

June 20

Kofu meeting TBA

July 18

CBS visiting artist Christopher Sambolin

August

Kofu Kai Annual Benefit Auction!!!

Probably Early September

Kofu Kai Show at the Bowers

September

Member Workshop to welcome new people
and guests

October

Mel Ikeda

November

CBS visiting artist Nik Rozman

December 12

Kofu Kai Christmas Party!

Dates and programs subject to change!

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KUSAMONO DEMONSTRATION

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2020
11AM – 1PM

BONSAI-A-THON

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS
BRODY BOTANICAL CENTER
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA 91108

Join internationally **renowned Kusamono artist YOUNG CHOE** as she conducts a live demonstration and presentation at the Bonsai-A-Thon. At the presentation, she will guide you through her philosophies and techniques used to create and display your Kusamono creations. Young will create two Kusamono accent plants that will be auctioned at the Bonsai-A-Thon Sunday afternoon. The demonstration is free with your admission to the event.

Young Choe studied traditional art-ink painting and calligraphy in her native Korea before she moved to the United States and obtained her BS in Horticulture from the University of Maryland. She has studied this unique art form in Japan with master Kusamono artist, Keiko Yamane.

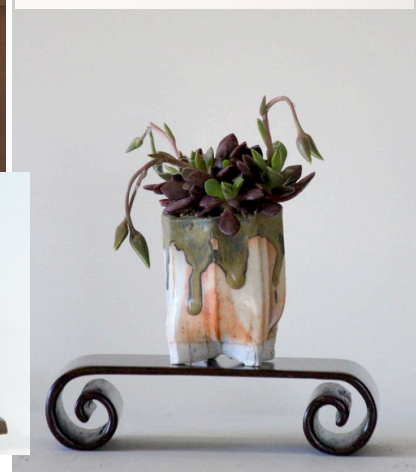
Young was also a propagation horticulturist at the US National Arboretum, where she currently works.

For more information about Young Choe, please visit:

<http://www.kusamonochoe.com/>

<https://bonsaimirai.com/node/470>

<https://www.facebook.com/Young-Choe-Kusamono-369885476544099/>



Saturday & Sunday, February 22nd & 23rd, 2020

10:00AM – 5:00PM

Bonsai-A-Thon XXIV

We invite everyone – bonsai novices, enthusiasts and experts – to our annual fundraising event on behalf of the Golden State Bonsai Federation Collection at the Huntington.

Find us at

Brody Botanical Center Building

The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108

- **Extensive Bazaar Area** – Select vendors selling top-quality tools, pots and trees (raw material to display-ready); masterpiece trees on display
- **Bonsai Exhibit** – By Kofu Bonsai Kai Society
- **From Twig to Tree Exhibit** – Bonsai in various stages of development
- **Bonsai Workshop for Children and Adults**– Pre-Registration required at huntington.org/calendar. Registration opens Dec. 15, 2019. Adults \$55 (\$45 for Huntington members.) Children \$45 (\$35 for Huntington members.) Children's price includes one accompanying adult.
- **Demonstrations** – Initial training and advanced styling of bonsai by experts
- **Daily Raffle & Auction** – Demonstration trees and donated trees, pots, tools, etc.
- **Guided Tours** – Led by Jim Folsom, Director of the Huntington Botanical Gardens, 10:00 AM Saturday; and Ted Matson, Bonsai Garden Curator, 10:00 AM Sunday
- **Kusamono Demonstration** – by renowned artist Young Choe 11AM – 1PM Sunday

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SCHEDULE

7:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Bonsai club members early bird registration and Pancake Breakfast
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Bazaar and Bonsai Exhibits open to registered BAT participants
10:00AM –5:00PM	Bazaar and bonsai Exhibits open to the public with Huntington tickets
9:00 AM–2:00PM	Initial styling and advanced refinement demonstrations, open at 10:00AM to the public with Huntington tickets.
10:00 AM –11:30 AM	SATURDAY Jim Folsom tour: Bonsai Court and Chinese Garden
10:00 AM –11:30 AM	SUNDAY Ted Matson tour of the Bonsai Nursery
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Hotdogs and Hamburgers Lunch
	(Registered Bonsai-A-Thon attendees only may purchase breakfast and lunch in the Head House)