

NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB

January 2024

NFBC Bonsai Events

- January 7th Guest Artist Workshop @ 9am
 - All Day BYOT(s) workshop with Guest Artist Andrew Giles
 - Spots for 6-10 Participants
 - Cost \$80-130 depending on number of participants
- January 8th NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - Guest Artist Andrew Giles
 - Demo on Nebari Building and "Ebihara" Techniques
- January 20th Soil Mixing @ 10am
 - This event will include a Swap and Shop. Please bring anything you want to sell or trade.
 - Soil will also be available to purchase at the event
- February 12th NFBC Meeting @ 7pm
 - We are gauging interest in holding our Club styling competition.
 - If we get at least 3 interested parties we will secure material to hold the competition.
 - Conversations about various seasonal topics and Q&A



One of Andrew Giles trees. Andrew will be NFBC's guest speaker for the January 2024 meeting. We have organized multiple opportunities for everyone to learn from Andrew on January 7th and 8th.

Florida Bonsai Events

- Kawa's Joy of Bonsai Show
 - February 2-4th 2024
 - Registration now open
 - See Kawabonsai.com for details
- Epcot Flower and Garden 2024
 - Submission deadline is December 31st
- Midwest Bonsai Central Show
 - St. Louis Missouri
 - May 3rd-5th

January Workshop

NFBC is very excited to be hosting guest artist Andrew Giles in January. Andrew is an artist from Spring Hill, FL and runs New World Bonsai. Andrew has recently done presentations for the Sho Fu and Suncoast bonsai societies and we are lucky to be able to have him present for us.

There are three opportunities to work with Andrew during his time here and I welcome everyone to take advantage of the opportunities that we have lined up.

If you have any questions or want to sign up for the workshop or one-on-one opportunities please contact Josh at joshuareubenbrown1@yahoo.com.



Workshop

Andrew will lead a full-day bring your tree(s) workshop. Participants are asked to bring a couple trees to work on for the event. Given the time of year Andrew will be focused on root work and root development techniques but is willing to expand into whatever seasonally appropriate work participants might want to cover.

Date: Sunday January 7th

Time: Tentatively 9am-5pm with break for lunch

Number of Participants: 6-10

(6 seats already reserved)

Cost: \$80-130 depending on number of participants

Location: Event to be held at Josh's Garden



One on one

Andrew has availability Monday before our club meeting to conduct a ½ day session with the first interested club member. This is a very special chance for someone to have Andrew tour their garden and work individually on whatever needs to be done. I think you will be amazed at how much you can learn in a 1-

on-1 session and I would highly encourage anyone who is interested to speak up because we only have one spot available.

Date: Monday January 8th (Morning/Afternoon)

Time & Cost: TBD but it should cost approx. \$400 for a ½ day session.

Location: Your Garden

Demo

Last but not least, Andrew will conclude his NFBC tour with a presentation for the entire club as part of our regularly scheduled meeting. He will demonstrate some of his successful root development techniques and answer member's questions.

Date: Monday January 8th @ 7pm

Location: Mandarin Garden Club

Cost: Members will be free and visitors will be \$10.

Guest Speaker Biography

Andrew Giles is the owner of New World Bonsai, founded in 2013. He spent most of his youth in a suburb of Tampa tree climbing, exploring nature, and plundering the treasures of the soon to be developed orange groves. In college he serendipitously worked on a tree farm that also had bonsai and was soon struck by the art. He admittedly killed more trees in those first years than his college tuition cost and hopes to help others avoid this same learning approach.



In 2018 Andrew began his tutelage with Boon Manakitivipart a renowned bonsai teacher and practitioner. Boon carries the spirit of his great teacher Kihachiro Kamiya, the genius who stands alone in winning first place in every major bonsai category available to a Japanese professional. Boon's methods adhere to first principles thinking, practicing from the best, and cultivating his students into autodidacts.

Andrew is a self styled forever student and is excited to continue building his farm near Spring Hill Florida with the pursuit of making top level bonsai one day. Only things

you are strongly emotionally connected to will you take care of for the rest of your life. As we are jettisoning toward a technological future, Andrew hopes to connect more with the natural. What discoveries remain hidden in the humble world of trees and what might we yet learn about of ourselves with these sublime companions?

Soil Mixing Event

Our next soil mixing spectacular is scheduled for Saturday January 20th at 10:00am. We will meet at Mike's house in Middleburg.



The weather should be beautiful and with the sifters Mike made it is easy on your back. If history is any indicator, we should be able to make all the buckets in less than 2hrs if we get good participation. That will give us more than enough time to see Mike's collection and socialize and grab a team lunch for anyone interested.

For those able to make it we are encouraging everyone to bring trees to sell/trade at the event. It is a great chance to swap and shop material.

We hope to see you at there and remember to return any empty buckets and lids. That helps us keep costs down and continue offering soil for sale.

