

The Pennsylvania Bonsai Society

Newsletter

September 2022

Founded 1963



PBS

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Autumn evening;

A crow perched

On a withered bough..

Basho

September Meeting

Our guest speaker for our September meeting is **Young Choe** - Her topic will be Kusamono.

Young is recognized as one of the leading experts in the creation of Kusamono.

While bonsai are often exhibited with an accent plant, that plant is usually a single variety. Kusamono differs in that it is a harmonious grouping of dissimilar plants.

From Young Choe's website:

Young Choe is a kusamono artist who studied traditional art in her native Korea before moving to the United States and earning her BS in horticulture from the University of Maryland. While volunteering at the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum, she brought her artistic talent together with her knowledge of horticulture to create kusamono. As her interest developed, Young traveled to Japan to study the unique art form with the master kusamono artist, Keiko Yamane, a former student of Saburo Kato. She worked for many years with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) including the U.S. National Arboretum. Young is considered a leader in the field and enjoys conducting workshops and lectures nationally as well as internationally.



Past presentations by Young Choe have been interesting and informative. Her workshops are fun and creative!

The lecture/demo is free and workshop spaces are available for \$65 (Limit of 12 participants). All materials are provided (or bring your own material). Bring your own tools. Lunch will be served.

Register on the PBS site Instructions page 2).

Guest Artist: Young Choe

Date: Saturday, September 17

Location: Free Library of Springfield Township

Times: 10:30 Demonstration & Raffle - 1:00 - 4:45 Workshop



Event Registration

If you wish to sign up for a PBS event (workshop, tour, etc.), it's very easy to do. Just follow these steps:

Go to the PBS home page (pabonsai.org)

Click on the MEETING INFO link

Choose the event you wish to register for - click on the meeting title

Click on RESERVE A PLACE

Complete payment information

August Picnic & Auction

For our annual picnic & auction we were graced with great weather - not too hot, not too humid, with a nice breeze. Turnout for the day was fantastic - almost sixty people.

Lots and lots of great food was available. Great summer salads were favorites, and lots of sinful desserts were available to finish with (rumor has it that some desserts disappeared earlier in the day).

Once all the food was taken care of, we turned to the much anticipated auction, Members had been eyeing their favorite picks before and during lunch and were raring to go and get bidding. Led by our auctioneer Jim Gillespie, auction items moved quickly, delivered by our runners Dave Downey and Bill Strehse. Bids were frequent and very competitive.

Sales for the day amounted to almost \$4000. Thanks to a large number of donations PBS received over \$2300 and sellers received over \$1600. Thanks to all for their support and enthusiasm!!

Future Meetings

October 22 - Yew Demo & Workshop - Tony Tickle

November 5 - Demo & Workshop - Antony Smith

December 16 - Holiday Party

PBS Venue Change

IMPORTANT - LOCATION CHANGE FOR MEETINGS

Our meetings will be held at **The Free Library of Springfield Township**,
8900 Hawthorne Lane, Wyndmoor, PA (just off rt. 309 and the PA Turnpike).



Kusamono Through the Seasons



Visit Young Cho website to see many more examples of Kusamono.
www.kusamonochoe.com



Flower Show Sitters' FAQs

by Linda Brant



One of the benefits of PBS membership is the chance to be a sitter at the PBS exhibit at the Philadelphia Flower Show. The display at the Flower Show is the only exhibit that PBS currently does. It is seen by hundreds of thousands of the public. Since one of the purposes of exhibiting is educating the public, PBS staffs the exhibit with volunteer members who not only watch over the bonsai, but also answer questions and provide information about the trees.

People will have all sorts of questions: How old is the tree? Is it real? What does years in training mean? This is also a chance to engage people and hand out PBS cards with membership information. Watering is done by the Flower Show Committee, but you may be asked to mist the trees.

The Flower Show is moving back indoors for 2023 to the Pennsylvania Convention Center, March 4 – 12. This means that PBS will need more sitters because of extended hours.

Volunteers will receive two free tickets to the show (an \$80+ value). The purpose of providing two tickets is that PBS wants you to invite a guest to attend with you to help during the three hour time at the exhibit. With two pairs of eyes on the trees there is more security and also the volunteer will have coverage for bathroom breaks, etc. Your guest does not have to be an expert on bonsai. In fact, there may be questions that you cannot answer. In that case, there will be a notebook. Write down the question and email information and one of the more experienced members will provide an answer. Also, the signs on the trees give much information about each tree. The tickets are good for the entire day so that you and your guest can enjoy the rest of the show before and after your sitting time.

PBS tries to schedule an experienced sitter with each new volunteer. There will also be an informational Zoom meeting close to the time of the show.

Karin Simmat, volunteer coordinator, will soon be asking for volunteers. Please consider volunteering. If you have the time, you can volunteer for more than one session.