

New *Yasuragi* Display Now Open at The Leaf

For immediate release: Winnipeg, September 13, 2024 – The biomes at The Leaf re-opened this morning after a scheduled closure during which the Babs Asper Display House was transformed with a serene new fall display.

Yasuragi: The Gardens of Japan, which runs from September 13 to November 17, presents a harmonious blend of nature, history, and artistry, featuring signature elements of traditional Japanese garden design. The word *yasuragi* translates to the deep, calming breath of relaxation, a reflection of the display's tranquil and soothing atmosphere.

“The *Yasuragi* display is a loving tribute to Japanese garden design, which is renowned around the world and celebrated for its artistry, minimalist philosophy, and stunning simplicity,” said Gerald Dieleman, Senior Director of Horticulture, Assiniboine Park Conservancy. “We are very excited about this display and look forward to sharing it with Leaf visitors.”

The *Yasuragi* display was designed in consultation with the Japanese Cultural Association of Manitoba and Bonsai Society of Winnipeg. Each detail – from the vibrant chrysanthemums to the contrasting green and red shades around the Torii gate – was carefully considered and thoughtfully incorporated into display.

At the centre of the display lies the Zen Garden, with its precisely placed boulders, sand, gravel, and rocks that mimic the patterns of nature. A dry river is home to brass cranes that mirror the 1,000 delicate origami cranes suspended along the windows of The Leaf's Grande Allée.

Programs, workshops, and other experiences offered at The Leaf through the run of the display will explore the art of ikebana, the teas of Japan, and other aspects of Japanese culture. This includes a highly-anticipated foodie event on October 23 featuring Chef Edward Lam from Winnipeg's Yujiro Japanese Restaurant.

The biomes at The Leaf are open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. More information about visiting The Leaf can be found at assiniboinepark.ca.

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