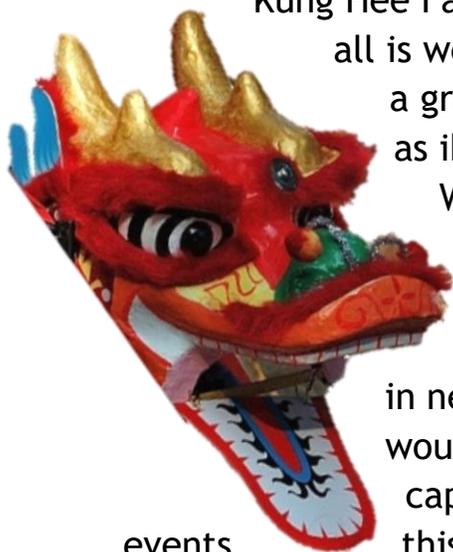




PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Kung Hee Fat Choy, to all! It's been a great 2017 so far. I hope all is well with all our members, we are truly blessed to have a group of talented people who enjoy what they do as far as Ikebana, and hope it reflects into your daily lives also. We start on our busy part of our year of events this month, with the planning of our Splendors of Ikebana exhibition. We will need everyone's support in any way, so when the committee chair call or someone is in need of task done, say "Yes, what can I help with?" I would be honored to have you participate in whatever capacity you can, to make the exhibition and other events this year go smoothly. The board and committees cannot do it alone, so I ask you to assist your organization whenever you can. It is and always greatly appreciated. You know the I.I. motto, Friendship thru Flowers, well, it has made me realize how fortunate I am to be associated with our group. I get to see your hearts in all you do for I.I. Chapter 56. Thank you for allowing me to see you.

Mahalo,
Earl M. Shimabukuro



Welcoming the Year of the Rooster

Despite the blustery winds, rain, and traffic issues, Ikebana International's New Year luncheon welcomed more than a hundred guests, including a member of the Seattle Chapter! The luncheon theme, *In Struts the Rooster*, was represented by seven exquisite arrangements. We enjoyed beautiful slides from the little-known-to-the-public Asian Costume Collection housed within the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Historic Costume Collection. The food was blessed in the Hawaiian manner by Kumu Hula and Sogetsu student Malina Kaulukukui. And as always, the door prize and centerpiece giveaways added to the fun and excitement.



Ikebana International events are always successful when so many members participate! Some work behind the scenes and some up front. All are critical to the success of our events. This event was a success thanks to our upbeat and entertaining Mistress of Ceremonies Viva Inouye; our exhibitors Karen Kirk, Gail Atwater, Shisho Kikuta, Elaine Arita, Dale Yanagihara, May Hiraoka Tomita and Bette Uyeda; members donating centerpieces including Tim Donahue, Carol Murakami, Linda Carvalho, Danna Martel, Ruth Komatsu, Gale Kobayashi, Joan Hori, Pat Kubo, Karen Nagata, Jane Aquino, Linda Sung, Charmaine Yee-Hollison, Karen Kirk; the hard working Ways and Means team of Jennifer Shintani and Helene Furuya; vendors Gail Atwater and Earl Shimabukuro; and our Program Angels Yukari Sato, Linda Sonoda, Maile Wilkerson and Danna Martel.

Special thanks to all of you who made reservations for yourselves and your guests. Your participation ensures that we can continue to fulfill our mission of Friendship through Flowers!





PROGRAMS

The Programs Committee has two more activities planned for this fiscal year.

On Saturday March 11 we will visit a private garden hidden away in the backroads of Waimanalo. The garden is Maluhia, which means peace or serenity. It features exotic plantings, ponds enhanced by Meiji Era cranes, a stone monk, a Buddha and a small teahouse built from reclaimed wood. Designed in the “hide and reveal” style typical of Asian gardens by owner/landscaper David Yearian, the garden is a repository for rare hybrid ti and plants from across Asia and the Pacific.

We announced this event at the January luncheon and as of February 4 we had 21 members registered. We will close the reservations at 25. The last few reservation will be accepted according to the date postmarked on the mailing envelope. We will put any reservations beyond the 25 we can accommodate on a “wait” list in case of cancellations. We will be contacting those with guaranteed reservations to share event details in the next week.

Our last luncheon for the year will be held in conjunction with Splendors at the Linekona School of the Honolulu Museum of Art. The date is Sunday, May 21. Look for more information to come in the April newsletter.

Aloha, and thank you for supporting Ikebana International programs!

Editor Note: Many thanks to Paulette and Joyce, and the many angels who help them pull everything together!



SPLENDORS OF IKEBANA

Honolulu Museum of Art School (Linekona)
Exhibit May 17-22, 2017

NEWSLETTERS

The remaining newsletters for this program year will be prepared by the following editors. Please have your input to the appropriate editor by the **end of the month prior**:

April 2017 - Linda Tanaka

June 2017 - May Hiraoka-Tomita

CONGRATULATIONS, KIDA-SENSEI!



Nobuko Kida has been recognized as a Living Treasure of Hawai'i by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i for perpetuating the art of Ikenobo Ikebana. Since 1950 Japan's Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has used this designation for individuals who preserve Important Intangible Cultural Properties. In other words, someone recognized as having attained a high level of mastery in an art form, thus ensuring their continuation. Here in Hawaii, Honpa Hongwanji Mission instituted a similar program in 1976 to recognize contributions by individuals who have enriched our community through their unique talents and selfless giving.

Kida-sensei began her study of Ikenobo Ikebana in her homeland of Okinawa at the age of 15. Shortly after arriving in Hawai'i with her husband, she began arranging flowers for temple services. This led to teaching classes to children at the temple. Her love for ikebana and her gentle manner attracted more students. Today she is one of only a handful of people in the Honolulu Chapter to have attained the highest rank possible in Ikenobo. She continues to share her talent in hopes of bringing people together in peace and harmony through flowers.



Ikebana International Honolulu Chapter 56



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