Joy of Bonsai

Registration is still available for Joy of Bonsai in February 2024!

The event is being held at Schley's Bonsai once again this year. If you have not been before this is a fantastic opportunity to combine a trip to a great bonsai nursery along with a wonderful event.

The event includes everything you would expect from a bonsai exhibition with demo's, workshops, vendors, and an exhibit of high quality trees. The admission price is incredibly reasonable at only \$10 for the day or \$15 for a weekend.

I look forward to seeing you there.

JOY OF BONSAI 2024 SCHEDULE	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3	
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Exhibit & Vendor Setup
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Exhibit Judging & Awards
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Potluck, Hors d'Oeuvres, Light Buffet
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Exhibit Opens
	Exhibit Critique - Sean Smith
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4	
8:00 AM	Registration Opens
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Workshop 1 - Sean Smith Multi-Size Bonsai Display Table
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Demo 1 - Jeanne Cosenza Kusumono/Kokedama
11:00 AM	BSF District 6 Styling Competition
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Workshop 2 - Sean Smith Shimpaku Juniper
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Workshop 3 - Jeanne Cosenza Kusumono/Kokedama
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Live Auction
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5	
8:00 AM	Registration Opens
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Workshop 4 - Sean Smith Bonsai Root Stand (Dremel Needed)
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Demo 2 - TBA
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Workshop 5 - Sean Smith Bring Your Own Tree
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Demo 3 - Multi-Person Round Table Open to all registrants. 1st and 2nd prizes will be awarded. Winners must agree to doing a demo at Joy of Bonsai 2025. All trees will be entered in the live auction
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Live Auction

December Meeting

Our annual holiday celebration was fantastic. The tree decorating contest is always a crowd pleaser and we were fortunate to be able to have a big potluck again this year. There was a little something for everyone and it brought joy to our hearts and stomachs.



Seasonal Advice

January is normally our coldest month and a quiet month for bonsai. With cooler weather, water needs will diminish and trees should be watched to prevent the roots from staying too wet.

Tropical Trees - We shouldn't be doing any work on tropical trees. Our primary goal this month is protecting trees as temperatures drop below 45 for our most sensitive species (i.e., buttonwood, black olive, etc.) or the low 40's for other tropical trees. A frozen tropical tree will sustain serious damage that is sometimes fatal.

Deciduous Trees - These species need a winter dormancy period to remain healthy. Once deciduous trees have gone fully dormant it is a good time to do structural pruning since you can see the full winter silhouette and identify potential areas for improvement.

Conifers and Broadleaf Evergreen Trees – These species need a winter dormancy period to remain healthy. It is also time to begin preparing for repotting. Make sure you have the pots, soil, tools, you need once the repotting window begins later in the month.

Bonsai Classifieds

If you have something you are interested in buying/selling please send contact information for inclusion in future newsletters.

NFBC Membership

- Membership is \$36 for the year
- Visitors are always welcome at meetings and events

Soil

- The cost is \$25 for a five gallon bucket.

Trees & Supplies

- Josh has bonsai and pre-bonsai available. Please contact him at joshuareubenbrown1@yahoo.com for information.
- Ryan has broken ground on Komorebi bonsai garden. Please contact him at Ryan.L.Northrup@gmail.com to buy, sell, or get more information.
- AncientCityBonsai is coming soon to St. Augustine with a projected opening in late January



NEW WORLD
BONSAI

Meeting History

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January		Pesticides, fungicides and fertilizers	Juniper	Styling Competition	Guest Artist Jeanne Cosenza	Guest Artist Andrew Giles
February		Repotting	Root over Rock	Wiring	BYOT	Styling Competition
March	Convention Prep	Guest artist Adam Lavigne	Azalea	Guest Speaker David Cutchin	Azalea	
April	Guest artist Adam Lavigne	Azalea	General care basics	Convention Prep	Tree Documentation	
May	Ficus Propagation	Ficus Styling	Air Layering	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	Mame size	
June	Red Maple	Buttonwood	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	Black Pine	Ficus & NFBC Club trees	
July	Beginner Workshop	Beginner Workshop	Black Pine	Summer Maintenance	BYOT	
August	Wiring	Beginner Workshop	Guest Speaker David Cutchin	Air Layering	Beginner Workshop	
September	Find the Front	Guest Speaker Reggie Perdue	Beginner Workshop	Guest Speaker Robert Kempinski	Beginner Workshop	
October	Dia de Los Muertos	Help trees recover	Bring your favorite tree	Beginner Workshop	NFBC Club tree & BYOT	
November	Styling Competition	Winter Prep	Pot Selection	Styling Competition	Juniper Trim & Thin	
December	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	Holiday Party	

NFBC Officers

Tristan Kincaid	President
Bruce Washington	Treasurer
Jami Kincaid	Secretary
Joel Reforma	Website
Josh Brown	Newsletter
Joe Stumpf	BSF Board Member