



CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JOHN DARGLE, JR., DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Contact: Jeff Baudry
(414) 257-4575
Jeffrey.baudry@milwaukeecountywi.gov

For Immediate Release:

Free Bonsai Society Exhibit at Boerner Botanical Gardens

Milwaukee (Sept. 2, 2015) – Ted Matson, a bonsai master from California, will headline the 45th Annual Bonsai Exhibit of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society Sept. 18–20 at the Boerner Botanical Gardens. The Botanical Gardens, “Milwaukee County’s Living Museum,” is located at 9400 Boerner Drive in Whitnall Park.

“In Japanese ‘bon’ is tree and ‘sai’ is pot, so bonsai—pronounced bone sai’—is the art of growing trees in a pot,” said Stephen Contney, Exhibit Chairman of the Milwaukee Bonsai Society. “Our members are excited to share their work, and we invite everyone in the community to come out to see and learn about this form of living sculpture.”

Last year, nearly 2000 people attended the event to see intricately pruned trees ranging in age from several weeks to several hundred years.

The opening reception, formal exhibit, Saturday’s demonstration, and the vendor area are free. General exhibit hours are Saturday from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. –3 p.m.

Friday from 6-9 p.m., the opening reception will include Matson’s critique of Milwaukee Bonsai Society members’ best trees.

Saturday from 1-5 p.m., Matson will offer a free demonstration. He will work with 11 trident maple trees in one pot, creating a forest-style bonsai.

Matson is also offering three workshops, limited to six participants each. Fees range from \$85 to \$210.

-more-

ADDRESS
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-3560

PHONE / FAX
ph: **414 / 257 PARK** (7275)
fax: 414 / 257 6466



EMAIL
parks@milwcnty.com

WEBSITE
countyparks.com

Root Over Rock Shimpaku is a course for intermediate to advanced levels, Saturday from 9 a.m. –12:30 p.m. Matson will guide participants in the initial styling of junipers that have been growing for several years and have clasped the rocks.

Twisted Pomegranate is a course for novice or beginning levels, Sunday from 9 a.m. –12:30 p.m. Matson will guide participants in working with this tropical tree whose bark twists as it matures.

Bring Your Own Material is a course for students of all levels who will bring their own trees and supplies, Sunday from 1–4 p.m. Matson will talk with participants and guide them in ways to transform a tree with a new, unique style or ways to allow the tree to advance along its current path.

Raffles will be conducted throughout the event, and an auction of Matson's demonstration bonsai will take place at a banquet Saturday evening. Registration for the banquet is required by Sept. 11.

For more information or to register for the workshops or banquet, visit the Milwaukee Bonsai Society website at <http://www.milwaukeebonsai.org/ae/>.

###