



Iowa Bonsai Association Newsletter

www.iabonsai.org

<https://sites.google.com/site/cedarrapidsbonsai/>

From The Editor

Susan Daufeldt

And it's good bye until next year! Thank you for participating in and sharing the adventure of Iowa Bonsai 2023. We've had a good year and as we wind up 2023, we are already looking ahead - 2024 is just around the corner. Let's make it the best year we've ever had. Enjoy one another. Enjoy your trees. I look forward to seeing you all in the year ahead!



Please consider writing an article for the Newsletter. Remember that this is your club! If you have ideas, thoughts or comments, we'd love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

May you and your trees be truly blessed in the year ahead! Happy holidays!

Susan Daufeldt
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Susan Daufeldt - Editor
 Dave Richmond - Art Director
 Jared Wall - Reporter

IBA President's Report

Scott Allen

Dear IBA members and friends,

I hope you are all busy with fall bonsai work and winter preparations.

Tentatively, **Save the Date:** Memorial Day Weekend 2025, the IBA is planning to host the next Mid America Bonsai Alliance (MABA) convention. More on this soon. We are still working with the MABA board and the possible venues and will confirm the date as soon as we can. This is a great opportunity to get involved and promote the art of bonsai. We are planning a great event, with major artists, good material and variety of vendors.

Our next club meeting is Saturday, November 18, 2023, at the GDBT. This is our annual auction fundraiser. Please bring bonsai-related items to donate to the club for auction. End of the year/holiday lunch to follow at a restaurant of choice.



There will be NO IBA East meeting in November and there will be some changes to the IBA East program for 2024. Please see Page 3 and respond to Susan.

We still have some Akadama at \$50 a bag for club members and \$55 a bag for non-club members and Pumice at \$15 a bucket for club members and \$20 for non members.

Hope to see you all soon!
Sincerely,

Scott Allen, IBA President,
(scott@vividpix.com)

Right, Colorado Spruce (*Picea pungens*). From the Jerry Morris collection. Artist: Todd Schlafer, Artist of the Year 2010, Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society. Photo by Mike Green Photography.



IBA East Satellite Meetings

Susan Daufeldt

So ends the first year of the IBA East Satellite Meeting experiment. Participation has been lite and I would like to hear from the existing membership regarding this activity. We expect that it will take between 2 and 3 years to get this project running smoothly. We have a great venue for working, but I want to know if this is working for the Iowa bonsai community or not. And if not, why not.

Change of Weekend: Beginning in February of 2024, IBA East Satellite Meetings will be held the **2nd Saturday of most months (NOT the 4th Saturday)**. This is because I have found it physically impossible to manage a club meeting while I'm trying to get out both the Iowa Newsletter and the American Bonsai Society Newsletter.

So a few questions for YOU:

If you live in the Eastern part of the state and have NOT attended these meetings in 2023,

- (1) Why not?
- (2) Is there something that the IBA can do to make this opportunity more accessible or interesting to you?

Whether or not you have attended these meetings in 2023, please let me know if you have any suggestions or ideas concerning this project?

Please shoot me an email.

Thanks so much,

Susan Daufeldt
IBA/EIBA Newsletter Editor
(scdaufeldt@icloud.com)
(319) 430-3822

Right, Ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa). Estimated age - 250 years. Years in development - 10 years. Artist: Mike Britten, Artist of the Year 2023, Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society. Pot: Sara Rayner. Stand: Dan Kingery. Accent Plant: Forked spleenwort (Asplenium septentrionale). Pot: Satori. Photo by Mike Green Photography.



EIBA Report

Bill Englert

Greetings Bonsai Friends,

The EIBA met on October 19th, 2023, for our monthly meeting. The topic for the meeting was "Overwintering Trees." The club members held a round table discussion about the techniques each uses to protect their trees for winter. Since they all have different trees, the storage methods were a little different for each. We answered many questions, so new members should have a good understanding of what to do.

