



JAPANESE FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 2-4
labor day weekend



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Welcome

Celebrating the history, culture, and people of Japan, the Japanese Festival at the Missouri Botanical Garden is one of the largest and oldest festivals of its kind in the United States. Since 1977 the Garden has proudly hosted this unique event at one of the largest Japanese gardens in North America. A fruitful collaboration with several local Japanese-American organizations provides authentic Japanese music, art, dance, food, and entertainment for thousands of visitors each year. We hope you enjoy your experience. **Yokoso!**

Festival Hours

Saturday, September 2: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday, September 3: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Monday, September 4: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Grounds open at 9 a.m. and then remain open until 10 p.m. for candlelight walks on Saturday and Sunday.

Information

- Festival information tents
- are located on Spoehrer
- Plaza and near the Center for
- Home Gardening.



| The Japanese Garden |

Admission

\$15 for adults

\$7 for children (12 and under) and Garden members

Members' children (12 and under) are free

Regular admission rates apply for the Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden.

All activities at the Japanese Festival are included with admission except

Teahouse Island Tours. Trams will not run during the festival.

Apply a portion of your Japanese Festival admission toward a Garden membership!

Join the Garden or renew your membership during Japanese Festival, and we will apply a portion today's admission toward the purchase of the Garden membership. Present your ticket receipt at the Membership Tent to enjoy the savings. Annual Garden membership begins at \$50 for an individual and \$75 for two adults and children. Join at the Festival level to receive free admission for up to six adults to the Garden's annual festivals, including the Best of Missouri Market and Garden Glow!

Garden Gate Shop

From collectible figurines to bonsai trees and tools for their care, the Garden Gate Shop is your source for Japanese Festival merchandise. Check out our koi windsocks and Japanese soda, snacks, and candy. We also feature new lines of Japanese bowls, chopsticks, and cups as well as jewelry, cookbooks, and more.

Open Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Monday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

First Aid

In case of an accident or medical emergency, please locate anyone wearing Garden identification, and they will contact Security immediately to tend to your emergencies. Emergency services are provided by the St. Louis Fire Department.

Sassafras

Soups, salads, sandwiches, and Japanese specials will be available.

Open Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Ancient traditions and modern choreography blend into thrilling performances with Luck Eisa!

創作工イサ—Luck

LUCK EISA

The *Luck Eisa* group was formed in 2007 by Takuya Shimabukuro. This group is one of the most talented and recognized *Eisa* groups in Okinawa. The group has performed in several countries throughout the world, such as South Korea, Vietnam, Taiwan, and several locations within the U.S. and Japan.

In 2009, the *Luck Eisa* group received the Special Recognition award at the World *Eisa* Festival in Okinawa. In 2013, Mr. Shimabukuro won the silver medal for his solo performance in the World *Eisa* Championship held in Okinawa. The *Luck Eisa* group was awarded the best performance at the 30th Annual Korean World Travel Fair (KOFTA) in 2015. Additionally, Mr. Shimabukuro has undertaken a project called *Densougeiran Yui* that portrays the evolution of the Okinawan spirit using *Eisa* and other medium to tell this story.

The St. Louis Okinawa *Eisa* and the Missouri Botanical Garden are pleased to host Mr. Shimabukuro and the *Luck Eisa* group again at this year's Japanese Festival.

Saturday, 1:30 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m.;

Monday, 10 a.m., noon and 4 p.m.,

Cohen Amphitheater

Sunday, 11:30 a.m.,

Shoenberg Theater

Limited seating—Please arrive early

創作工イサ—

ST. LOUIS

OKINAWA EISA

Popular Folk Songs and Dance

St. Louis Okinawa *Eisa* group will feature the ancient form of traditional folk dance called *Eisa*. This style of dancing began as part of the *Bon* festival, which was held each year to honor the Ryukyu ancestors. Modern *Eisa* is performed all throughout Okinawa in festivals and parades as a lively and exciting choreographed dance accompanied by singing, chanting, and drumming. There are three different sizes of *Taiko* drums that are used by the dancers in various combinations, depending upon regional style: the *odaiko*, a large barrel drum, the *shimedaiko*, a medium-sized drum, and the *paarankuu*, a small hand drum. *Eisa* is an important cultural symbol of Okinawa.

Saturday, 1:30 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m.;

Monday, 10 a.m., noon and 4 p.m.,

Cohen Amphitheater

| St. Louis
Okinawa Eisa |



HIGHLIGHT THIS YEAR!



2017 Japanese Festival Logo

DANCHIKU (*Giant Reed*)

暖竹

Danchiku is a tall, multi-leaved reed that grows in large clumps over much of Japan. It has been used for thatching roofs in traditional folk homes. *Danchiku*, wide fields of it, nod and flow in the slightest breeze, looking like a waving sea of green and evoking a feeling of sentimental longing for the countryside of old Japan.

SEIWA-EN

Japanese Garden

Welcome to *Seiwa-en*, the “garden of pure, clear harmony and peace.” One of the largest traditional Japanese gardens in North America, *Seiwa-en* covers 14 acres, including a 4-acre lake. Modeled on the *chisen kaiyu-shiki*, or “wet strolling garden,” a style developed by wealthy landowners of the late Edo period in 19th-century Japan, *Seiwa-en* incorporates many principles of Japanese aesthetics drawn from Zen Buddhism, such as suggestion, naturalness, and asymmetry within the landscape.

Water resides in every Japanese garden actually or symbolically. In *Seiwa-en*, the lake is the main water feature, complemented by waterfalls, streams, and water-filled basins. The dry gravel gardens symbolize islands surrounded by the sea. Caretakers frequently rake the dry gardens, changing the patterns in the gravel to look as if wind has rippled the surface of the water. Four islands rise from the lake. Tortoise Island and Crane Island take the names of symbols of longevity in Japanese lore. Paradise Island (*Horai-zan*), formed by three large stones, is the symbolic center of the garden, representing everlasting happiness and immortality. Teahouse Island is a serene site, dedicated in a Shinto ceremony, closed to the public except for the tours offered during the Japanese Festival.

