



NCAR Advocate Committee - Growing Membership Creating Dynamic Programs (CDP)

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*This document is provided to NCAR chapters by the NCAR Advocate Growing Membership Committee.
We hope you find this information helpful.*

Happy Planning!



NCAR Advocate Committee - Growing Membership Creating Dynamic Programs (CDP)

Things to think about when developing programs

1. “Edutaining” programs make lasting impressions.
2. “Friendship through flowers” is developed through social interaction as well as shared common interests.
3. Variety is the spice of life - and ikebana programs.
4. A well prepared and organized meeting increases the value of attendance and participation.
5. Workshops are opportunities to develop and learn ikebana skills and apply them to the principles of the member’s specific school of study.

Ideas for Programs with Workshops

All day “ikebana summer camp” - Annual event

Objective: Members share a day of creativity and fun, socializing with their ikebana friends. Casual – members bring only a container, support system and hasami. All materials and lunch provided.

- a. Morning – creative project like making a basket or creating a structure out of cut chopsticks, etc.
- b. Box lunch break
- c. Afternoon – create an arrangement incorporating the morning project

Floral Focus (Education + Workshop)

Objective: Members gain floral knowledge that will assist them when choosing material.

- a. Presentation on a specific flower using copies of Ikebana Magazine for a reference, including examples of arrangements. Include growing conditions, conditioning hints, longevity of flower for exhibit, etc.
- b. Create arrangements with the flower that is the focus for the day.
- c. Note: This workshop is not exclusive to flowers as it could include bamboo, a specific landscape plant, tree, etc.

Container Exchange (Education + Workshop)

Objective: Members experiment with the challenge of a new container and share what they learned. The owner of the container may see it with fresh eyes and gain new ideas for future use.



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- a. Every member brings an unusual container (and kenzan, if needed) to lend for the day. Containers are numbered and displayed.
- b. Members draw numbers to determine which container they will use to create an arrangement.

“Ikebana Rocks” (I.I. Denver idea) (Workshop)

Objective: Members are challenged to consider an inanimate object as a design element in ikebana.

- a. Several members chosen to demonstrate and talk about the process they have taken to incorporate a rock(s) as a design element.
- b. Workshop: Members create an arrangement using a rock(s).

Haiku for inspiration (Cultural education + Workshop)

Objective: Members are introduced to a Japanese poetry form and challenged to create a non-literal interpretation.

- a. Introduction to Haiku, via member or perhaps a YouTube video
- b. Demonstration of a couple arrangements interpreting a haiku
- c. Members given many haiku examples so they can choose one to interpret with an arrangement.

The Colors of Japan (Cultural education + Workshop)

Objective: Members gain insight to the cultural use of color in Japan.

- a. Introduction of the meaning of a specific color in Japanese culture
- b. Provide floral material in the chosen color for members to utilize in an arrangement.
- c. Reference: *The Colors of Japan*, Author: Sadao Hibi

Festival Arrangement (Cultural education + Workshop)

Objective: Members gain insight on Japanese festivals and are challenged to create an arrangement representing the celebration.

- a. Choose one Japanese festival to introduce with video or oral presentation
- b. Members create arrangements to commemorate the festival.



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Renka: (Sogetsu theme, artists “link” their arrangements with a common “thread” – floral material, container, color, etc.)

Objective: Arrangers are challenged to link their arrangements while staying true to the style of their ikebana school. Collaborative experience. Demonstration with three or four representatives of different schools (demo and possible workshop)

- a. First demonstrator creates a freestyle ikebana
- b. Second demonstrator chooses an element from the first arrangement and incorporates it in their arrangement
- c. Third and then fourth do the same, in their turn
- d. Discuss arrangements and the overlap of an element.
- e. Workshop can then be done with groups of three or four members.

Interpreting artwork with an arrangement (Art principles + Workshop)

Objective: Members study line, space and focal point in a piece of art and interpret these art principles in an arrangement. A good workshop prior to participating in an “art in bloom” type event.

