

WORLD BONSAI DAY

May 11, 2024

World Bonsai Day celebrates the profound power of bonsai to bring together the peoples of the world in peace and friendship, and to help us develop a stronger connection to our natural environment.

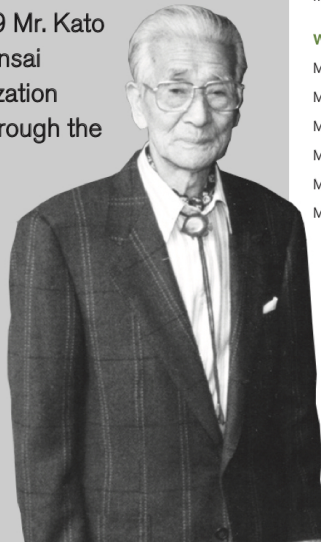
As explained by the late bonsai master Saburo Kato (1915-2008), by nurturing bonsai, we learn the essence and dignity of life, and life becomes more meaningful. If we are diligent in our care, one day we will understand when a bonsai is asking for water or fertilizer.

As we assume responsibility for the care of the bonsai, a close bond develops between the caregiver and the bonsai. In return for the caregiver's love, the bonsai portrays the utmost beauty of nature.

The love one has for bonsai then expands to encompass nature in all its many forms. This is the spirit, and the power, of bonsai.

A beloved figure in the modern history of bonsai, in 1989 Mr. Kato founded and became the first Chairman of the World Bonsai Friendship Federation (WBFF), a global nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing peace and goodwill to the world through the art of bonsai.

In honor of Saburo Kato's legacy, WBFF designated the second Saturday of May each year as "World Bonsai Day." This year on May 11 – in gatherings large and small, at national bonsai collections and in private bonsai gardens – join with bonsai enthusiasts around the world, and rejoice in experiencing the beauty of nature through our shared love of bonsai.



WBFF Regions of the World and Representatives

Africa Region
Mr. Jonathan Cain (South Africa)

Australia-New Zealand Region
Mr. Frank Kelly (Australia)

Japan Region
Mr. Fumio Aokage (Japan)

Asia-Pacific Region
Mr. Dato Pui Khlang Khang (Malaysia)

China Region
Mr. Chen Chang (China)

Europe Region
Mr. Marc Noelanders (Belgium)

South-Asia Region
Mr. Ravindran Damodar (India)

Latin America Region
Dr. Enrique Castano (Mexico)

North America Region
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WBFF Officers

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Mrs. Naemi Iwasaki (Japan), Vice-Chairman

Mr. Jack Sustic (U.S.) Vice-Chairman

Mr. Christian Vos (Belgium), Vice-Chairman

Mr. Jonathan Cain (South Africa), Secretary

Mr. Frank Kelly (Australia), Treasurer

