

N.Y. J.A.C.L SCHEDULES GARDEN TOUR
Fund-raiser for Redress and J.A.C.L.

On Saturday, May 14, 1988, from 10a.m. to 5p.m., the New York chapter of J.A.C.L. will conduct a tour of six Westchester County gardens, designed by Kaneji Domoto, landscape architect.

This will be a rare opportunity to view these private residential gardens located in Scarsdale, Harrison and Mamaroneck, N.Y. Each exhibits Domoto's distinctive use of stone sculpture, waterfalls, sweeping gravel areas that combine with plant material and trees. Swimming pools blend into the natural form of the landscape design. For two of the gardens, situated on Long Island Sound, Domoto received the American Institute of Landscape Architect's Design Recognition Award.

"I love the use of stones above all other materials," Domoto says. "I use only 'live' stones - hard granite stones with interesting grains. When these stones are wet, they become alive with a sparkle and a song."

Domoto acquired the knowledge of shrubs, trees and plants from his father, a pioneer nurseryman who established the business before the turn of the century and developed it into one of largest in the West. At an early age, Kan learned to propagate, identify and grow both domestic and imported flowers and shrubs. Later, he studied landscaping at the University of California at Berkeley, then he apprenticed at the Japanese Pavillion in San Francisco and the New York World Fairs in 1938 and 1939.

While in New York, his boyhood interest in architecture was rekindled with acceptance into Frank Lloyd Wright's home and apprenticeship school, Taliesin, in Wisconsin and Arizona. He studied with Wright for one year before returning home to California.

World War II and Executive Order #9066 interrupted Domoto's career. The U.S. government evacuated Domoto and members of his family to the Granada Relocation Center, Amache, Colorado, where they were interned for two to three years. Afterwards, Domoto resettled in New Rochelle, N.Y. and joined area architectural firms.

In the late 1940s, Domoto worked on Wright's largest cooperative, Usonia Homes in Pleasantville, N.Y., designing and supervising the construction of five homes there. As "an afterthought," he created landscaping harmonious with his houses.

"I like to believe there is logic, reason, beauty and serenity in them," says Domoto, who has built 27 other residences.

But Domoto, 75, has become celebrated most of all for his landscape designs. His credits include more than 20 commercial projects: Schulman Corporate Park, White Plains, N.Y.; shopping centers in several U.S. cities; and Ronin Gallery in Manhattan. His work graces four colleges, including Dartmouth College, and eight parks, museums and animal habitats including the seal pools at Mystic Aquarium, CT.; the penguin pen at the New York Aquarium, Brooklyn; the Japanese Gardens at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens in Albertson, N.Y.; Jackson Park, Chicago; and the University of California, Berkeley.

After several years, Domoto's landscaping designs for the owners of the famous Caribbean La Samana hotel on the French side of St. Martin is nearing completion.

An author and lecturer on "The Art of Bonsai and the Japanese Garden," Domoto has appeared before garden clubs, nurseries and festivals throughout the states and taught at the N.Y. Institute of Technology.

Domoto's 14-year, annual bonsai lecture and demonstration with D. Hill Nurseries in Dundee, Illinois illustrates his long-standing commitment to the art.

The first president of the Eden Township chapter of the J.A.C.L., Domoto will be present at the garden tour.

The initial meeting of the New York Chapter J.A.C.L. Garden Tour Committee was held on Saturday, March 26, 1988 at the house of Chair Sarah Sogi in Elmsford, N.Y. The 11 members responded enthusiastically to Ms. Sogi's luncheon and program presentation. Six sub-committees were then formed and chairpersons named. They are Vi and Gene Takahashi, Hostessing; Dr. Sumi Koide, Tickets; Yuri Tsukada, Publicity; John Kiyasu, Signs; Harry Isokane, Transportation; Kan Domoto, Parking Permits.

There is a Call for Volunteers, especially from Westchester County Asians, to participate in this imperative social issue, fund-raiser, and cultural occasion. The rain date of this May 14th event is May 15th.