- a. Show examples of previous Art in Bloom arrangements
- b. Provide several choices of artwork or have members choose a piece of art to interpret

Using music as an inspiration (Cultural + Workshop)

Objective: Incorporate another sense to inspire an ikebana arrangement.

- a. Choose music – (Perhaps something from the opera *Madame Butterfly*? Provide a translation of the song from the libretto as well as providing the music)
- b. Members create an arrangement with inspiration from the music and have an opportunity to explain the same.

Holiday arrangements (Culture + Workshop)

Objective: Acquire information on a specific Japanese holiday(s) and utilize typical materials used for these celebrations in an ikebana arrangement

- a. Present information on the holidays and perhaps a short demonstration by an assigned chapter member.
- b. Members create arrangements to represent the specific holiday.



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Chabana (Culture + Workshop)

Objective: Understand the connection of chabana with the Japanese tea ceremony

- a. Present information on the tea ceremony as well as specific information on chabana
- b. Reference: *The Art of Chabana*. Author: Henry Mittwer
- c. Workshop: Create a chabana arrangement with material collected that day. Members may be provided with material or directed to collect material that morning.
- d. Depending on availability, this topic could be divided into two parts with a tea ceremony demonstration and a chabana workshop.

Specific container (Workshop)

Objective: Members gain experience with a different type of container

- a. Designate a specific container type for the workshop
 - a) Non-traditional container
 - b) Self-made container
 - c) Mingei (Japanese folkcraft) container
 - d) Origami container
 - e) Glass container
 - f) Lacquerware or bento box
 - g) Gourds
 - h) Basket
 - i) Bamboo
 - j) Etc.
- b. Members share information on using the designated container successfully. Type of material, support system, etc.

Morimono (Culture + Workshop)

Objective: Members are challenged to create an arrangement using fruit and/or vegetables and flowers.

- a. Provide information and examples of morimono via demonstration and/or photos
- b. Reference: *Ikebana, Fruits & Vegetables* Author: Toshie Yokoi
- c. Good program to include a segment/demo of Mukimono, the art of decorative garnishing



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Ikebana Challenge (Workshop)

Objective: Members enjoy a challenge to think outside of the box and enjoy using their creativity

- a. Provide a container, kenzan and floral material in a shopping bag – the same for each participant
- b. Members are given a time frame, but it is not important who finishes first
- c. Like the “Iron Chef” competition, you could include a surprise ingredient that must be used!
- d. Like the TV cooking challenges, this activity can be fun and creative – and will likely generate lots of laughter!

Arranging using recyclables (Workshop)

Objective: Members use their ingenuity and creativity to recognize all the possibilities for recyclable material

- a. Provide recyclable materials and floral material.
- b. Members given full rein to combine in whatever way they would like, even using a recyclable as a container
- c. Suggestions for recyclables
 - a) Vegetable mesh bags
 - b) Milk container
 - c) Box
 - d) Paper plates
 - e) Cups
 - f) Egg crate
 - g) Take-out containers
 - h) Bags
 - i) Plasticware
 - j) Etc.

Wabi Sabi, or other chosen aesthetic term (Culture + Workshop)

Objective: Members express the emotion of an aesthetic term in an arrangement.

- a. Definition and examples of arrangements expressing the aesthetic term
- b. Reference: *Wabi Sabi Style*, Author: James and Sandra Crowley
- c. Good program to pair with Mingei (see specific container ideas in #13)



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Leaf Manipulation (Workshop)

Objective: Recognize the creative techniques to maximize the potential of green materials.

- a. Demonstration of several techniques
- b. References: *Leaf Manipulation*, Author: Gail Emmons
The Poetry of Leaves, Author: Norman Sparnon
- c. Supply material for members
 - a) Aspidistra
 - b) New Zealand flax
 - c) Monstera
 - d) Horsetail
 - e) Palms
 - f) Etc.

Ikebana School styles (Culture + Workshop)

Objective: Members learn more about the different schools, philosophies and arranging styles

- a. Recruit teachers of different schools to demonstrate
- b. Each school uses the same variety of material
- c. Teachers discuss the arrangement and style
- d. Workshop: Members arrange in the style of one chosen school.