

FESTIVAL

AUG. 31-SEPT. 2 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, August 31 | 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sunday, September 1 | 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Monday, September 2 | 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Grounds open at 9 a.m. and then remain open until 10 p.m. for candlelight walks on Saturday and Sunday. Last entry into the Garden is at 9 p.m.

Admission

| General Admission (13+) | \$18 |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Child (3-12) | \$9 |
| Member General Admission (13+) | \$9 |
| Member Child (3-12) | . 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. Climatron and Brookings Exploration Center will close at 5 p.m. each day.

Sassafras and Bellwether Café

Cool off and enjoy a beverage as well as a selection of soups, salads, and sandwiches.

Sassafras Restaurant hours:

Saturday and Sunday | 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday | 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Bellwether Café hours:

Saturday and Sunday | 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday | 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Information

Festival information booths located outside the Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center and near the William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening.

View event details online at mobot.org/japanesefestival.



UPGRADE YOUR FESTIVAL TICKET TO A MEMBERSHIP

Join or renew your membership during Japanese Festival, and we will apply a portion of today's admission cost toward the purchase of any Garden membership. 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!

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.

First Aid

In case of an accident or medical emergency, please locate staff wearing Garden identification or call (314) 577-0212. They will contact Security immediately. First-aid personnel and ambulance service are on site during festival hours.

Garden Gate Shop

The Garden Gate Shop is your source for Japanese Festival merchandise. Visit the shop inside the Taylor Visitor Center for sodas, snacks, teas, jewelry, books, and more.

Saturday and Sunday | 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday | 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Featured Performer Kanariya Eiraku

Kanariya Eiraku is a renowned storyteller from Tokyo, performing and teaching the centuries old Japanese art of one-man comedic storytelling called *rakugo*.

He has performed and conducted seminars on *rakugo* at international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Recent performances in the U.S. include LA's Nisei Week, Seattle's Cherry Blossom Festival, and Arizona's Japanese Festival. Prepare to have your funny bone tickled!



Featured Performers **SUMO!**

Sumo is a form of full-contact wrestling and Japan's national sport which originated as a religious performance to the Shinto gods.

The basic rules of sumo are simple: the losing wrestler (*rikishi*) is the one who either first touches the floor with something other than the sole of his foot or leaves the ring (*dohyo*) before his opponent.

This year, we have partnered with USA Sumo to bring you three of the most popular *rikishi* in the world: Hiroki, Ichi, and Mendee.

In particular, "Ichi" (former sekiwake Ichinojo) competed in Japanese Pro Sumo, reaching the top division at a record pace.

He won the Emperor's Cup, the highest award in all of Pro Sumo, and attained the esteemed *sekiwake* rank, which indicates he was among the top 1% of all Pros. Ichi also won four special prizes and received nine gold stars for defeating Grand Champions a total of nine times, almost the most in history! At his current weight of 540 lbs., he's more than 100 pounds heavier than other elite sumo wrestlers in Japan. He is only little less than Hiroki (below); at 570 lbs., he is currently the heaviest sumo wrestler in the world.

Cohen Amphitheater

Saturday: 3-4 p.m. | 5-6 p.m. Sunday: noon-1 p.m. | 5-6 p.m. Monday: noon-1 p.m. | 4-5 p.m.

Autographs and photos directly after each performance.





Opening Ceremony

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.

Saturday, 10 a.m. | Japanese Garden

Sake cups are available for purchase near the Opening **Ceremony stage** on Saturday only. \$10 per cup.

2024 Japanese Festival Logo Kourin Neagarimatsu

Kourin Neagarimatsu is a family crest depicting a pine (matsu) with its roots (ne) protruding upwards (agari).



Kourin Ogata was a famous visual artist of the 17th century, and the crest image depicts his painting style. Pine trees are valued for being evergreen and having long lives, so such a family crest could signify a desire for a long lasting family line.

Neagari is also a pun on "price increase." A certain pine tree in Japan with prominently exposed roots attracts visitors who are hoping for their investments or income to increase in value. May this year's visitors to the Japanese festival prosper likewise!



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 four-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. It is 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.

TOURS

Teahouse Island Tour

Sold out in advance.

Garden Docents

Garden docents will be stationed throughout *Seiwa-en* to provide information and help guide your visit.

Virtual Tour of Seiwa-en

Scan the QR code for a virtual map and to discover more about the history, culture, and carefully designed plantings in one of the largest Japanese gardens in North America.



Candlelight Walks

Enjoy self-guided, evening-hour tours around the Japanese Garden, splendidly illuminated by *shoji* lanterns.