Designed by the late Koichi Kawana, a renowned professor of environmental design and landscape architecture at the University of California, Los Angeles, *Seiwa-en* was dedicated in 1977.





| Cooking Demo |



| Ikebana |



| Ice Sculpture |

SATURDAY, September 2

10–11 a.m.	Bonsai Demonstration	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
10 a.m.–2 p.m. (every half hour)	Guided Walking Tours of the Japanese Garden	Jordan Education Wing
10 a.m.–4 p.m.	Origami Demonstration	Jordan Education Wing
10 a.m.–5 p.m.	Balloon Art	Kemper Center
10 a.m.–7 p.m.	Bonsai and Ikebana Display	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
10:30–11 a.m.	Festival Procession (Omikoshi, Dashi, and Bon Odori)	Spink Pavilion
11 a.m.–noon	Opening Ceremony/Taiko Drums	Japanese Garden/Yagura Stage
noon–1 p.m.	!! Shodo Gaku Music	Shoenberg Theater Jordan Educational Wing
noon–1:30 p.m.	!! Cooking Demonstration	Kemper Kitchen
noon–7 p.m.	\$ Teahouse Island Tours (hourly)	Japanese Garden
12:30–1:30 p.m.	Martial Arts—Kendo	Chinese Garden Lawn
1–1:30 p.m.	Ice Sculpture	Bottlebrush Buckeye
1–2 p.m.	Raku Yaki Demonstration	Children's Garden
1–2:30 p.m.	Ikebana Demonstration	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
1–5 p.m.	Children's Activities Rakugo	Spink Pavilion Spink Pavilion
1:30–2 p.m.	!! Hana Children's Chorus	Shoenberg Theater
1:30–2:30 p.m.	St. Louis Okinawa Eisa and Luck	Cohen Amphitheater
2–3 p.m.	Martial Arts—Karate	Chinese Garden Lawn
2:30–3:30 p.m.	!! Niji Choral Group	Shoenberg Theater
3–4 p.m.	Martial Arts—Koryu Bugei Raku Yaki Demonstration	Knolls Children's Garden
3–4:30 p.m.	Ikebana Demonstration !! Cooking Demonstration	Orthwein Floral Display Hall Kemper Kitchen
4–5 p.m.	!! The Way of the Tea Demonstration Okashi Fashion and Cosplay Show	Shoenberg Theater Cohen Amphitheater
5–6 p.m.	Martial Arts—Judo Gaku Music Raku Yaki Demonstration	Chinese Garden Lawn Jordan Education Wing Children's Garden
5:30–6:30 p.m.	Bon Odori Dancing	Japanese Garden/Yagura Stage
5:30–7 p.m.	!! Cooking Demonstration	Kemper Kitchen
6–7 p.m.	!! Kaoru Watanabe Néó	Shoenberg Theater
6:30–7:30 p.m.	Martial Arts—Aikido St. Louis	Chinese Garden Lawn
7–8 p.m.	St. Louis Osuwa Taiko	Cohen Amphitheater
7:15–7:45 p.m.	Sutra Blessing	Japanese Garden
8–8:30 p.m.	Toro Nagashi	Japanese Garden
8–10 p.m.	!! Anime Movie— <i>The Boy and the Beast</i> Candlelight Walk	Shoenberg Theater Japanese Garden



| Bon Odori |



| Origami |



| Kimono Fashion Show |

SUNDAY, September 3

10–11 a.m.	Bonsai Demonstration	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
10 a.m.–2 p.m. (every half hour)	Guided Walking Tours of the Japanese Garden	Japanese Garden
10 a.m.–4 p.m.	Origami Demonstration	Jordan Educational Wing
10 a.m.–5 p.m.	Children's Activities Balloon Art	Spink Pavilion Kemper Center
10 a.m.–7 p.m.	Bonsai and Ikebana Display	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
10:30–11:30 a.m.	Martial Arts—St. Louis Ki Society	Chinese Garden Lawn
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	Tozan Ryu with Luck Eisa	Shoenberg Theater
noon–1 p.m.	Martial Arts—Karate	Chinese Garden Lawn
noon–1:30 p.m.	!! Cooking Demonstration	Kemper Kitchen
noon–7 p.m.	\$ Teahouse Island Tours (hourly)	Japanese Garden
1–1:30 p.m.	Ice Sculpture	Bottlebrush Buckeye
1–2 p.m.	Raku Yaki Demonstration	Children's Garden
	!! Kimono Fashion Show	Shoenberg Theater
1–2:30 p.m.	Ikebana Demonstration	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
1–5 p.m.	Rakugo	Spink Pavilion
1:30–2 p.m.	Dashi Procession Omikoshi Procession	Spink Pavilion Spink Pavilion
1:30–2:30 p.m.	Martial Arts—Kendo	Chinese Garden Lawn
2–3 p.m.	St. Louis Osuwa Taiko	Cohen Amphitheater
2:30–3:30 p.m.	!! Kimono Fashion Show	Shoenberg Theater
3–3:30 p.m.	Dashi Procession	Cohen Amphitheater
3–4 p.m.	Raku Yaki Demonstration	Children's Garden
3–4:30 p.m.	Ikebana Demonstration	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
	!! Cooking Demonstration	Kemper Kitchen
3:30–4 p.m.	Japanese Storytelling	Japanese Garden/Yagura Stage
3:30–4:30 p.m.	Martial Arts—Koryu Bugei	Knolls
4–5 p.m.	!! The Way of Tea Demonstration St. Louis Okinawa Eisa and Luck	Shoenberg Theater Cohen Amphitheater
4:30–5:30 p.m.	Gaku Music	Jordan Educational Wing
5–6 p.m.	Raku Yaki Demonstration	Children's Garden
5:30–6:30 p.m.	Bon Odori Dancing	Japanese Garden/Yagura Stage
	!! Kaoru Watanabe Néó	Shoenberg Theater
5:30–7 p.m.	!! Cooking Demonstration	Kemper Kitchen
7–8 p.m.	St. Louis Osuwa Taiko	Cohen Amphitheater
7:15–7:45 p.m.	Sutra Blessing	Japanese Garden
7:30–10 p.m.	!! Karaoke	Shoenberg Theater
8–8:30 p.m.	Toro Nagashi	Japanese Garden
8–10 p.m.	Candlelight Walk	Japanese Garden

* We welcome all cosplayers to the festival, but please make sure that your costumes are family appropriate and leave your weapons at home—even if they are harmless props.

