

Press Release

March 8, 2017

The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY



**“The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY”
One-month pre-event to be held at Tokyo Skytree
Showing off famous one-million-dollar bonsai.**

The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY Executive Committee (Hatsuji Kato, Executive Director) will be hosting the The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY at the Saitama Super Arena on April 27-30 where a worldwide fan of bonsai will gather to learn and exchange information, and the Japan Bonsai Suiseki SHIHO-TEN at the Community Arena on April 28-30 where over 300 masterpieces all over from Japan will be displayed.

The one-month pre-event will be held on March 18 and 19 at the Tokyo Skytree Town “Solamachi” to promote the convention. Masterpiece bonsai Black Pine (*Pinus thunbergii*) Unryu introduced on a New Year’s TV show will be displayed. Kunio Kobayashi (Shunkaen BONSAI Museum owner and master) has been working on this piece for 20 years and the bonsai itself is said to be 500 years with value worth nearly one million dollars. this is the first time to be displayed in a major exhibition so please take this chance to see this historic masterpiece up close.

Besides this masterpiece, a large panel of the symbol bonsai for the convention, Hiryu will be set up as a photo booth and tickets to the convention will be sold at a special booth to promote the event to customers visiting Tokyo Skytree Town.

Please take this opportunity to introduce the convention and the event on the day of.

《Contact》

The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY

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“The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY” One Month Pre-Event Overview

【Date】

March 18-19, 2017, 10:00-17:00

【Venue】

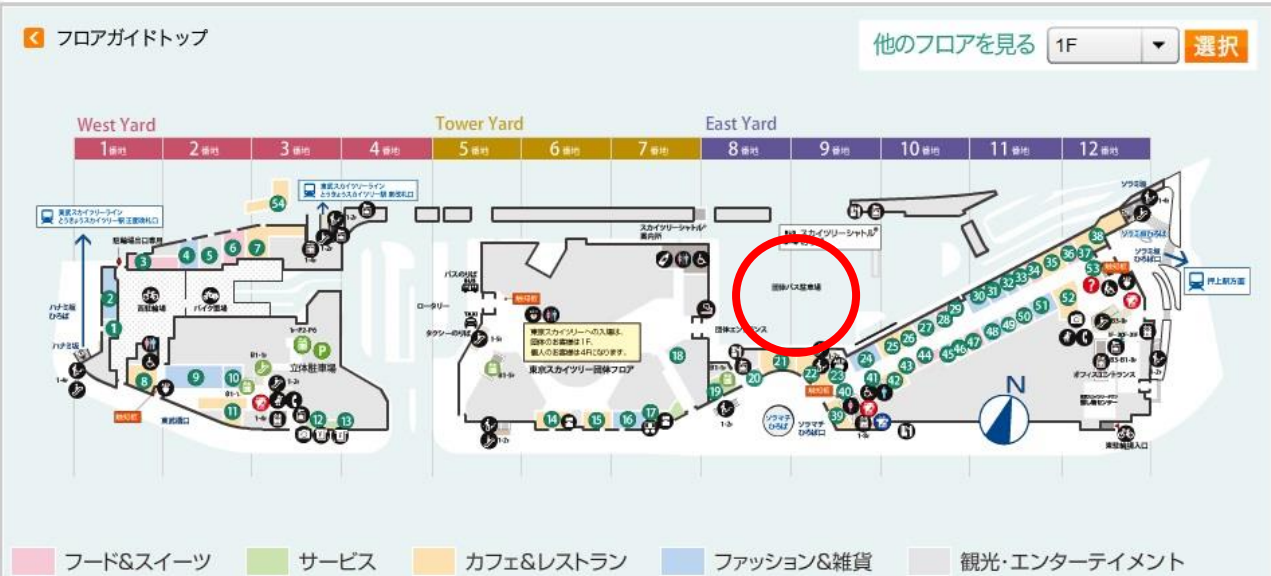
Tokyo Skytree Town “Solamachi” (east yard 1F)

[Nearby stations] Tokyo Skytree Line “Tokyo Skytree Station” and subway “Oshiage Station”

【Program】

- 1) Black Pine (Pinus thunbergii) Unryu Special Exhibition
Display of one-million-dollar bonsai introduced on television
- 2) “The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY” symbol bonsai “Hiryu” (panel) and photo booth
An actual size panel of Juniper (Juniperus chinensis) Hiryu will be set up for visitors to take photos.
- 3) “Japan Bonsai Suiseki SHIHO-TEN” ticket and passport sales booth
Novelty gift will be given to those who purchase tickets during the event.
- 4) “The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY” leaflet distribution
Leaflet with convention details will be distributed.
- 5) Posters and banners decoration
Posters and banners will be posted to promote the convention visually.