Saturday and Sunday only | 8–10 p.m. (Included with admission)
Last entry 9 p.m.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

| 9:30– 10:30 a.m. | Festival Procession/ Opening Ceremony | Spink Pavilion to Yagura Stage in Japanese Garden |
|--------------------|--|---|
| 10 a.m5 p.m. | Calligraphy Display | Spink Pavilion |
| 10 a.m4 p.m. | Origami Display | Sachs Museum Lower Gallery |
| 10 a.m.–5 p.m. | Balloon Art Teahouse Island Tours (SOLD OUT) | Kemper Center for Home Gardening Arbor of the Plum Wind, Japanese Garden |
| 10 a.m7 p.m. | Ikebana and Bonsai Display | Farr Auditorium |
| 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Bonsai Demonstration | Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 11 a.mnoon | Okinawa Eisa Yui Shodo Demonstration | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden Bayer Event Center |
| 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Cooking Demonstration | Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level |
| noon-12:30 p.m. | Cosplay Showcase | Cohen Amphitheater |
| noon–1 p.m. | Rakugo Featured Performer Ikebana Demonstration | PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 12:30-1 p.m. | Kimono Show | Bayer Event Center |
| 12:30-1:30 p.m. | Kendo | Bottlebrush Buckeye Path |
| 1–1:30 p.m. | Yasu Storyteller | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden |
| 1–2 p.m. | Okinawa Eisa Yui | Cohen Amphitheater |
| 1–5 p.m. | Children's Activities | Spink Pavilion |
| 1:30-2 p.m. | Kimono Show | Bayer Event Center |
| 1:30-3 p.m. | Cooking Demonstration | Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level |
| 2–2:30 p.m. | Ice Sculpture Wagashi Workshop | Cohen Amphitheater Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 2–3 p.m. | Koryu Bugei Gaku | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall |
| 2:30-3:30 p.m. | Way of Tea Demonstration Karate | Bayer Event Center Bottlebrush Buckeye Path |
| 3-3:30 p.m. | Wagashi Workshop | Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 3–4 p.m. | Sumo | Cohen Amphitheater |
| 3:30-4:30 p.m. | Okinawa Eisa Yui | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden |
| 4–5 p.m. | Wagashi Demonstration | Bayer Event Center |
| 4:30-5 p.m. | Introduction to Zen | PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall |
| 4:30–5:30 p.m. | Ikebana Demonstration Judo | Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms Bottlebrush Buckeye Path |
| 5–6 p.m. | Bon Odori Sumo | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden Cohen Amphitheater |
| 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Rakugo Featured Performer | Bayer Event Center |
| 6–7 p.m. | Gaku | PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall |
| 7–7:30 p.m. | Yasu | Bayer Event Center |
| 7–8 p.m. | St. Louis Osuwa Taiko | Cohen Amphitheater |
| 7:30–9 p.m. | Toro Nagashi | Japanese Garden |
| 8–10 p.m. | Candlelight Walk Anime Movie | Arbor of the Plum Wind, Japanese Garden Bayer Event Center |

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

| 10 a.m.–4 p.m. | Origami Display | Sachs Museum Lower Gallery |
|--------------------|--|---|
| 10 a.m.–5 p.m. | Calligraphy Display | Spink Pavilion |
| 10 a.m.–5 p.m. | Children's Activities Balloon Art Teahouse Island Tours (SOLD OUT) | Spink Pavilion Kemper Center for Home Gardening Arbor of the Plum Wind, Japanese Garden |
| 10 a.m7 p.m. | Ikebana and Bonsai Display | Farr Auditorium |
| 10-10:45 a.m. | Shodo Demonstration | Bayer Event Center |
| 10–11 a.m. | Bonsai Demonstration | Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 10:15-11:15 a.m. | Okinawa Eisa Yui | Cohen Amphitheater |
| 10:30–11 a.m. | Storytelling | PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall |
| 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Cooking Demonstration | Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level |
| 11:15 a.mnoon | Wagashi Demonstration | Bayer Event Center |
| 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. | Ikebana Demonstration and Hands-On Experience for Children | Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| noon-1 p.m. | Sumo | Cohen Amphitheater |
| 12:30-1 p.m. | Kimono Fashion | Bayer Event Center |
| 12:30-1:30 p.m. | Rakugo Featured Performer | PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall |
| 1–2 p.m. | Okinawa Eisa Yui | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden |
| 1:30-2 p.m. | Kimono Fashion Ice Sculpture Wagashi Workshop | Bayer Event Center Cohen Amphitheater Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 1:30-2:30 p.m. | Kendo | Bottlebrush Buckeye Path |
| 1:30–3 p.m. | Cooking Demonstration | Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level |
| 2–2:30 p.m. | Yasu Dashi Procession | PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall Spink Pavilion |
| 2–3 p.m. | Koryu Bugei | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden |
| 2:30–3 p.m. | Kimono Fashion Omikoshi Procession | Bayer Event Center Spink Pavilion |
| 2:30-3:30 p.m. | St. Louis Osuwa Taiko | Cohen Amphitheater |
| 3–3:30 p.m. | Yasu Wagashi Workshop | PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 3:30-4 p.m. | Dashi Procession | Spink Pavilion |
| 3:30–4:30 p.m. | Way of Tea Karate | Bayer Event Center Bottlebrush Buckeye Path |
| 3:30-5 p.m. | Cooking Demonstration | Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level |
| 4–5 p.m. | Okinawa Eisa Yui Zen and Japanese Culture | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall |
| 4–5:30 p.m. | Ikebana Demonstration and Hands-On Experience | Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 5–6 p.m. | Rakugo Featured Performer Sumo | Bayer Event Center Cohen Amphitheater |
| 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Bon Odori | Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden |
| 6:30-7 p.m. | Yasu | Bayer Event Center |
| 7–8 p.m. | St. Louis Osuwa Taiko | Cohen Amphitheater |
| 7:30-9 p.m. | Toro Nagashi | Japanese Garden |
| 8–10 p.m. | Candlelight Walk Anime Movie | Arbor of the Plum Wind, Japanese Garden Bayer Event Center |

