



Way of Maple

The Art & Science of Aesthetic Pruning



Aesthetic
Pruning
of
Ornamental
Trees
~
Japanese
Garden
Pruning
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Lectures
~
Classes
~
Design

What is Aesthetic Pruning?

Aesthetic Pruning is the art of revealing the essence of the natural beauty of a tree. We, as the pruner, help the tree to reveal itself and enhance its character. This journey is based on horticultural knowledge. There are many different ways to prune aesthetically. Pruning can be done based on:

- the overall context of the garden, house and space. For example, if there is a tree, there must be a garden; if there is a garden, there must be a house; if there is a house, there must be space; perhaps there are also neighbors, a large building, or other adjacent scenery.
- the location of a tree, the sun, shade, soil type, and age of a tree.
- the role of a tree in a garden, e.g. as a focal point, a backdrop, or between them as a transition.
- what a client desires, e.g. some may favor the thickness of a tree or some other aspect of a tree that they like.

Yuki Nara, Founder of Way of Maple, says that although working with and learning from trees is a life long endeavor, she is still learning from each tree she works on. She would like to share the knowledge and experience she has gained over the years from her teachers, the trees and the wisdom of everyone who visits Wayofmaple.com.

Yuki believes that when trees can receive better care and attention, we can all be happier including the trees themselves. Furthermore, she simply believes that if we, as a humanity, become happier, that happiness will expand like a ripple to our families, friends and neighbors.

Her mission is to bring to the world an awareness that each person is enabled to live through the harmony and blessings of nature and to hopefully inspire gratitude for the animals, the plants and all forms of life.

About Yuki Nara

Yuki Nara is an Aesthetic Pruner. She studied with Dennis Makishima who was the first to introduce the art of Aesthetic Pruning in the United States. Yuki currently teaches at Merritt College in Oakland, CA and has been an instructor of Aesthetic Pruning for all levels from beginner to professional. Aside from teaching, she's also been a presenter at various symposiums, lectures, classes and workshops on the subject of Aesthetic Pruning.

Yuki's work is highly intuitive and her teaching style is open hearted. She believes that the integration of a philosophy, technique, and a heartfelt connection to the spirit of a tree is essential to the successful practice of Aesthetic Pruning and ultimate satisfaction of client, pruner and tree.

Yuki has presented at various symposiums, lectures and workshops including:

- San Diego Japanese Garden Pruning Symposium, 2004
- Annual Aesthetic Pruning Symposium, Oakland CA, 2003
- The International Maple Society Conference, 2003
- Annual Aesthetic Pruning Symposium, Oakland CA, 2002
- Garden Festival, San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 2002

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For more information,
please contact:

Yuki Nara
510.527.8817
Wayofmaple.com