!! Limited Seating—Please Arrive Early
\$ Additional Fee



| Niji |



| Martial Arts |



| Toro Nagashi |

MONDAY, September 4

10–11 a.m.	Martial Arts—Koryu Bugei St. Louis Okinawa Eisa and Luck	Knolls Cohen Amphitheater
10–11:30 a.m.	Bonsai Demonstration	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
10 a.m.–2 p.m. (every half hour)	Guided Walking Tours of the Japanese Garden	Japanese Garden
10 a.m.–4 p.m.	Origami Demonstration	Jordan Education Wing
10 a.m.–5 p.m.	Japanese Craft Demonstrations Children's Activities Balloon Art Bonsai and Ikebana Display	Jordan Education Wing Spink Pavilion Kemper Center Orthwein Floral Display Hall
10:30–11:30 a.m.	!! Shodo Martial Arts—St. Louis Ki Society	Shoenberg Theater Chinese Garden Lawn
11 a.m.–4 p.m.	\$ Teahouse Island Tours (hourly)	Japanese Garden
11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Ikebana (hands-on experience)	Orthwein Floral Display Hall
noon–1 p.m.	!! Kaoru Watanabe Néó St. Louis Okinawa Eisa and Luck	Shoenberg Theater Cohen Amphitheater
noon–1:30 p.m.	!! Cooking Demonstration	Kemper Kitchen
1–1:30 p.m.	Ice Sculpture	Bottlebrush Buckeye
1–2 p.m.	Raku Yaki Demonstration	Children's Garden
1–5 p.m.	Rakugo	Spink Pavilion
1:30–2 p.m.	Dashi Procession	Spink Pavilion
1:30–2:30 p.m.	Martial Arts—Judo	Chinese Garden Lawn
2–3 p.m.	St. Louis Osuwa Taiko	Cohen Amphitheater
3–3:30 p.m.	Dashi Procession	Cohen Amphitheater
3–4 p.m.	!! Kaoru Watanabe Néó Raku Yaki Demonstration	Shoenberg Theater Children's Garden
3–4:30 p.m.	!! Cooking Demonstration	Kemper Kitchen
4–5 p.m.	St. Louis Okinawa Eisa and Luck	Cohen Amphitheater

!! Limited Seating—Please Arrive Early

\$ Additional Fee

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Find the top spinner, candy artist,
and stilt walker throughout the festival!

MERCHANDISE VENDORS

Animeggroll
 Anime St. Louis
 Arise, Inc.
 Bonsai Society of Greater
 St. Louis
 Cass Bonsai Gardens
 Copper Crane Pottery
 Far East Emporium
 Gilbert Chen
 Heavenly Cranes Jewelry
 Japan America Society
 Women's Association
 Kodomo No Asobi,
 Japanese Language School
 Natsukashi-ya
 Pomegranate Designs
 James Howe Pottery
 SumoFish Design
 Suwa/St. Louis Sister City
 Committee
 A Little Bit of Japan
 Plum Tree Studio
 St. Louis Okinawa Eisa

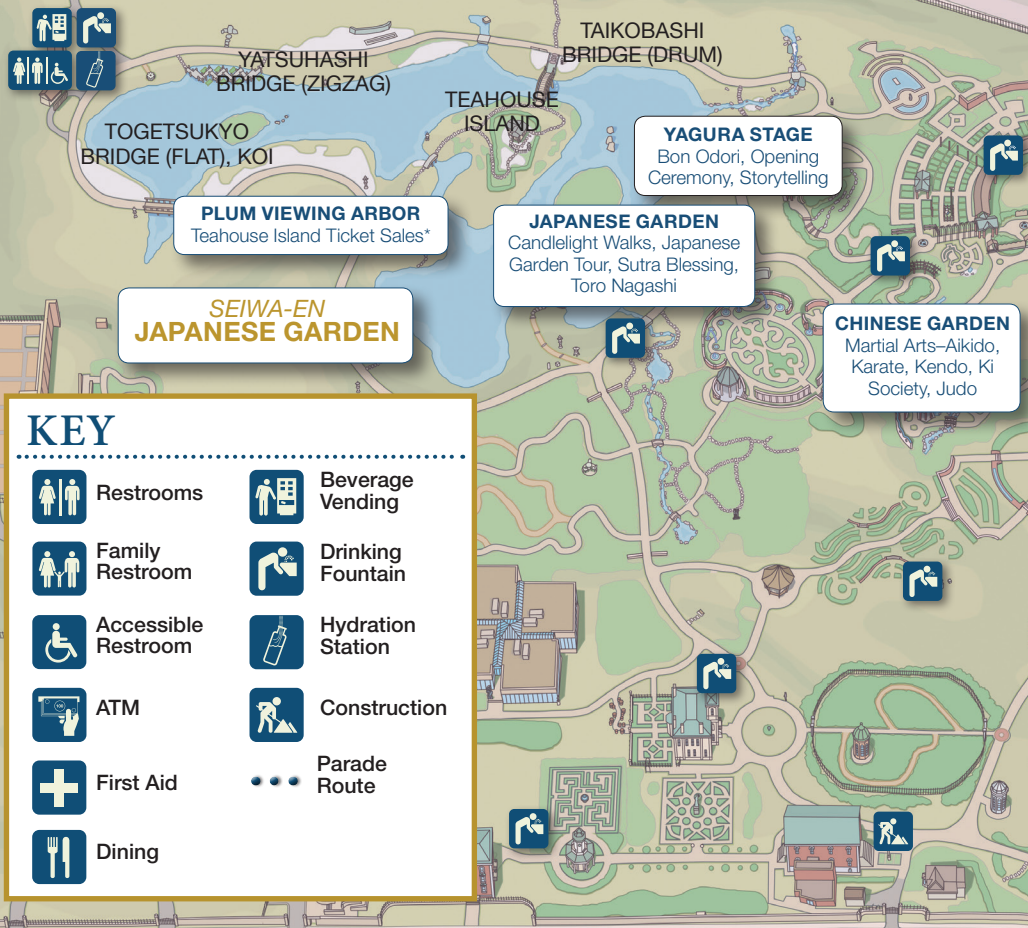
ART EXHIBITS

Bonsai and Ikebana
 Orthwein Floral Display Hall
 Calligraphy Exhibit
 Monsanto Exhibition Hall

FOOD VENDORS

BBC Asian Bar and Café
 Café Roji
 Confluence Kombucha
 Drunken Fish
 Ed's Foods
 Japan America Society/
 Seinen Kai Committee
 Japanese American
 Citizens League
 Kampai Sushi Bar
 Niji Choral Group
 Ozark Forest Mushrooms
 Sushi Kitchen
 United Provisions





**SEIWA-EN
JAPANESE GARDEN**

PLUM VIEWING ARBOR
Teahouse Island Ticket Sales*

YAGURA STAGE
Bon Odori, Opening Ceremony, Storytelling

JAPANESE GARDEN
Candlelight Walks, Japanese Garden Tour, Sutra Blessing, Toro Nagashi

CHINESE GARDEN
Martial Arts-Aikido, Karate, Kendo, Ki Society, Judo

KEY

-  Restrooms
-  Family Restroom
-  Accessible Restroom
-  ATM
-  First Aid
-  Dining
-  Beverage Vending
-  Drinking Fountain
-  Hydration Station
-  Construction
-  Parade Route

* Teahouse Island tickets available only at the entrance to Plum Viewing Arbor.

