

Potomac Bonsai Festival

May 3, 4, & 5, 2013

Free Walk-in Demonstrations

Friday

Refinement of Bonsai

Friday, May 3; 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Bonsai expert Jim Sullivan leads this interactive discussion and demonstration dealing with refinement techniques to use on starter material that is ready for shaping and training. Free. Museum Lecture Demonstration Center.

All about Podocarpus

Friday, May 3; 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Learn the ins and outs of *Podocarpus* from bonsai artist Martha Meehan, co-founder of Meehan's Miniatures. Observe and ask questions as she works on both young and old stock of this popular tropical tree. Free. Visitor Center Auditorium.

Saturday

Harry Hirao Demonstration

Saturday, May 4; 9:00 am – 11:30 am

This is a rare opportunity to see this revered bonsai master at work. Harry Hirao, known as "Mr. California Juniper," seldom travels outside his home state of California, so don't miss this event as he demonstrates the vision and techniques needed to improve the overall condition of a mature juniper. See [Bonsai Festival Guest Instructors](#) for more information on Mr. Hirao. Free. Visitor Center Auditorium.

Bonsai around the World

Saturday, May 4; 1:00-2:30 pm

See bonsai from around the world at this illustrated presentation by Solita Rosade, who has traveled and photographed extensively as ambassador for the World Bonsai Friendship Federation. Free. Museum Lecture Demonstration Center.

Field Grown Bonsai

Saturday, May 4; 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Bonsai artist, teacher, and grower Chase Rosade conducts a demonstration on field-grown bonsai stock and discusses the advantages of choosing this material for bonsai over regular nursery stock or wild-collected material. Free. Visitor Center Auditorium.

Wild-collected Bonsai

Saturday, May 4; 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Wild-collected material, such as rocky mountain juniper or ponderosa pine, presents unique challenges and opportunities. Learn techniques for using this type of material from bonsai expert and proprietor of Nature's Way Nursery, Jim Doyle. Free. Visitor Center Auditorium.

Sunday

Creating a Forest Bonsai

Sunday, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Creating a forest bonsai requires special planning and techniques. See the step by step process as bonsai artist Chris Baker creates a forest bonsai on a slab, demonstrating all steps including preparation of the slab and trees, anchoring, styling, and planting. Free. Visitor Center Auditorium.

Deadwood Carving Techniques

Sunday, May 5; 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Deadwood carving on bonsai enhances the illusion of age and improves the aesthetics of the tree. Bonsai artist Steven Miller will demonstrate deadwood carving techniques and share information on tools and terminology. Free. Visitor Center Auditorium.