



### **Living Sculpture: Longwood Gardens Welcomes the Magic of Bonsai**

There is a distinct magic in witnessing the grandeur of nature captured in a single, potted masterpiece. This summer, that magic takes center stage at one of the country's premier horticultural destinations. From June 24 through June 29, Longwood Gardens will host its highly anticipated Bonsai Festival: a six-day celebration designed for master artists, passionate enthusiasts, and curious newcomers alike.

Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or simply appreciate the patience required to shape living history, this year's festival promises a look into the soul of this remarkable Asian art form.

#### **A Mid-Atlantic Masterpiece**

Step into the breathtaking Exhibition Hall, Main Conservatory and Bonsai Courtyard; you'll find yourself wandering through a forest of miniature trees. The centerpiece of the festival is a juried exhibition featuring beautiful specimen bonsai. Handpicked from six of the Mid-Atlantic region's bonsai clubs, these living sculptures represent decades—sometimes centuries—of meticulous care, patience, and artistic vision.

#### **Learn from the Masters**

For those looking to deepen their understanding of the craft, the festival transforms into a hub of education and inspiration from Friday through Sunday. A powerhouse lineup of internationally acclaimed professional bonsai artists will host engaging demonstrations and lectures, sharing their insights on styling, wiring, and the philosophy behind the art.

Attendees will have the rare opportunity to learn directly from industry icons, including:

Sergio Cuan, Owen Reich, Sean Smith, Bill Valavanis, Jim Doyle, Bob Mahler, & Chase Rosade.

From absolute beginners wondering where to make their first snip, to advanced growers looking to refine their technique, these sessions offer priceless insights from the best in the business.

### **Vendor Fair**

Beyond the lectures, make sure to browse the festival's curated marketplace. Leading vendors will offer everything from starter trees and handmade ceramic pots to specialized tools that will help you kickstart or elevate your own bonsai journey.

### **Live Auction of Outstanding Bonsai**

The crown jewel of the six-day festival takes place on Saturday evening with a special, curated live auction. This is a truly unmissable event for collectors, featuring significant, specimen trees sourced from the finest collections on the East Coast—including The Kennett Collection, the permanent collection of Longwood Gardens, and the personal collection of legendary artist Wm. N. Valavanis.

### **Saturday Evening Itinerary**

6:00 PM Cocktail Reception – Mingle with artists, collectors, and fellow enthusiasts over drinks and live music.

7:00 PM Live Auction – Raise your paddle for a chance to own a piece of living history.

### **Plan Your Visit**

Whether you come for the high-stakes thrill of the Saturday night auction, the wisdom of the weekend lectures, or simply a quiet weekday stroll through the stunning conservatory displays, the Longwood Gardens Bonsai Festival is the ultimate celebration of harmony between humanity and nature.

Mark your calendars for June 24–29, and prepare to see nature through a beautifully focused lens.