The next topic was election of officers for the 2024 year. The nominations for officers was open to membership for all positions. Because there were no new nominees, the current officers were voted into office for next year. Officers are, President - John Clemens, Vice President - Bill Englert, Treasurer - Otto Rajtora, and Secretary - Buck Stark. Along with the offices some of the members are appointed directors as well. John Clemens is the Education Director, Bill Englert is Director of Event Scheduling and Venues, and Denny Molumby is the Materials Director.

John Clemens discussed with the membership our upcoming **workshop on April 13, 2024, with David Kreutz**. David will give a presentation about azaleas first, then give a hands on workshop for 10 people. There will be an opportunity for a few silent observers during the workshop. We are currently looking for a venue for this event.

Plans are currently underway for participating in the **Linn County Master Gardening Fair, which will be held on February 17, 2024, in Cedar Rapids**. John Clemens will be giving a class on beginning bonsai. The EIBA will also have tables in the hallway with trees and club information.

The November Board meeting will be held on November 19, 2024, and will be virtual. If you would like to attend, please contact us and we will add you to the list.

Our next event will be on November 16th, 2024 and will be our Holiday Party at Leonardo's on 16th Avenue in Cedar Rapids. Information will be sent to our membership with details.

I hope this finds everyone well, and your preparations are underway for getting your trees ready for winter.

Bill Englert

VP EIBA *Bill Englert, EIBA Vice President* (bandrenglert@mchsi.com)



Calendar of Events

Note: IBA Activities are also on the IBA website. Click on the "Calendar" Link.

Nov 9, 2023, 7:00 pm (Thurs)

EIBA Board Meeting via Zoom. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.

Nov 16, 2023, 6pm (Thurs)

EIBA Club Meeting: Holiday Party at Leondardo's, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.

Nov 18, 2023,
9 am to 1pm (Sat)

IBA End of the Year Benefit Auction at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, **With Luncheon to Follow. Please bring bonsai-related items to donate to the auction!**

2024

Note:

Going forward, IBA Satellite Meetings will be the 2nd Saturday of most months. This change will not affect the date of the Winter Silhouette and Flowering Tree Exhibition, which will be the 4th Saturday of March.

Feb 8, 2024, 7:00 pm (Thurs)

EIBA Board Meeting via Zoom. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.

Feb 10, 2024
10am-2pm (Saturday)

IBA Satellite Meeting and Open Study Group. Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, Hills, IA (Address for navigation purposes: Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, 5276 Oakcrest Hill Road Southeast, Riverside, IA 52327)

Feb 15, 2024, 7pm (Thurs)

EIBA Club Meeting: Program TBD. Pierson's Flower Shop & Greenhouse, 1800 Ellis Blvd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.

Feb 17, 2024,
9 am to 1pm (Sat)

IBA Meeting and Open Study Group & Program at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, (Check with the front desk for location within the Garden). Program: **TBD.**

March 9, 2024
10am-2pm (Saturday)

IBA Satellite Meeting and Open Study Group. Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, Hills, IA (Address for navigation purposes: Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, 5276 Oakcrest Hill Road Southeast, Riverside, IA 52327)

- March 14, 2024, 7:00 pm (Thurs)** *EIBA Board Meeting via Zoom. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- March 16, 2024,
9 am to 1pm (Sat)** **IBA Meeting and Open Study Group & Program** at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, (Check with the front desk for location within the Garden). Program: **TBD.**
- March 21, 2024, 7pm (Thurs)** **EIBA Club Meeting:** Program TBD. Pierson's Flower Shop & Greenhouse, 1800 Ellis Blvd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.
- March 23, 2024, 10am-3pm (Sat)** **IBA Satellite Location Winter Silhouette & Flowering Tree Show.** The Green House, 505 E. Washington St., Iowa City, IA 52240. **Set up: 9 am**
- April 11, 2024, 7:00 pm (Thurs)** *EIBA Board Meeting via Zoom. Contact an EIBA Board Member for more information, if you wish to attend.*
- April 13, 2023 (Saturday)** **EIBA David Kreutz Workshop.** For more information, contact Bill Englert.
- April 13, 2024
10am-2pm (Saturday)** **IBA Satellite Meeting and Open Study Group.** Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, Hills, IA (Address for navigation purposes: Monarch Nursery & Garden Center, 5276 Oakcrest Hill Road Southeast, Riverside, IA 52327
- April 18, 2024, 7pm (Thurs)** **EIBA Club Meeting:** Program TBD. Pierson's Flower Shop & Greenhouse, 1800 Ellis Blvd NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. For more information, contact Bill Englert (319) 471-1594.
- April 20-21, 2023, 10am-2pm (Sat)** **IBA Spring Show and Sale** (NO IBA Satellite Meeting) at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, (Check with the front desk for location within the Garden).
- April 27, 2024** **IBA Julian Tsai Workshop,** 400 Pioneer Rd, Des Moines, IA.
-