40th Anniversary
**JAPANESE
GARDEN**

This year, the Missouri Botanical Garden celebrates the 40th anniversary of the iconic Japanese Garden. Always one of our visitors' favorite spots, the 14-acre garden is stunning in all four seasons, showcasing distinct aspects of its beauty from different vantage points. Proposed by the Japanese American Citizens' League in 1972,

it was designed by renowned landscape architect Koichi Kawana. Construction began in 1974, and the garden was formally dedicated on May 5, 1977.

The dedication was symbolic for St. Louis, as it promoted positive international relations. Several elected officials attended the ceremony, including the President of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen Paul Simon. He referred to the Japanese Garden as, "a garden which is building a bridge to international understanding."



KEMPER CENTER AND KITCHEN
Balloon Art,
Cooking Demonstrations

COHEN AMPHITHEATER
Cosplay Fashion Show,
Dashi, Luck Eisa, Taiko

CHILDREN'S GARDEN LAWN
Raku Yaki

RIDGWAY VISITOR CENTER JORDAN EDUCATION WING
Gaku Music, Japanese Crafts, Origami
MONSANTO HALL
Shodo Exhibit
ORTHWEIN FLORAL DISPLAY HALL
Bonsai, Ikebana Display
SHOENBERG THEATER
Anime Movie, Hana, Karaoke, Kimono Fashion Show, Kaoru Watanabe Neo, Niji, Shodo, Tozan Ryu with Luck Eisa, Way of the Tea

BOTTLEBRUSH BUCKEYE
Ice Sculpture

CLIMATRON

Japanese Marketplace

KNOLLS
Martial Arts—Koryu Bugei

SPINK PAVILION
Children's Activities, Bon Odori, Dashi, and Omikoshi Procession, Rakugo

Food Court

Dr. Peter Raven, Garden President from 1971 to 2010, said the celebration of Japanese culture “is the most fundamental thing about the garden—the chance to increase communication and to provide the opportunity for cultural, educational and commercial interchange between our people and those of Japan.”

Forty years after the Japanese Garden’s dedication, we continue to celebrate *Seiwa-en*, “garden of pure, clear harmony and peace,” and its significance in honoring Japanese culture.

Pokémon at the Garden



One of Japan’s most beloved exports, Pokémon, has taken hold at the Garden. Bellsprouts, Beedrills, and Bulbasaur’s abound! Pokémon Go players are encouraged to visit all of our 43 PokéStops, compete to be the very best at one of our three gyms, and hatch an egg or two along the way. Be sure to check out the Anime St. Louis booth in Monsanto Hall to participate in the PokéStop and Smell the Roses scavenger hunt. While you’re on the prowl to fill your Pokédex, please do not walk in any mulched or planted garden beds. There will be plenty of Pokémon on the paths. Happy hunting!

Tours

Teahouse Island Tours

The private Teahouse Island of the Japanese Garden will be open for guided public tours. Across a narrow cove and *dobashi*, or earthen bridge, is Teahouse Island. At the end of the bridge stands a snow-viewing lantern, *yukimi-doro*, a gift from St. Louis's sister city of Suwa, Japan. The teahouse itself, a gift from Missouri's sister state of Nagano, Japan, is sacred in Japanese culture. This *soan*, or "farm hut" style teahouse, was built in Japan, reassembled here by Japanese craftsmen, and dedicated with a *Shinto* ceremony in 1977. The teahouse is screened by hedges to create a sense of remoteness.

Saturday and Sunday, September 2 and 3

noon to 7 p.m. (on the hour)

Set 1: noon, 1, 2, 3 p.m.

Set 2: 4, 5, 6, 7 p.m.



Monday, September 4

noon to 4 p.m. (on the hour)

Set 1: 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m.

Set 2: 2, 3, 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 per person and will be sold twice daily at the Plum Viewing Arbor. Tickets go on sale one hour before the first scheduled tour of each set, and are sold for all tours in that set at once. There are only 20 spots available for each tour.

Tickets sold at Plum Viewing Arbor. Maximum four tickets per person. Cash only.

Japanese Garden Walking Tours

Tours begin every half-hour near the boat-shaped basin at the north entrance to the Japanese Garden, every day of the festival from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No additional charge.

Candlelight Walks

Enjoy self-guided, evening-hours tours around the Japanese Garden, splendidly illuminated by shoji lanterns. Saturday and Sunday from 8–10 p.m.

No additional charge.



| Opening Ceremony |

OPENING CEREMONY 開会式

Honored guests, including government officials and dignitaries from sponsoring organizations, will officially open the Japanese Festival. Opening ceremonies will include music, remarks by distinguished guests, the ritual of *kagamiwari* (breaking into the sake barrel), and a performance by the St. Louis Osuwa Taiko drummers. Sake cups are available for purchase at the site for \$10.

Saturday, 11 a.m., Japanese Garden

飴細工

AMEZAIKU Candy Artist

Amezaiku is Japanese candy craft artistry. Artists take taffy and, using their hands and other tools such as tweezers and scissors, creates a sculpture. *Amezaiku* artists also paint their sculpted candy with edible dyes to give the finished work more character. Animals and insects are common *amezaiku* shapes created to appeal to children. Intricate animal characters are created with expert speed.

During the Heian period, the art of *amezaiku* was imported from China and was probably first used in Japan for candy offerings made at temples in the former capital city of Kyoto. The *amezaiku* craft spread beyond the temple during the Edo period, when many forms of street performance flourished in Japan and when its base ingredient, *mizuame*, became widely available. In the city of Edo, it emerged in its present artistic form.

Throughout the festival

アニメ

ANIME

Cartoon Animation

Anime is the term for Japanese cartoon animation, a celebrated entertainment industry in Japan that has gained popularity overseas. Distinguished by stylized, doe-eyed characters and frenetic action, examples of *anime* include *Speed Racer* and *Pokémon*. Typically, *anime* are inspired by comic books (called *manga* in Japan), which are often very sophisticated and appeal to adults as well as younger audiences.

