



# NORTH AMERICAN JAPANESE GARDEN ASSOCIATION

## **PURPOSE**

The sustainability of the Japanese gardens in North America.

## **VISION**

To ensure the enduring value and social impact of Japanese gardens in North America for generations to come, NAJGA will promote their continued development through the horticulture, human culture and business culture within the diverse and growing field of Japanese gardens in Canada and the US through:

- Information sharing and networking opportunities
- Professional training and development
- Public education, conferences and symposia
- Research and scholarly activity
- Advocacy and public relations

## **BACKGROUND**

The formation of NAJGA was made possible by an initiative supported by the Japan Foundation's Center for Global Partnership and the US Japan Foundation. This collaborative effort, spearheaded by the Portland Japanese Garden and the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden at California State University, Long Beach included representatives of ten leading gardens. Meeting first at the Phoenix Japanese Garden in the winter of 2010 and later at the Japanese Garden at the Denver Botanic Garden, this leadership group consulted on issues of mutual concern and identified key operating principles. Regional meetings throughout the US and Canada as well as meetings in Japan involved more than 200 participants who contributed to the organizational plan for the association. The NAJGA board represents the diversity of the field.

## **KEY OPERATING PRINCIPALS:**

- To acknowledge the diversity of the field that includes professional public garden managers, gardeners, designers, contractors, independent business owners, academics, students, cultural arts practitioners and individuals affiliated with public gardens including board members or others with a passion for the art form.
- To appreciate the essential grassroots nature of the field through a decentralized organizational approach that recognizes regional requirements.
- To respect existing North American perspectives while fostering greater connectivity and exchange with Japanese expertise through an affiliation with our Japanese Consortium Partners.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership includes a variety of benefits including access to events and discounts on conferences, a member directory, and the NAJGA E-newsletter. Membership is open to all, see NAJGA Membership to join, contact [info@najga.org](mailto:info@najga.org) for more information.