For Information, please contact Sarah Sogi, [redacted] and Kaneji Domoto, [redacted]

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On Saturday, May 14, 1988, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, the New York chapter, J.A.C.L will conduct a tour of six Westchester county gardens designed and personally supervised by Kaneji Domoto, landscape architect/architect. Rain date - May 15, 1988.

This truly will be a rare opportunity to view these selected residential gardens located in Scarsdale, Harrison and Mamaroneck. Each is distinctive in Domoto's use of stone sculpture, waterfalls, sweeping gravel areas, and of plant material and trees. Swimming pools blend into the natural form of landscaping design. Two of the gardens situated in Long Island Sound are among the American Institute of Landscape Architect's Design Recognition Awards presented to Domoto. He says, "I love the use of stones above all other materials -- I use only 'live' stones, ~~hard~~ granite stones with interesting grains. When these stones are wet, they become alive with a sparkle and a song."

Domoto acquired the knowledge of shrubs, trees and plants from his father, a pioneer nurseryman, who had established the business before the turn of the century and developed it into one of the largest nurseries in the West. At an early age, Kan learned to propagate, identify and grow both domestic and imported flowers and shrubs. He was ^{studying} landscaping at U.C., Berkeley when he availed himself of the apprentice experience at the Japanese Pavillion in San Francisco and New York World Fair in 1938 and 1939.

While in the East, his boyhood interest in architecture was rekindled with acceptance into Frank Lloyd Wright's home and apprenticeship school, Taliesin. He studied for one year before returning home to California.

World War II and the Executive Order #9066 once more interrupted Domoto's career with evacuation and two years internment in the Granada Relocation Center, Amache, Colorado. He resettled in New Rochelle, N.Y. and was employed as an architect in the area architectural firms.

In the late 1940's, Domoto worked on Wright's largest cooperative, Usonia Houses in Pleasantville, N.Y., designing and supervising the construction of five homes on this site. As "an afterthought", he created a landscape for these homes which were in harmony with his houses. He has built 27 other residences and says, "I like to believe there is logic, reason, beauty and serenity in them."

Since concentrating almost solely on landscape architecture, he has to his credit over 20 commercial projects, e.g.; Schulman Corporate Park, White Plains, NY; Shopping centers in several U.S. cities and Ronin Gallery, N.Y.C. His work is visible at four colleges, including Dartmouth, and eight parks/museums, including Seal Pools at Mystic Aquarium, Connecticut; the Japanese Gardens at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens in Albertson, N.Y.; Penguin Pen at the N.Y. Aquarium, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Jackson Park, Chicago and the University of California, Berkeley.

Domoto is 75 years old, still active and nearing completion of a garden on the French side of ~~of~~ St. Martins, in the Caribbean Sea.

As an author and lecturer on the subject of "The Art of Bonsai and the Japanese Garden", he has appeared before garden clubs, nurseries and festivals throughout the States and taught at the N.Y. Institute of Technology. Domoto's 14 year annual bonsai lecture and demonstration illustrates his long-standing relationship with D. Hill Nurseries in Illinois. The first President of the Eden Township chapter of the J.A.C.L., Domoto will be present at the garden tour.

The initial meeting of the Garden Tour Committee was held on Saturday, March 26, 1988 at the house of Chairperson Sarah Sogi, in Elmsford, N.Y. The eleven members responded enthusiastically to Ms. Sogi's luncheon and program presentation. Six committees were formed and chairpersons named: Vi and Gene Takahashi, Hostessing; Dr. Sumi Koide, Tickets; Yuri Tsukada, Publicity; John Kiyasu, Signs; Kan Domoto, Parking^{Permits}; Harry Isokane, Transportation. ^{is}There is a call for Volunteers, especially from the Westchester County Asians, to participate in this imperative social issue fundraiser, which is also an artistic cultural event.

For Information, the contact persons are Sarah Sogi, [redacted] and Kaneji Domoto, [redacted]