The Boy and the Beast

Presented by Animeggroll

The latest feature film from award-winning Japanese director Mamoru Hosoda (*Summer Wars*, *Wolf Children*). When Kyuta, a young orphan living on the streets of Shibuya, stumbles into a fantastic world of beasts, he's taken in by Kumatetsu, a gruff, rough-around-the-edges warrior beast who's been searching for the perfect apprentice. Despite their constant bickering, Kyuta and Kumatetsu begin training together and slowly form a bond as surrogate father and son. But when a deep darkness threatens to throw the human and beast worlds into chaos, the strong bond between this unlikely family will be put to ultimate test—a final showdown that will only be won if the two can finally work together using all of their combined strength and courage.

Saturday, 8 p.m., Shoenberg Theater

風船

BALLOON ART

The Sanders family balloon artists have been twisting Japanese-themed balloons at the Japanese Festival for the last eight years. The balloon art is inspired by Japanese themes and icons. Their most popular sculpture by far is the giant octopus, known as *tako*. The octopus is a very common ingredient in Japanese cuisine. A traditional method of catching octopus in Japan is by the use of a *tako tsubo*. Come visit the balloon artists' station to see an octopus balloon hiding in a *tsubo*!

The artists have several other balloon designs inspired by Japanese culture and folklore. They have a display that features photos of the inspiration for each balloon and includes a description as well as the name of the balloon in Japanese (*hiragana* and *katakana*). The balloon artists are also very pleased to be able to offer authentic Japanese water yo-yos at the festival.

These are very traditional Japanese toy balloons and have been found at summer festivals (*matsuri*) in Japan for as long as balloons have been made.

**Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Kemper Center for Home Gardening**

盆踊り

BON ODORI

Summer Festival Dancing

During the heat of late summer, the Buddhist festival of *Obon* celebrates the return of the spirits of the dead to Earth. They wander through their ancestral villages offering prayers to homes and businesses they pass. This ritual has evolved into *bon odori*, a festival dance that marks the end of summer all over Japan. The dancers wear colorful cotton after-bath *kimonos* called *yukata* with sandals and a fan.

Music is played from the *yagura*, or elevated stage, and today it may be electronic, but there is always a *taiko* drum to set the beat.

Saturday, 10:30 a.m. (Festival Procession) and 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 5:30 p.m.
Yagura Stage

盆栽

BONSAI

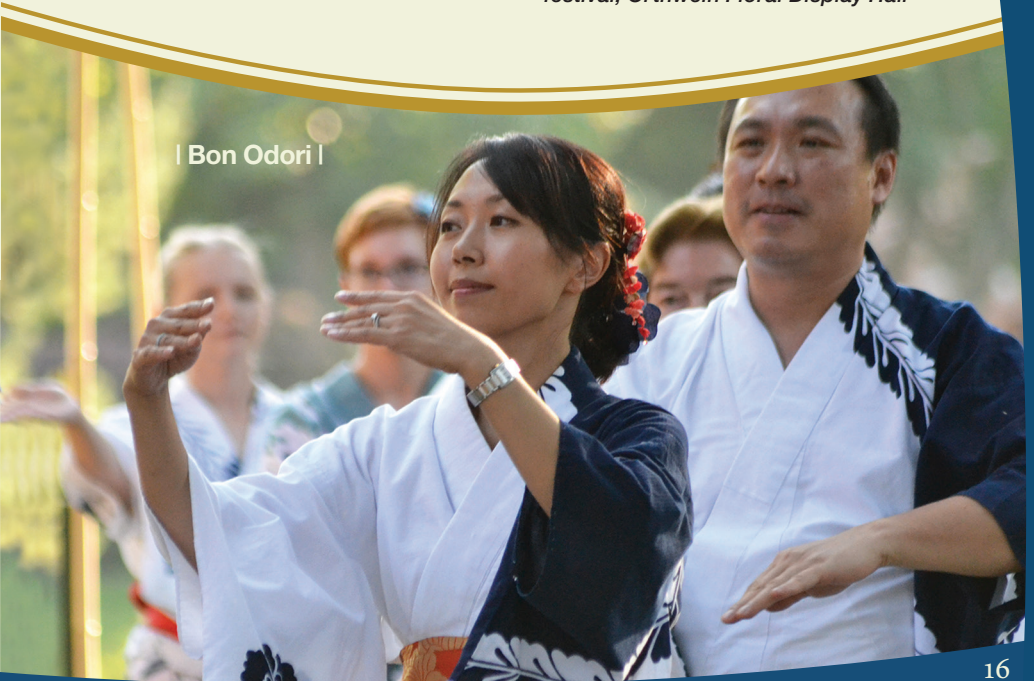
Ornamental Trees and Plantings

Bonsai is the art of growing trees and plants on a scale that makes the plants far smaller than they would be if they were left in the wild. *Bonsai* plants are not special varieties, but rather specially pruned and kept in small containers to limit their growth.

First developed in ancient China, *bonsai* achieved remarkable sophistication once imported to Japan. *Bonsai* are classified by the general shape of their trunks (formal upright, slanting, and cascading), as well as by size. Some are so large they require two to three people to move them, and others are so tiny they can be balanced, pot and all, on a fingertip.

Demonstrations all three days, 10 a.m.; Displayed throughout the festival, Orthwein Floral Display Hall

| Bon Odori |



茶道

CHANOYU

The Way of Tea Demonstration

A rare glimpse into this world of tradition: harmony, respect, purity and tranquility. Immerse yourself in the way of Japanese tea with performance as taught by Urasenke (one of Japan's top tea schools), film and sound. Experience visuals of the Missouri Botanical Garden's authentic tea house on screen while certified instructor Ms. Junko Ikeda of Kyoto and St. Louis performs live on stage—treating the audience to a rare glimpse of this sacred ceremony and the way of life.

The way of tea—"chado" or "chanoyu"—in the original form was brought to Japan from China by Zen monks and refined over the years by integrating the unique elements of Japanese culture. Culminated by Sen no Rikyū in the 16th century, the serving and drinking of *matcha* (powdered green tea) in the tradition of *wabi-cha* captures the true beauty and spirit of a disciplined life, rustic simplicity, indirectness of approach and honesty of self. Ms. Ikeda (named *So-jun* by the grand tea master of Urasenke) and her students share this authentic ceremony, rarely experienced in the West, on stage with hopes of spreading its sense of beauty and spiritual life unique to Japan.

