ENGAGE: WITH THE FWBG | BRIT COMMUNITY

Japanese Fall Festival Celebrates the Season and the Beauty of the Japanese Garden

The 2020 Japanese Fall Festival returns Nov. 7 and 8 to celebrate fall in the Japanese Garden and explore the arts and culture of Japan.

Hosted in cooperation with the Fort Worth Japanese Society, the festival includes cultural demonstrations, performances, unique shopping opportunities and fantastic foods. Special care and planning has gone into ensuring the event meets all of the safety requirements of the Tarrant County Health Department.

Learn more about this beloved tradition, the ways it has been made safe for guests and performers and how to buy your tickets today. Remember, admission is free for members!

Fort Worth Botanic Garden Management Transfers from City of Fort Worth to BRIT

On October 1, BRIT assumed nonprofit management of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, ushering in a new era for the 86-year old community favorite on its way toward becoming a world-class Garden.

“The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is an incredible community asset,” said Mayor Betsy Price. “Thanks to this important partnership, residents and visitors will be able to continue to enjoy the gardens and experience everything it has to offer.”

Learn all about the announcement and the process that brought the two plant-focused institutions together.
GARDEN: WHAT'S IN BLOOM

Create a Japanese Garden in Your Own Backyard

The Japanese Garden is approaching the height of its fall beauty, with brilliant shades of red, orange and yellow lighting up the landscape. You can bring some of that beauty home by employing elements of a Japanese garden in your own yard.

“Many of the plants in the Japanese Garden thrive in north Texas,” said Sr. Horticulturist Steve Huddleston. “With a little care and planning, you can create a Japanese garden of your very own.”

Learn about the plants that can help you craft your own Japanese garden—as well as the basics of Japanese garden design.

LEARN: STAY CURIOUS

Master the Zen of Bokeh by Looking at the World in a New Way

Photographers spend a lot of time making sure their images are in sharp, clear focus. But one way they can improve the quality of their images is to add a little blur.

“Bokeh is a Japanese term that refers to the quality of the out-of-focus parts of images,” said professional photographer and educator Edgar Miller. “You want to emphasize the quality of that blur—to make it part of the image.”

Miller will teach students the principles and technique of bokeh in this Nov. 18 class on the grounds of the Japanese Garden, with an emphasis on helping students understand how to compose a photograph that conveys a sense of depth.

Learn more about the class—as well as Miller’s simple but powerful trick for improving your images.
**PLANT: THE SEEDS OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL STEM EDUCATION**

**Kids Learn by Doing—and Explore Nature and Culture—at Homeschool Days**

We all know you can’t learn to play piano by reading a book, or become a chemist by watching a video. Similarly, kids learn about nature by getting their hands in some real dirt.

But that’s harder than ever in these days of online learning. In response, BRIT and the Botanic Garden have redesigned their Homeschool Days program to continuing welcoming kids to the garden while maintaining new safety protocols.

Learn more about Homeschool Days, including customized experiences for small groups, as well as suggestions for books and activities that will help your family learn about Japanese history and culture.

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**RESEARCH: FROM PLANT TO PLANET**

**Become an Armchair Botanist and Help Liberate More Than 200 Years of Botanical Information from Herbarium Specimens**

Like many other natural history collections, BRIT is in the process of making specimen images and data available in digital form. But in order to do that, we need your help transcribing the information related to these specimens.

Annually since 2015, BRIT has joined with other natural history collections around the world to participate in the Worldwide Engagement for Digitizing Biocollections (WeDigBio), a data campaign, virtual science festival and local outreach opportunity.

All you need to help is a computer with an internet connection and a passion for plants! Learn about the WeDigBio program and how you can participate in this virtual event.
Konnichiwa (Kon-nee-chee-wah—means “Hi!” in Japanese)!

It’s always fun at the Japanese Festival in the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. The Fort Worth Japanese Society brings wonderful ideas and their culture from a faraway place. It all makes learning new things so much fun!

When I learned my membership allows me to enter the Japanese Fall Festival without paying an additional fee, I asked what I needed to do to renew. The membership card allows me to sidestep long lines of people paying entrance fees to the Japanese Festival, and for a year I get to enjoy the beauty of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden without paying an additional entrance fee. Join or renew your membership today, and I’ll look for you at the Japanese Festival and out in the garden as well!

Sayonara (“goodbye” in Japanese)!

— Margaret Shuping, FWBG | BRIT Member

The Japanese Fall Festival is one of many events held at the Botanic Garden and BRIT for which members receive free or discounted admission. As a member, you also receive invitation to special members-only events, discounts at local garden centers and the FWBG | BRIT gift shops, and much more.

Consider becoming a member today so you, too, can celebrate the beauty of the Japanese Garden and delight in the fall festival.

Thank you,
Katherine Campbell
Director of Membership

Stay in touch online!