1F ソラマチ商店街 / St.ストリート / カフェ&雑貨 / ソラマチひろば



■ Japan Bonsai Suiseki SHIHO-TEN Overview

To commemorate the hosting of the convention, Japan Bonsai Suiseki SHIHO-TEN will be opened at Saitama Super Arena Community Arena on April 28-30 where over 300 bonsais and suisekis gathered nationally in Japan will be displayed.

【Date】

April 28-30, 2017

【Venue】

Saitama Super Arena Community Arena

【Entrance】

Advance tickets 800 JPY (Door price 1,000 JPY) *sold at ticket agencies and convenient stores

【Program】

(1) Special Exhibition

Rare masterpieces gathered throughout Japan will be displayed along with movies and panels to show the beauty of bonsai that spread to the world.

○ Imperial Palace Bonsai Display (tentative)

From the Edo, Meiji, Taisho, Showa period until now, the bonsais in the imperial palace have lived over 400 years. History of the bonsais at the Imperial Palace will be shown with a large panel of the Imperial Palace garden with the rare chance to actually see the displayed bonsai.

○ Bonsai and Suiseki of Japan

Bonsais and suisekis made by Japanese historic figures of the Meiji, Taisho, and Showa era will be displayed.

○ World Bonsai Exploration (tentative)

Bonsais around the world will be shown with different local tastes.

(2) Children's Bonsai

Bonsai pieces from 11 schools and 1,000 children will be displayed.

(3) Merchandise

Bonsai, plants, flowers, books, and tools, everything related to bonsai will be sold along local brands and traditional crafts.

(4) Stage Event

Top class bonsai artists from 8 countries and regions around the world and Japan will be having a bonsai demonstration.

【Advance tickets】

Release date: October 1, 2016

Advance ticket price: 800 JPY (door price 1,000 JPY) *children 12 and under are free

Ticketing agency: Ticket Pia (P code: 990592)

LAWSON Ticket (L code: 32490)

CN Play Guide (CNI-17322)

e+

Seven Ticket (049-887)

*Tickets will also be sold at promotional events. Please see official website for details.

■ The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY Overview

【Title】

The 8th WORLD BONSAI CONVENTION, SAITAMA CITY

【Date】

April 27-30, 2017

【Venue】

[Main Venue]

(1) Saitama Super Arena

One of the world's largest indoor arena featuring a moveable seating section for various events such as sports, music, and industrial and cultural events.

(2) Omiya Sonic City, Palace Hotel Omiya

An all-purpose convention facility including a large hall where the First World Bonsai Convention was held with a capacity of 2500 people, a 31 story building with an exhibition hall, and a luxury hotel.

[Sub Venue]

(1) MUSASHI ICHINOMIYA HIKAWA JINJA SHRINE, SAITAMA

One of the most ancient and historic shrines over 2,000 years old where Omiya's name was originated.

(2) THE OMIYA BONSAI ART MUSEUM, SAITAMA

Main facility of Saitama's bonsai cultural development and Omiya Bonsai Village's tourism center displaying bonsai masterpieces and historic and cultural resources.

(3) OMIYA BONSAI VILLAGE

After the Great Kanto earthquake in 1923, Tokyo's bonsai industry was severely damaged. Omiya Bonsai Village was developed by these industry professionals as an ideal village for all bonsai lovers around the world.

【Theme】

Bonsai, ~Towards the Next 100 Years~

28 years since the first bonsai convention in 1989.

Back where it all started, Saitama City be the world center of a new era to the traditional bonsai to be loved and passed on to the generations to come.

【Main Programs】

(1) Convention program: International bonsai fans participation

Demonstrations from renowned bonsai artists, parties, and cultural experiences.

(2) Other program: Japan Bonsai Suiseki SHIHO-TEN (an exhibition to commemorate the hosting of the convention)

Over 300 masterpieces throughout Japan will be displayed

【Organizer】

The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA Executive Committee Office

【Committee】

Director General: Imperial Prince Akishino-no-miya

Honorary Chairman: Yohei Kawano (Nippon Bonsai Association Chairman)

Honorary Executive Committee Office Chairman: Hayato Shimizu (Saitama City Mayor)

Honorary Advisor: Kiyoshi Ueda (Saitama Prefectural Governor)

Convention Chairman: Jiro Fukuda (World Bonsai Friendship Federation Chairman, Nippon Bonsai Association Chairman)

【Cosponsor】

Saitama City

【Support】

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries / Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry / The Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Agency for Cultural Affairs / Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport / Japan Tourism Agency / Saitama Prefect. / NHK / Television Saitama / Saitama Shimbun

【Cooperation】

Kawaguchi City, Saitama Prefecture / Hanyu City, Saitama Prefecture / Takamatsu City, Kagawa Prefecture / Kanuma city, Tochigi prefecture

【Target Participants】

World Bonsai Convention: 1,200 participants (international bonsai fans)

Japan Bonsai Suiseki SHIHO-TEN: 20,000 participants

【Executive Office】

The 8th World Bonsai Convention, SAITAMA CITY Executive Committee

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