Saturday and Sunday, 4 p.m.
Shoenberg Theater, Limited Seating

子供の遊び

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The St. Louis Japanese Language School offers activities for children such as *origami*, calligraphy, and face painting. Twice a day, students will perform—in English—a traditional one-person comedy routine called *rakugo*. There is also a *kimono* dress-up corner for children and adults, so don't forget to bring your camera!

Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m.;

**Sunday and Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Spink Pavilion**

日本料理

COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS

Each day of the festival, cooking demonstrations will feature a member of the St. Louis Japanese community cooking authentic Japanese meals as they would for their families at home that can easily be prepared using ingredients found at any local food store.

**Saturday and Sunday, noon, 3, and
5:30 p.m.; Monday, noon and 3 p.m.,
Kemper Kitchen**

Limited seating—Please arrive early

手芸

CRAFT DEMOS
& SALES

Origami, hari-e, Chigiri-e, (cut or torn paper pictures), paper crafts, embroidery, *kimekomi* dolls, *kumihimo, temari, ikat, oshi-eh*, and more. Participate in the creation of various Japanese crafts in an ongoing workshop offered by several crafters, including the Weavers Guild of St. Louis.

**Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Jordan Education Wing**

山車

DASHI

Parade Float Pulled by Children

The *dashi* is a beautiful parade float that is typically pulled through the town by children. In Japan, *dashis* are used at festivals, where the drums provide a fun street beat. Our *dashi* is pulled by the students of the Japanese Language School and children attending the festival. It can also be found at Spink Pavilion for any children that would like to try out the drum.

**Saturday, 10:30 a.m. (Festival Procession);
Sunday and Monday, 1:30 and 3 p.m.;
Spink Pavilion to Cohen Amphitheater**

楽

GAKU

This Japanese instrumental ensemble plays a variety of popular music and folk songs from Japan, featuring *koto, shamisen, and taishogoto*.

**Saturday, noon, 5 p.m.; Sunday, 4:30 p.m.,
Jordan Education Wing**

花

HANA

Japanese Language
School Children's Group

The children's chorus group *Hana*, which means "flower" in Japanese, is from the St. Louis Japanese Language School. The songs they perform have a sound that is both beautiful and nostalgic. The students, who range in age from 5 to 10 years old, wear casual summer *kimonos* and will be singing and dancing. While viewing the performance, you will soon realize that you do not need to understand Japanese in order to enjoy their performance.

Saturday, 1:30 p.m., Shoenberg Theater

氷の祭典

ICE SCULPTURE

Sculpting blocks of ice is a popular art form in Japan, especially at the annual winter festival on the streets of downtown Sapporo, on the northern island of Hokkaido. The featured artist at the festival is Naomi Hamamura, who is the Executive Chef of United Provisions.

**All three days, 1 p.m.,
Bottlebrush Buckeye Path**

生け花

IKEBANA

Flower Arrangement

Ikebana (literally “living flowers”) is the unique Japanese art form of arranging flowers and other natural materials for display. Developed in the 13th century by Buddhist priests, *ikebana* gradually became a secular art with specific schools, or *ryu*, each with its own distinctive style. Within these *ryu*, secret techniques were taught to initiates, and ranks were conferred.

Although attractive arrangements are created in *ikebana*, this is not actually the purpose of the art. Rather, *ikebana* enthusiasts use flowers to express a deep awareness of life and to bring them into a closer identification with nature. *Ikebana* is sometimes referred to as *kado*, the Way of Flowers, signifying its role as a philosophical path through life
Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 3 p.m.;
Monday, 11:30 a.m. (hands-on experience),
Orthwein Floral Display Hall

日本昔話

JAPANESE STORYTELLING

Japanese folklore told from children’s books, songs, and famous novels.

Sunday, 3:30 p.m., Yagura Stage

渡辺薫

KAORU WATANABE

Kaoru Watanabe is a Brooklyn based composer and musician, specializing on the Japanese *taiko* drum and *shinobue* flutes. He has spent decades artfully blending the sounds of Japanese instruments with those from around the world. Kaoru was born in St. Louis, MO to symphony musician parents. In 1997, after graduating from the Manhattan School of Music with a BFA in jazz flute and saxophone performance and performing with New York’s Soh Daiko, Kaoru moved to Japan and joined the internationally renowned taiko drum ensemble Kodo. Based in Sado Island in the Niigata prefecture, Kaoru toured across the globe with Kodo, performing the taiko, traditional Japanese folk dance and song, and especially the various *fue* (bamboo flute) such as the *noh kan*, *ryuteki*, and *shinobue*.

Kaoru’s current project, *Néo* (pronounced neh-oh), is the name of both his newest album as well as the ensemble that is performing the music with him. The characters for *Néo* (音緒) can be interpreted as “sound cord”, the “beginning of sound” or even “unified sound”. Appropriately, *Néo* also sounds like NEO, suggesting a new approach to these ancient instruments.
Saturday, 6 p.m.; Sunday, 5:30 p.m.;
Monday, noon and 3 p.m.,
Shoenberg Theater
Limited seating—Please arrive early

カラオケ KARAOKE

Karaoke is a Japanese compound word consisting of *kara*, a shortened form of *karappo* meaning “empty,” and *oke*, a shortened form of *okesutura*, or “orchestra.” Prior to the rise of *karaoke*, Japanese custom at private parties was for guests to sing solo while the others kept time by clapping. *Karaoke* started around 1970. It was then commercialized and became popular all over Japan. Now *karaoke* is not only present in Japan and Asia, but has a following in Europe and the United States.

Sunday, 7:30 p.m., Shoenberg Theater
Participants may sign up at the auditorium entrance as early as 6:45 p.m.
Limited seating—Please arrive early

着物シヨウ KIMONO FASHION SHOW

The formal art of traditional *kimono* dressing is celebrated each year at this festival.

**Sunday, 1 and 2:30 p.m.,
 Shoenberg Theater**
Limited seating—Please arrive early

鯉のぼり KOINOBORI

Koi Windsock Display

The carp (*koi*) is an important symbol for children in Japanese culture. When first hooked, the carp fights with all its strength but accepts the inevitable with composure. Each year on May 5, *koi* banners are flown above Japanese homes where children live. They are displayed over the Yagura Stage in the Japanese Garden. *Koi* fish can be seen near the Togetsukyo Flat Bridge.