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMqMNXmNlks>

Notice of Upcoming Events

Susan Daufeldt



The EIBA *will Participate in the* **Linn County Winter** **Gardening Fair**

Saturday, February 17, 2024
Kirkwood Linn County
Regional Center
1770 Boyson Road,
Hiawatha, IA



Iowa Bonsai Association **Spring Show & Sale**

April 20-21, 2024

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden



The Green House, 505 E Washington St., Iowa City, IA 52240. The venue for the Winter Silhouette Exhibition.

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Save the Date
May 9-11, 2024
ABS Learning Seminars
In Coordination with
Meijer Gardens Michigan All-State Bonsai Show
Guest Artists -
Hugo Zamora, Jack Sustic, Suthin Sukosolvisit



Demonstrations, New Talent Contest, Cash Awards, Vendors, Banquet, Welcome Reception. Additional Guests: Steve Jetzer, Mark Fields, Kurtis Smith, Matt Spinniken, Tim Priest.



AMERICAN BONSAI SOCIETY
EST. 1967

Please consider joining our national bonsai organization: The American Bonsai Society. Membership is not expensive and the benefits are many. Check out the ABS website for details at <https://www.absbonsai.org>.

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Timely Tips - November

Susan Daufeldt

So, if you have tropicals, they have come in for the winter and you are working on getting everything else set for the winter months. You are also engaged in fall dormant work with some deciduous trees and conifers. Be sure that trees that have been worked heavily are overwintered in a winter storage situation that keeps them from becoming too cold.

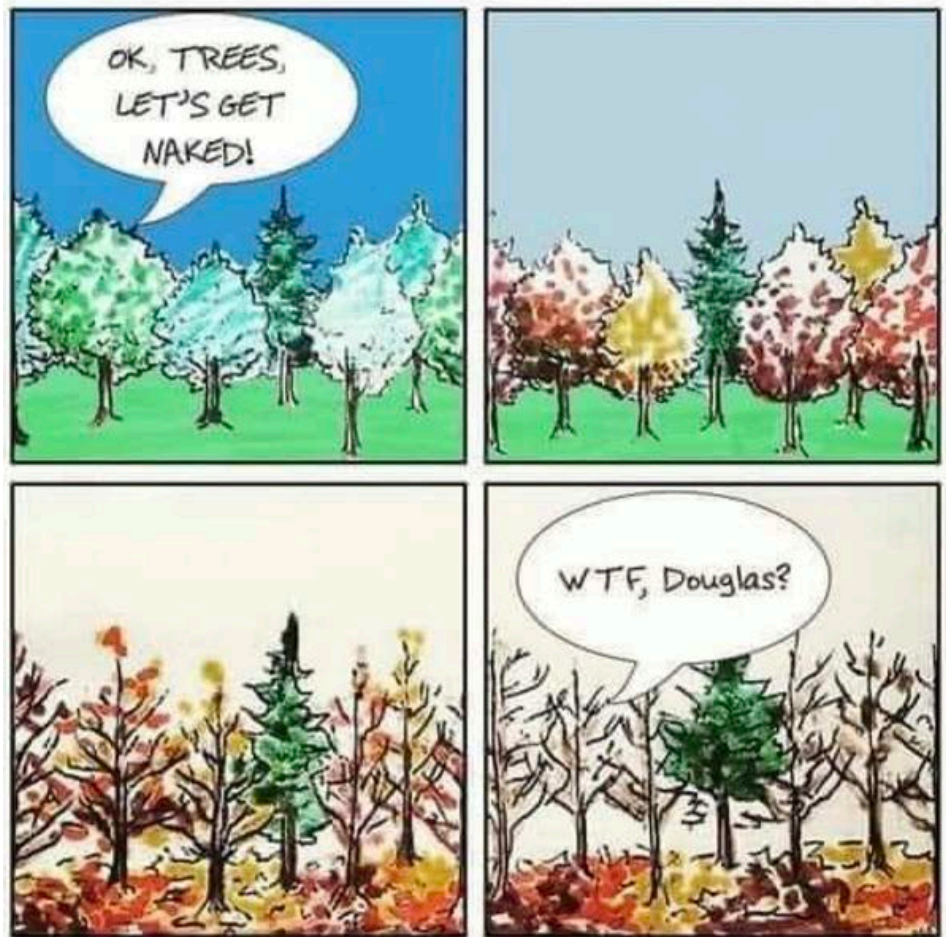
Resist the urge to bring your temperate deciduous and conifers in too soon. They need these cold nights to make the transition into dormancy. I leave most of my trees out until the weather drops below 25 degrees at night. Shohin, Mame and accent plants come in when the temperature drops to 32 degrees at night.

