

The symbolism of Ikebana

- Ikebana is deeply associated with the philosophy of the Japanese and their way of life.
- Ikebana arrangements are not unlike sculpture. Considerations of color, line, form, and function guide the construction of a work. The resulting forms are varied and unexpected, and can range widely in terms of size and composition, from a piece made from a single flower to one that incorporates several different flowers, branches, and other natural objects.
- In Japanese culture, most native flowers, plants, and trees are embedded with symbolic meaning and are associated with certain seasons, so in traditional ikebana, both symbolism and seasonality have always been prioritized in developing arrangements.

Samples of Jkebana



Ohara: Moribana -piled up flowers



Ikenobo: Vertical Line



Sogetsu: Freestyle

The History

- Introduced in Japan in the 6th century
- Chinese Buddhist missionaries: offering flowers to the Buddha
- Formalized version: Muromachi period (15-16th century)
- <u>Ikenobō</u>: Japan's first school of flower arrangement in Japan (Rokkaku-do temple in Kyoto)
- Ikenobo family were head priests
- Founded by <u>Ono no Imoko</u> in the early 7th century



IKEBANA CHAPTERS

- Ikebana International
- Since 1957: 165 Chapters in 60 countries worldwide
- Motto: "Friendship Through Flowers"

New York (#7) * North Carolina (#74) * Hawaii (#56) *

Facts

- 3000 schools of Ikebana
- Japanese samurais practiced doing Ikebana
- Has been part of school curriculums
- Influenced by Buddhists ideals of minimalism







Now we are going to make a flower arrangement...

Instructions:

Each row of (5) will receive the supplies

Warning: Be careful with the vase

and scissors

Enjoy the session!

Get inspired ...

66 IKEBANA IS NOT JUST ABOUT STICKING A FLOWER INTO A VASE: IT IS ABOUT THE LOVE AND NEED OF THE ARTIST TO CREATE BEAUTIFUL FORMS . . . IKEBANA IS NOT JUST ABOUT FLOWERS, IT IS ABOUT THE PERSON WHO ARRANGES THEM. **9

- Sofu Teshigahara, Founder of Sogetsu School

Comprehension game

https://create.kahoot.it/login



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