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

| 10 a.m5 p.m. Children's Activities Calligraphy Display Balloon Art Ikebana and Bonsai Display Farr Auditorium 10 a.m10:45 a.m. Shodo Demonstration Bayer Event Center 10-11 a.m. Bonsai Demonstration Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms 10:15-11:15 a.m. Okinawa Eisa Yui Cohen Amphitheater 10:30-11:30 a.m. Rakugo Featured Performer PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall 11-11:30 a.m. Yasu Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden 11 a.m12:30 p.m. Cooking Demonstration Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 11:15 a.mnoon Wagashi Demonstration Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 11:15 a.mnoon Wagashi Demonstration Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 11:15 a.mnoon Wagashi Workshop PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall 12:30-1 p.m. Storytelling PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall 12:30-1 p.m. Vagura Stage, Japanese Garden Cohen Amphitheater 1-1:30 p.m. Wagashi Workshop Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms 1-2 p.m. Okinawa Eisa Yui Yagura Stage, Japanese Garden 1:30-2 p.m. Uce Sculpture Cohen Amphitheater 1:30-2:30 p.m. Judo Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 1:30-3 p.m. Cooking Demonstration Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level 1:30-3 p.m. Cooking Demonstration Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level 1:30-3 p.m. Judo Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 1:30-2:30 p.m. Judo Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 1:30-3 p.m. Cooking Demonstration Kemper Center for Home Gardening lower level 1:30-3 p.m. Spink Pavilion 2-2:30 p.m. Judo Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 2-2:30 p.m. Judo Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 2-2:30 p.m. Judo Bottlebrush Buckeye Path 3:30-3 p.m. Cooking Demonstration All Bayer Event Center Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms Spink Pavilion 2-3 p.m. Omikoshi Procession Spink Pavilion 2-30-3:30 p.m. St. Louis Osuwa Taiko Cohen Amphitheater 3:30-4 p.m. Vasu Bayer Event Center Wagashi Workshop Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms Spink Pavilion Cohen Amphitheater Cohen Amphitheater Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms Spink Pavilion Cohen Amphitheater Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms Spink Pavilion Cohen Amphitheater | 10 a.m4 p.m. | Origami Display Teahouse Island Tours (SOLD OUT) | Sachs Museum Lower Gallery Arbor of the Plum Wind, Japanese Garden |
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| Gaku PlantLab, Edward Jones Hall | 3:30-4 p.m. | Wagashi Workshop | Jack C. Taylor Visitor Center Meeting Rooms |
| 4:30–5 p.m. Yasu Bayer Event Center | 4–5 p.m. | | |
| | 4:30-5 p.m. | Yasu | Bayer Event Center |

 $^{{}^\}star \text{Event schedule is subject to change. Please see mobot.org/japanese festival for the latest updates.}$

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. Violators will be asked to leave the festival.