Once again, we have had extremely bitter temperatures in the last week of October.

But temps are up again for the next week, at least, and trees that aren't dormant need to be back outside.

If you are storing trees in a heated or unheated building, be sure that your storage area is clean and that your ventilation and electrical systems are working well. Be sure you have enough room. A crowded, dirty, poorly ventilated storage area is likely to result in disease problems. It's a good idea to have a light source in case you need to check your trees during evening hours or at night. I like to have a thermometer with a humidistat at every level and on every wall of my winter storage area. That way I know my temperatures and humidity levels throughout the storage area. In general, because hot air rises, my storage spaces tend to get warmer as it goes up. Accordingly, accent plants, shohin and mame are placed at higher levels than large trees in big pots with plenty of soil.

My indoor winter storage is heated. I use a low temperature garage thermostat hard wired to a radiant space heater. The thermostat is on a different wall than the heater. I try to keep the temperature at the highest level below 40 degrees. This often means that the floor is well below freezing, which is fine for bigger trees.



From the Vancouver Island Bonsai Society. Courtesy of the Puget Sound Bonsai Association.

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Again, be sure your indoor winter storage is clean before you bring your trees in. I use Zeritol to disinfect everything – shelving, walls, floors. Clean the dirt from the bottoms of your pots and debris from the soil surfaces. It is also an extremely good idea to spray one last time for pests and disease before you bring your trees in.

Consider how you will get water to your trees during the winter months. This is important. I check trees in indoor winter storage every seven to ten days to see if they need water. I water accent plants about once a week pretty routinely. I don't let my trees dry out completely during the winter.

Another great thing you can do in November (once your winter storage situation is in order and your trees are safely installed and fall dormant work is done!) is to prepare for spring – consider which trees will be repotted and review your pot options. Mix soil. If you are using a mixture of akadama, pumice and lava, Todd Schlafer recommends mixing your soil in a 1:1:1 ratio for pines; 2:1:1 for junipers; and 3:1:1 for spruces and most deciduous trees. For some water loving species, you may choose to use straight akadama. Whatever soil ingredients and mixtures you chose to use, be sure to sift out the fines thoroughly. This is a good time to get all that done so that you aren't spending time doing it during the hectic repotting and collecting season. If you're collecting in the spring, this is a good time to make wooden boxes.

Have a great month and be sure to contact someone in the club for help if you need it. That's why we have a club!