All three days, displayed throughout the festival and Japanese Garden

独楽回し KOMA-MAWASHI Top Spinning

This art of family entertainment evolved from traditional Japanese children’s play. It takes great skill to manipulate a plain, primitive toy top with a rope. Dr. Hiroshi Tada’s routines include many amazing feats not found anywhere else and provide, among serious Japanese arts, unique, lighthearted fun for both young and old.

All three days, throughout the festival

創作エイサーLuck LUCK EISA

Festival Dancing

See page 3 for more information.

Saturday, 1:30 p.m.;
**Sunday, 4 p.m.; Monday, 10 a.m.,
 noon, and 4 p.m.,**
Cohen Amphitheater
Sunday, 11:30 a.m.,
Shoenberg Theater
Limited seating—Please arrive early

武道

MARTIAL ARTS- BUDO

Modern Martial Arts

Aikido, judo, karate, kendo: the modern martial arts of Japan are now popular worldwide. These arts were developed in Japan after the end of the feudal era in that country in 1867. Unlike ancient martial arts used by the samurai on the battlefield, today's martial arts, or *budo*, are practiced in Japan and elsewhere by people from all walks of life. The ultimate goal of Japan's martial "ways" lies in the perfection of aesthetic form, the cultivation of moral energy, and the promotion of spiritual harmony with others.

Aikido: *Saturday, 6:30 p.m.;*
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.;
and Monday, 10:30 a.m.

Judo: *Saturday, 5 p.m.;*
and Monday, 1:30 p.m.

Karate: *Saturday, 2 p.m.;*
and Sunday, noon.

Kendo: *Saturday, 12:30 p.m.;*
and Sunday, 1:30 p.m.

Chinese Garden Lawn

古流武藝

MARTIAL ARTS- KORYU BUGEI

Classical Martial Arts

Combative disciplines that date back to the feudal period of Japan, these arts were designed exclusively for military conflict and practiced by the samurai class. *Koryu* have always been taught through the *ryu*, a system of teaching and transmission from one generation to the next that changed little in centuries. There were several thousand martial *ryu* during Japan's history, but with the abolition of feudalism, the majority of these died out. Today, about 300 *koryu* are extant in Japan. Rarely taught and practiced outside the country, *koryu* are maintained for their extraordinary historical, cultural, and moral value.

Saturday, 3 p.m.; **Sunday, 3:30 p.m.;**
and Monday, 10 a.m., Knolls

虹

NIJI

Japanese Choral Group

Seas, mountains, and islands are often the themes of Japanese songs. Celebrations of beautiful scenery, descriptions of traditions, and nostalgic expressions of locations are common for many songs in the genres of children's music, regional folk music, and popular music. Come and enjoy a variety of songs featuring the mountains (山), the seas (海) and the islands (島) of Japan.

Saturday, 2:30 p.m., Shoenberg Theater
Limited seating—Please arrive early



コスプレ

OKASHI
FASHION AND
COSPLAY SHOW

Anime St. Louis proudly brings our Okashi Fashion Show to the St. Louis Japanese Festival! See beautiful Japanese street fashion ranging from Lolita to Visual Kei and a range of different cosplay costumes. Japanese Street Fashion fills the streets of Tokyo to express oneself which has spread inspiration internationally, and we'll provide a peek into the USA portion. Cosplay, or "Costume Play" has also become increasingly popular in the past decade internationally. Cosplay is the act of dressing up as fictional characters, commonly from Japanese anime, American cartoons or video games. Many use this as a way to connect with fellow fans or also express themselves, and some have even made it into a career. Anime St. Louis is excited to present an hour long show exploring these fun costumes and outfits, so join us!

Saturday, 4 p.m., Cohen Amphitheater

お神輿

OMIKOSHI

Shinto Shrine Parade

For most of the year, the spirits of Japan's Shinto shrines reside quietly. On special occasions, however, a Shinto portable shrine—the *omikoshi*—houses the spirits and is paraded through the temple neighborhood. *Omikoshi* means "litter of the gods"; it is an elaborate wooden structure adorned with a lacquered gable roof, carried on long beams inserted into its base.

The Shinto parade of the *omikoshi* is a boisterous affair. Fortified by copious amounts of sake, the carriers bear their sacred burden in a rolling, rocking gait. As the parade sways through the streets, the crowd applauds as the *omikoshi* dips and tilts. At the close of the festival, the *omikoshi* is returned to its temple in the ritual of *kami-okuri*, ensuring the spirits are safely home again. Omikoshi carriers wear *hanten* or *happi*, waist-length jackets emblazoned with *daimon*, designs that incorporate the logos of town associations or companies.

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday, 1:30 p.m.;
(Festival Procession);
Spink Pavilion to Cohen Amphitheater

折り紙

ORIGAMI

The art of folding paper has been practiced in Japan for centuries. Perhaps the simplest but most fascinating of the Asian arts, examples of *origami* can be found in literature during the Edo era (17th–19th century).

All three days, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.;
Jordan Education Wing

楽焼き

RAKU YAKI

Japanese Pottery

Raku is an ancient Japanese firing technique in which clay pots and vessels are quickly brought up to temperature in a small kiln. After maturation of the glazes, the kiln is opened and the red-hot pots are removed to cool down in a variety of ways. The sudden cooling causes the glazes to crackle, giving *raku* ware its characteristic look.

James Howe and assistants will create *raku* ware.

Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m., 3 p.m., and 5 p.m.; Monday, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Children's Garden

落語

RAKUGO

Rakugo is a short comedy skit in which one seated person plays all of the characters using only two props, a fan and a towel. It developed as entertainment for the merchant class who flourished during the Edo period of Japanese history. Students will perform some well-known and some contemporary *rakugo* in English.

All three days 1 to 5 p.m.;
Spink Pavilion

創作工イサ一

ST. LOUIS

OKINAWA EISA

Popular Folk Songs and Dance
See page 3 for more information.

Saturday, 1:30 p.m.;
Sunday, 4 p.m.; Monday, 10 a.m., noon, and 4 p.m.,
Cohen Amphitheater

書道

SHODO

Large-Scale Calligraphy Demonstration

Seiran Chiba is an inspiring calligrapher from Fukushima, Japan, an area still impacted by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. She represents a new generation of calligraphers who regard its ancient, traditional form of writing as an expressive art to reflect their feelings and thoughts in brush. She will demonstrate large-scale calligraphy on stage and also show the features and the fascination of “washi”, traditional hand-crafted paper.