ART EXHIBITS

Balloon Artist Bonsai and Ikebana Calligraphy Origami

MERCHANDISE VENDORS

Animeggroll Anime STL Arise Bazaar Bonsai Society of Greater St. Louis Colorkoi Copper Crane Pottery Far East Emporium Japanese Activities Committee Japan American Society of St. Louis Photo Booth Japan America Society Women's Association Japanese Language School Kaori's Japanese Calligraphy

St. Louis Okinawa Suwa/St. Louis Sister City Committee **Shodo Writing and Sales**

Chef De Art Catering

FOOD AND DRINK VENDORS

Confluence Kombucha Confluence 7en Center Drunken Fish Ed's Foods International Harvest Church Japanese American Citizens League Soda Booth Japanese American Society Alcohol Sales Japan America Society/ Seinen Kai Committee Ozark Forest Mushrooms PokeDoke Red Apron Sando Food Truck Sushi Kitchen Top Sushi

WAGASHI

My Squish Studio

Literally "Japanese sweets," wagashi are far more than mere confections. They are formed from rice flour, sugar, and gelatinous agar into fantastic and whimsical shapes. Wagashi are associated with the tea ceremony, served as part of the process of making and drinking matcha tea.

Wagashi shapes and recipes vary throughout Japan and change seasonally. They assumed the status of art form during the early 19th century. Mildly sweet, they are eaten slowly to appreciate their wonderful taste.

Noriyuki Kamiyama is among Japan's most artistic wagashi makers. His creations reflect the traditions of the art and a chance for visitors to see this extraordinary aspect of Japanese culture.

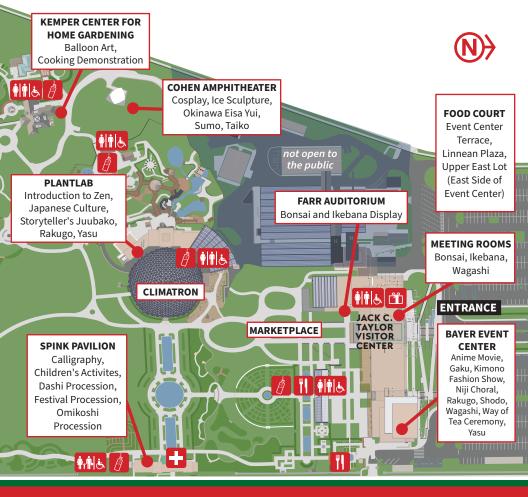




Japanese Garden

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, *Seiwa-en*, the Japanese Garden, 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." 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. Pokémon Go players are encouraged to visit all of our PokéStops, compete to be the very best at one of our gyms, and hatch an egg or two along the way.

Be sure to check out the Anime St. Louis booth at the South Garden marketplace 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GARDEN

Tickets on sale NOW



BEST OF MISSOURI MARKET®

NEW! Friday | October 4 | 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, October 5-6 | 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Members Only Hour Saturday, October 5 | 8–9 a.m.

Missouri's best 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

Friday, October 25 | 6-8:30 p.m.

Celebrate All Hallows' Eve sampling tastings from local and regional distilleries, wineries, and breweries! Enter the costume contest, dance the night away, and learn about the spirited history of the Garden. Ages 21 and up.

GARDEN GLOW

Saturday, November 16–January 4 (Closed: November 25 and 28, December 24 and 25)

Celebrate the season by strolling through displays of almost 2 million lights, with a mix of fun new experiences and traditional favorites.

Visit mobot.org/glow for more information.

Presented by



BECOME A MEMBER TODAY—

You'll save more than the cost of admission!

Members of the Missouri Botanical Garden are our partners in plant protection here in St. Louis and in the areas across the planet that most need our help.

Thanks to members, Garden scientists are on the ground in more than 30 countries around the world discovering and caring for plants that provide us with food, shelter, clothing, and medicine.

JOIN THE GARDEN TODAY

to help us make our world happier, healthier, and greener for all.

MEMBERS ENJOY THESE GREAT BENEFITS

- · Free daily general admission at our three locations
- Valuable savings on shopping, classes, and special events like Garden Glow
- · Members-only events like Ghouls in the Garden and the Member Speaker Series
- Reciprocal benefits at 300+ gardens
- · An exclusive members-only Garden gift

Stop at the Membership Tent or visit mobot.org/join to start your year of membership today!



SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT BY





TOYOTA MO



THE GARDEN THANKS THE JAPANESE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE, A COALITION OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

- Confluence Zen Center—A St. Louis-based zen community dedicated to zazen.
- 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 US.
- The Office of the Consulate General of Japan in Chicago—Represents the Japanese government in Missouri and other Midwestern 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.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Missouri Botanical Garden strives to make sustainable choices for the future of people, plants, and the planet. Recyclables such as beverage containers and compostable food and service ware will be kept out of the landfill by our Zero Waste Ambassadors. Look for designated waste station tents on the food court during the event. Thanks to our vendors, volunteers, and visitors for keeping the huge event's footprint small. YOU help the Garden show the way to be Green Today—Greener Tomorrow!



洲 MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

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