TO DO
Clean and Disinfect Winter Storage Areas
Order Mulch & Straw
Mulch Trees Being Field Grown
Install Winter Rabbit Fencing - Field Grown Trees
Check Perimeter of Bonsai Yard & Rabbit Proof
All Liquids to the Cellar
Growing Season Equipment and Supplies to the Cellar
Determine which trees will over-winter where
Check heating, plumbing and ventilation systems
Check and Calibrate Thermometers and Humidistats



Just a Hobby? Or a Passion....?

Jared Wall

After meeting to address responsibilities that I currently share (and others that I will be assuming) with regard to the Reiman Exhibition, I was questioning, *WHY?* Maybe not the kind of *why* your mind jumped to - but wondering, why is it we do not have more volunteers? Why hasn't anyone turned in their tree information for tags? Why is it we do not know what we will have for trees on display? Who will be doing demonstrations? As that frustration was growing, some understanding came in the form of a simple quote.

"Bonsai is a passion for some and a hobby for others"
Passionate IBA member

I share these definitions for consideration.

Hobby: An activity done regularly in one's leisure time for pleasure.
(e.g. Bonsai is a hobby to some.)

Passion: A strong liking or desire for or devotion to some activity, object, or concept. (e.g. A passion for Bonsai.)

Whether this is your passion or your hobby, we should think for a moment beyond ourselves. We have enjoyed The Winter Silhouette and Flowering Tree exhibit at the Green House in Iowa City, (our newest exhibition); Spring Bonsai shows at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden; State Fair shows (our only judged exhibition); and The Reiman Garden Fall shows (our biggest exhibition). These events do not just happen. These events are organized by the Iowa Bonsai Association, its President, its Vice President, its Board of Directors, and active members, to show case the art of Bonsai in our state, with the goal of advancing the art at every level. Thank You!!! to all that have volunteered, for those that have not had the opportunity to volunteer, ***know we need your help.***



Above, Ponderosa Pine (*Pinus ponderosa*). Estimated age - 75 Years; years in development - 7 years. Artist: Allan Hills, Artist of the Year 2009, 1991 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society; Artist Will Kerns, Artist of the Year 2013 Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society. Pot: Waldo Street Ceramics. Photo by Mike Green Photography.

IBA Meeting - October 21, 2023

Jared Wall

Iowa Bonsai Association held its monthly meeting at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden on October 21, 2023. Sixteen members joined the open work study. Members worked on Parrot's Beak, Black Pines, a large Ficus (techniques for promoting the growth of aerial roots), Ginkgo (techniques to minimize the taper of the graft and promote fall color), and Scots Pine. A member brought a Yamadori Cottonwood. I learned that Cottonwood has a leaf very similar to Aspen - always something to learn! We had an impromptu discussion on the use of fall fertilizer in the development of Black Pine.

Our main discussion topic was over-wintering and winter watering. But before that we had a discussion about the next Mid American Bonsai Alliance (MABA) convention. The next MABA convention will be in 2025 HERE IN IOWA. The Iowa Bonsai Association will be hosting this event here in Des Moines. We are hoping for Memorial Day Weekend and are currently in discussion with possible venues. This is a great opportunity for the IBA and the state of Iowa to show case and advance the art of Bonsai.

The over-wintering roundtable discussion was very informative. For trees over-wintering outside, my main take away was that it is extremely important to protect from wind. To mulch or not to mulch - always the question. There are members that mulch in trees and members who don't. We discussed heat sources for garage and outbuilding storage - radiant heat is the way to go.

Join us November 18, 2023, at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, at 9am, for our last meeting of the year and the annual benefit auction. Members, please bring bonsai-related items to donate to the club, with all proceeds to benefit the IBA!



Scott Allen assist a club member with early work on Black Pine. Photo by Jared Wall.

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IBA Members work on trees during open study group, prior to discussion, including Dave Richmond's Ficus (middle). Dave is working to develop aerial roots. Photos by Jared Wall.

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Susan Daufeldt, taking - a-hem - a little too much off a Scots Pine during the discussion. Photo by Jared Wall.