To support Seiran's effort to spread calligraphy in the Midwest over the past three years, St. Louis Fude no Kai was founded. The works by Seiran and the members are displayed near her booth in Monsanto Hall.

Saturday, noon; Monday, 10:30 a.m.;
Shoenberg Theater;
Limited seating—Please arrive early
Demonstrations: Exhibit in Monsanto Hall throughout the Festival

太鼓

TAIKO

St. Louis Osuwa Taiko

Taiko means “big drum” in Japanese. The art form combines choreography with thunderous drumming on instruments made out of tree trunks and barrels

Taiko have been played for centuries at shrines and festivals. St. Louis Osuwa Taiko can trace its roots to the father of modern *taiko*, which evolved in the 1950s thanks to Grandmaster Daihachi Oguchi of Suwa, Japan, St. Louis’ sister city. Oguchi-sensei, a jazz drummer, arranged the various sized *taiko* to play them as an ensemble, elevating *taiko* into a performance art.

After founding the original Osuwa Daiko, Oguchi-sensei traveled to St. Louis in 1986 to start St. Louis Osuwa Taiko.

St. Louis Osuwa Taiko began as a children’s group but has since evolved into a nonprofit organization devoted to sharing *taiko* throughout Missouri and elsewhere through year-round performances, and classes and workshops for children, adults and seniors. The talented all-volunteer group plays a mix of traditional, modern, and original pieces.

St. Louis Osuwa Taiko continues to foster its relationship and cultural exchange with Osuwa Daiko and traveled to Japan in August 2014 to study and perform with its parent group. Osuwa Daiko has also visited St. Louis, most recently to perform at the Japanese Festival at the Missouri Botanical Garden in 2013.

Oguchi-sensei said *taiko* has universal appeal. “Your heart is a *taiko*. All people listen to a *taiko* rhythm, *dontsuku-dontsuku*, in their mother’s womb,” he once told The Associated Press. “It’s instinct to be drawn to *taiko* drumming.

Saturday, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 and 7 p.m.; Monday, 2 p.m., Cohen Amphitheater

竹馬

TAKEUMA

Japanese Stilt Walking

Takeuma literally means “bamboo horse.” An age-old children’s activity in Japan, *takeuma* consists of stilts originally crafted from bamboo. After lots of practice, children are able to run, climb stairs, or do other balancing acts on these stilts. In modern Japan, *takeuma* is increasingly rare. However, it’s still possible to see some of this low-tech fun in the high-tech world.

All three days, throughout the festival.

灯篋流し

TORO NAGASHI

Lantern ceremony

Late summer in Japan means *Obon*, the festival when the spirits of the dead return to spend time with the living.

Bon Odori (dancing) celebrates this; the *Toro Nagashi* ceremony does as well. Lanterns are inscribed with the names of those deceased, then lit and set afloat as a way of accompanying the spirits as they depart for another year.

Lanterns may be purchased at the St. Louis–Suwa Sister City Committee booth in Monsanto Hall. At 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, they will be lit and set afloat on the lake at *Seiwa-en*.

Reverend Clark Watanabe of the Honomu Henjoji Buddhist Mission will be giving an invocation on each night at the site.

**Saturday and Sunday, 8 p.m.,
Japanese Garden**

東山流し

TOZAN RYU

The music, dancing, and singing of the Okinawan people vastly differ from those of mainland Japan. Tozan Ryu combines the traditional style of Japanese classical dance with popular music, rather than Japanese classical music, for an exciting mix.

Sunday, 11:30 a.m., Shoenberg Theater



| Toro Nagashi |

SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT BY



FRIENDS OF THE JAPANESE FESTIVAL

- BioKyowa, Inc.
- Japanese American Citizens League,
- Consulate General of Japan in Chicago St. Louis Chapter
- Japanese American Silver Circle Nippon Express USA, Inc.
- Japan America Society of St. Louis
- Women's Association

The Missouri Botanical Garden thanks the Japanese Activities Committee, a coalition of organizations that include:

- Japanese American Citizens League**—Devoted to the special needs and interests of the Japanese American community.
- Japan America Society of St. Louis**—Devoted to promoting business and cultural ties between America and Japan.
- Japan America Society of St. Louis Women's Association**—Assists Japanese and American women in cultural exchange.
- Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of St. Louis**—Founded for the purpose of promoting trade, commerce, goodwill, and partnership between Japan and the United States.
- St. Louis Japanese Language School for Children**—An institution providing Japanese language instruction for children in Missouri and Illinois.
- St. Louis–Suwa Sister City Committee**—Seeks to further ties between St. Louis and our sister city of Suwa in Nagano Prefecture, Japan.
- St. Louis Japan Society**—Primary purpose is for Japanese nationals in the area to meet and socialize.
- Seinen Committee**—An organization for young Japanese/American professionals.
- The Office of the Consulate General of Japan in Chicago**—Represents the Japanese government in Missouri and other Midwestern states.

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SUSTAINABILITY

The Missouri Botanical Garden strives to make the most sustainable choices for the future of people, plants, and the planet. This publication is printed on paper containing 100% post-consumer recycled content manufactured with wind power. We hope that you will recycle it, when finished, or pass it along to a friend.

Thanks to our vendors, volunteers, and visitors for keeping this huge event's footprint small. YOU help the Garden show the way to be *Green Today—Greener Tomorrow!*

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GARDEN



« BEST OF MISSOURI MARKET

Oct. 6 | 6–9 p.m.

Oct. 7–8 | 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

More than 120 food producers and crafters offer baked goods, fresh and dried flowers, live plants, handcrafted items, baskets, furniture, custom jewelry, children's activities, live music, and more.

SPIRITS IN THE GARDEN »

Oct. 28 | 6–9 p.m.

Celebrate All Hallows' Eve with the spirit of Henry Shaw. Strut your stuff in a costume contest, dance to spooky tunes, learn about the history of the Garden, and enjoy a spirited signature cocktail.



« GARDENLAND EXPRESS


Nov. 17–Jan. 1, 2018 | 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Presented by: 

View G-scale trains of many eras as they travel through a miniature holiday landscape with festive decorations and plants.

GARDEN GLOW »

Nov. 18–Jan. 1, 2018 | 5–10 p.m.

Presented by: 

Garden Glow's fifth anniversary will provide new experiences and traditional favorites. Enjoy photo opportunities, music, food, and drinks.



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

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