

A Brief History of The Japanese Garden and The Cherry Blossom Festival



In The Beginning... Delaware Park

Delaware Park was designed by Fredrick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux in 1869, as part of our nation's first city-wide park and parkway system. The Park served as a naturalistic escape from urban congestion for the citizens of Buffalo. A City in a Park!



Kanazawa & Buffalo Become Sister Cities 1962

The Japanese Garden was proposed for 6 acres on the western end of Delaware Park, on the banks of Mirror Lake behind the History Museum. This was the site of the Pan-American Exposition in 1901. The Garden is completed in 1974.



Re-Designing The Garden

In 1994 The Japanese Garden was redesigned by Master Gardeners from Japan. A full garden restoration was completed in 2010 to deal with erosion control by installing bamboo posts on the hillsides and islands. A thousand new plantings were introduced.



The Friends of The Japanese Garden

The Friends of the Japanese Garden was organized to support this unusual garden by organizing work days, raising funds for maintenance and improvements, and arranging for gardener exchanges between Kanazawa and Buffalo. In 2012 The Japanese Garden became an Honorary International Peace Garden.



The Buffalo Cherry Blossom Festival – An Annual Celebration (est. 2014)

Activities at the Japanese Garden of Buffalo, including a Tea Ceremony, a Sakura Cocktail Party, Film Screenings, Tours, Music, picnics and more. All celebrating Spring and this beautiful Buffalo Treasure.