EIBA Meeting - October 19, 2023



EIBA Members met at Pierson's Greenhouse in Cedar Rapids on October 19, 2023, to discuss over wintering. Photo by Bill Englert.

American Bonsai Society Logo Contest It's Time for an Update!



The current ABS logo has served us long and well, but it's definitely time for an update! The ABS is seeking a logo that will represent American Bonsai, calling to mind both our rich history and our exciting prospects for the future as American Bonsai continues to develop and expand.

Deadline: December 1, 2023.

The winner will be chosen by the ABS Board of Directors; Judging will be anonymous. (You must be a member of the ABS to win).

The Prize: Free Basic Registration for the 2024 Learning Seminars in Grand Rapids, MI. *(Includes Saturday night banquet; Does not include cost of workshop material not covered by basic registration).*

Submit entries to logocontest@americanbonsaisociety.org

Win a Trip to The 10th World Bonsai Convention Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



The World Bonsai Friendship Federation (WBFF) announces the World Bonsai Day T-shirt design contest!

The winner of the WBFF T-shirt design contest will receive one free convention registration, hotel accommodations and one roundtrip airfare to the 10th World Bonsai Convention being held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 28 – 31 August 2026.

Design requirements:

- (1) The winning T-shirt must prominently display the official WBFF logo (contact Chris Baker, rekab15@hotmail.com, for a official copy of the logo;
- (2) There should also be room on the T-shirt, front or back, for host organization's logo. (The host organization is any bonsai club or society, public bonsai collection, or business celebrating World Bonsai Day);
- (3) A design that helps to promote the next World Bonsai Convention is encouraged;
- (4) **T-shirt designs must be submitted via email to Chris Baker, President North American Bonsai Federation by December 31st 2023. rekab15@hotmail.com**

Winning design will be announced early 2024.

