

PACIFIC BONSAI MUSEUM

# FACT SHEET

## BY THE NUMBERS

- ~50,000 Visitors annually
- 391,700 Views on the Museum's most engaging Facebook post
- 32,000 Current Instagram followers
- 150 Bonsai in Pacific Bonsai Museum's collection
- 50 to 60 Bonsai on public display at any given time
- 6 Countries in which bonsai species in our collection originated; the most geographically diverse public collection in the U.S.

## HISTORY

Created by the Weyerhaeuser Company in 1989 to celebrate the Washington State Centennial and to honor its Pacific Rim trading partners. Became the nonprofit Pacific Bonsai Museum in 2013. Only museum solely dedicated to bonsai in the United States (not part of a botanical garden or arboretum).

## PROGRAMS

- A Bonsai Solstice
- Bonsai Basics Classes
- Bonsai Fest! On World Bonsai Day/Mother's Day weekend
- Curator's Q&A sessions
- Docent led group tours by reservation
- School Field Trip Program
- The LAB (Living Art of Bonsai) 2018-2020

## 2020-21 SPECIAL EXHIBITION

### ***World War Bonsai, July 5, 2020 – Oct 10, 2021***

This exhibition traces the cultural practice of bonsai in location and time—in Japan and in the United States, from the pre-WWII period, through wartime, amid incarceration, and at peace. With bonsai, artifacts, documents, paintings, and photographs, the exhibition shares the powerful and inspiring stories of the people who ingeniously and courageously cared for bonsai as displays of patriotic loyalty, subversive acts of defiance, and assertions of cultural identity. Because Japanese American bonsai masters overcame their loss, grief, humiliation, and despair to share their art with outsiders, bonsai became a bridge to greater cultural appreciation and reconciliation that inspired generations of bonsai artists all over the world.

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**PREVIOUS  
SPECIAL  
EXHIBITIONS**

*Living Art of Bonsai: Principles of Design*, 2019  
*Gnarly: The Dan Robinson Retrospective*, 2019  
Amazon's Seattle Spheres, 2019  
*Shapeshifters: The Alchemy of Bonsai and Design*: Totokaelo, Seattle, WA, 2019  
*Living Art of Bonsai: Elements of Design*, 2018  
*Natives*, 2017  
*Decked-Out*, 2016  
*Wireless*, 2015  
*Stone Images I through X*, 2009–2019

**HOURS**

Tuesday through Sunday, 10am to 4pm.  
The Museum is *closed* every Monday as well as Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

**ADMISSION**

By donation. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per adult.

**CONTACT**

Location of Museum: 2515 S. 336th St., Federal Way, WA 98001  
253.353.7345 [info@pacificbonsaimuseum.org](mailto:info@pacificbonsaimuseum.org)

**HONOR  
STATEMENT**

We honor those who came before us from the world of bonsai, whose works we care for as living art, as well as the original caretakers of this land on which we stand today--the traditional home of the Coast Salish people, who are still here.

**ANTI-RACISM  
STATEMENT**

We believe racial equity is a human right. We support the work of Black Lives Matter and the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) movement. We acknowledge that this declaration against racism is long overdue (which we realize means way before these past few weeks). We regret not showing up to this conversation earlier and promise to do better in the future.

We have committed to actively evaluating museum systems, structures, and practices so that we don't reinforce discriminatory outcomes in the future. We seek to include more BIPOC voices and participation in our work. We are also organizing anti-biases training for staff.

We have educated ourselves about the trauma experienced particularly by Japanese Americans when they were subject to racist U.S. government policies that robbed them of their liberty and

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livelihoods—including the bonsai masters who laid the seeds of the art as it is practiced in this country. We are grateful that despite their understandable resentment and reluctance, appreciation for the art of bonsai spread all over the world because these people found the strength to share their art with others which ended up forming new friendships and promoting healing.

Pacific Bonsai Museum is committed to inclusivity with our visitors, volunteers, members, and supporters. We know that awe, peace, love, and admiration of bonsai and nature are not finite. Rather, these feelings only grow stronger the more people are included. We welcome everyone to discover the art and beauty of bonsai. We remain dedicated to our mission—to connect people to nature through the living art of bonsai—knowing that as an anti-racist organization, we have work to do, and we are committed to doing it.