UNITY IN DIVERSITY



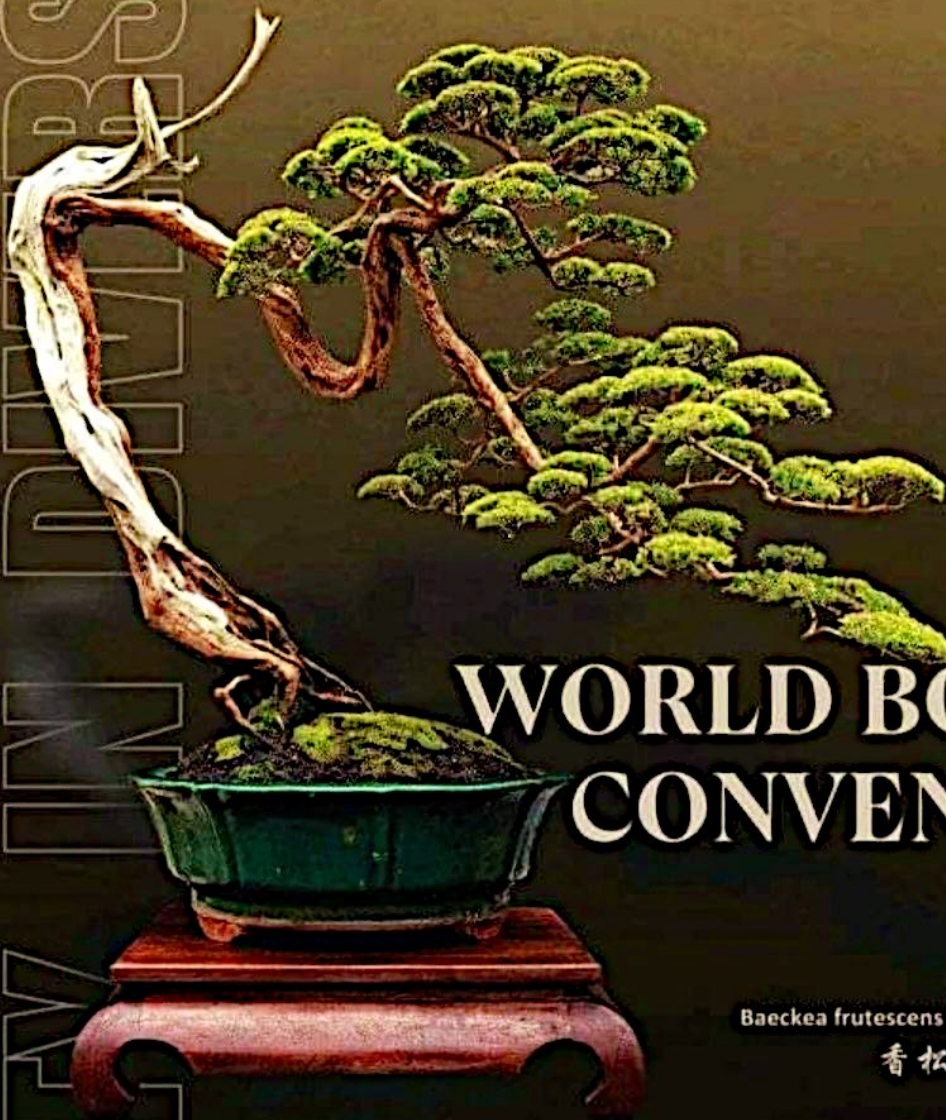
10th WORLD BONSAI CONVENTION
KUALA LUMPUR | MALAYSIA | 2026

KUALA LUMPUR

is the next selected host city

28 - 31 August 2026

Pavilion Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



10th WORLD BONSAI CONVENTION 2026

Baeckea frutescens (Cucur Atap)

香松



MINISTRY OF TOURISM,
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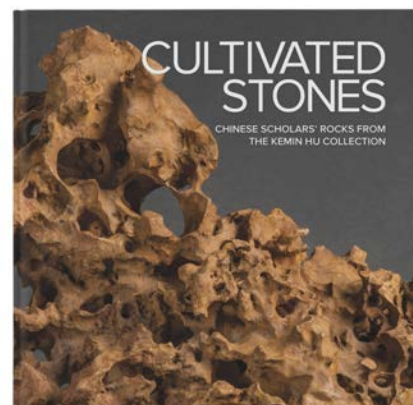


*News from the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum
Cultivated Stones - Chinese Scholar Rocks Collection*



As you may know, the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum has seen a remarkable expansion in its [Chinese Scholar Rocks collection](#), thanks to a generous gift from long-time patron and internationally recognized scholars' rock expert, Kemin Hu. The collection features more than 100 mesmerizing viewing stones.

To celebrate this monumental gift, The National Bonsai Foundation has released a beautiful collectors item: A 152-page, one-of-a-kind volume detailing Hu's gift to the Museum, titled [Cultivated Stones: Chinese Scholars' Rocks from the Kemin Hu Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum](#). Thomas S. Elias, Chairman of the Viewing Stone Association of North America has called the book "a *tour de*



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force in the global world of stone appreciation,” and “a must-have volume for all students of Chinese stone appreciation.”

The [book is available from Artbook Publishing](#), making it a perfect gift for fellow stone enthusiasts or art lovers this holiday season, or simply an impressive addition to your bookshelf or coffee table. Your purchase will support the National Bonsai Foundation and the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum. We are also thrilled to invite you to a [special exhibition](#) of these incredible stones. Beginning this [Wednesday, November 4](#) and running until March 17, 2024, the entire gifted collection will take center stage on display throughout the Museum, marking a historic moment in the world of Chinese Scholar Rocks.

We appreciate your ongoing support for this ancient and magnificent artform. We look forward to [welcoming you to the expanded viewing stones exhibit](#) at the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum soon!

Warm Regards,



Bobbie Alexander, Executive Director

The National Bonsai Foundation

P.S. You can [read Thomas S. Elias' full book review](#) on VSANA's English Book Reviews. And check out this [article about the gift from Kemin Hu](#) on VSANA's blog. Don't forget to [get a copy the book](#) for yourself and a loved one!



Avant Garden PACIFIC bonsai MUSEUM

May 13 – Sept 10, 2023

Living art evolves. See horticulture pushed to its limits to achieve radical designs.

EXHIBITION CATALOG
28 page, full color collectible booklet available for \$12 at pacificbonsaimuseum.org.



Pacific Bonsai Museum
Federal Way, Washington
www.pacificbonsaimuseum.org

Support the U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition by purchasing the beautiful commemorative album.

<https://www.usnationalbonsai.com/register/commemorative-items/>



**8th U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition
Limited Edition
Commemorative Album**

Limited Edition

Hardcover

Size: 11 X 8.5"

240 full-color pages

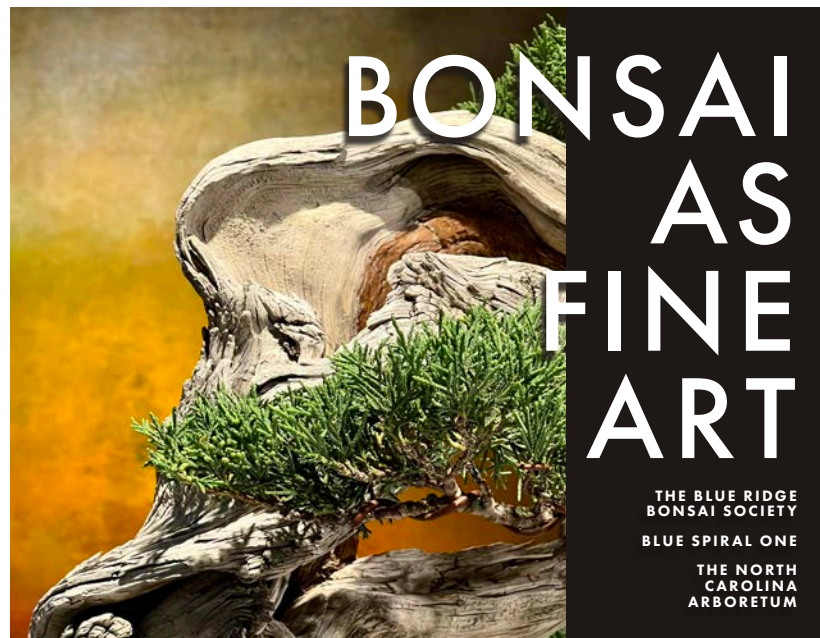
Retail Price \$69

Pre-publication price only \$55 + U.S. Postage

\$7, Postage CANADA \$28

Will be released in the summer 2024

Bonsai as Fine Arts Commemorative Album



The commemorative album of the Bonsai as Fine Art Exhibition, June 2-11, 2023, is in production and may be pre-ordered at <https://www.blueridgebonsaisociety.com/copy-of-work-space>. Photo by Oby Morgan.

Bonsai Classifieds

FOR SALE: IBA T-Shirts – \$25.00 each. Unisex sizes m l xl xxl xxxl. We still have some of the new T-Shirts as well as some of the old ones. New shirts are \$25, the second generation shirts are \$20 and first generation shirts are \$15. All proceeds will help grow bonsai right here in Central Iowa. Contact Scott Allen



Wanted to Buy: Round or Hexagonal Unglazed Pot; inside width 11-12”; inside depth 5-6” (4.5” might work, but deeper is better). Contact Noah Butler at (319) 480-5923.

FOR SALE: Pumice 5 gallon bucket \$15 - bring your own buckets. Small and medium Double Red Line Akadama. The last pallet went fast, so let me or Tim know if you need any. Cost is \$50 for IBA Club Members and \$55 for nonmembers. Contact Scott Allen or Tim Peterson. Lava - Contact DaSu.

FOR SALE: DaSu Studio, lowman@netins.net
Has LOTS of Tropicals, new dwarf conifers and 128 new companion plants - many varieties at good prices.



Left, Seedlings available to EIBA Members for purchase. Contact Bill Englert for more information. Photo by Bill Englert.

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