



Latin America Region Director's Report on 2024

for WBFF AGM 20 March 2025, Karjat,
India

Enrique Castaño
President of FELAB
Director of Latin American Region

Latin America is made of 17 countries with several clubs per country, We carry a meeting every two years. 2024 we had the meeting in Dominican Republic, with several artists from all over the globe. Sae Won Kim gave special recognition awards and several prizes to members of the region. The event was the first in this country and has started a new bonsai and suiseki museum led by Victor Liriano, which will promote the art of Bonsai and Suiseki to the region





Inaguration in Dominican Republic



Several events were carried out in Mexico, and has been quite active trying to get the involve more young people into the art.





Other events in Mexico were carried out in Chiapas in San cristobal de las casas.



Other events were tried to promote wild life and bonsai and suiseki in Mexico city, lead by Alfredo and Eunice in the art of suiseki



FELAB

FEDERACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA Y CARIBENA DE BONSAÍ



EXPO BONSAÍ

arte, cultura y biodiversidad
19, 20 y 21 de abril
Parque de las Esculturas, Cuautitlán Izcalli



In Argentina Sergio Luciani has been a great promoter of the art and several events had taken place there.

Since the end of the pandemic, Argentine bonsai has made a great effort to regain the volume of activities that associations and groups across the country have been building for a long time. The history of our bonsai is based on group work and interaction with society through exhibitions, mostly free to the public.

Most of the bonsai societies and groups in my country have been carrying out activities for many years - some for more than three decades - and the effort and progress in setting up to further improve the exhibitions is evident with each event.

This year was no exception:

SANTA FÉ

ARAKI BONSAI GAKKO SCHOOL, Rosario.

From Rosario, Santa Fé, Araki Bonsai Gakko organized the Bonsai Matsuri during the month of October at the Centro Cultural Estación Fisherton. This School directed by Damián Carlini also collaborated in the exhibition in Villa María, Córdoba.

(images 01 Araki and 02 Araki)





SANTA FE BONSAI GROWERS ASSOCIATION, Santa Fe. The Association had two major events this year: the Bonsai and Wine Night Show, and the Matsuri held by the Japanese Association of Santa Fe. (images 03 Aso San Bon, 04 Aso San Bon) LOCOS X EL BONSAÍ 10TH BONSAÍ SHOW, IN RECONQUISTA. Este grupo aglutina gente de la actividad en el Norte de Santa Fe, la ciudad de Reconquista y todos los pueblos de a los alrededores. (imágenes 05 locos x el bonsai)

SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO ALEJANDRO BONARDI During this year 2024, activities related to the dissemination of the art of Bonsai in the province of Santiago del Estero Capital and La Banda were able to be carried out. Cultural sites such as the Franciscan Complex and in different kindergartens, in adherence to the science and technology exhibitions. With a presentation at the fair of the Institute of Science and Robotics in the city of La Banda. In the space that has been there since the 16th and 17th centuries, we are able to offer workshops annually consecutively in spring. And it is a way to keep art alive in Santiago and occasionally we tend to coincide with traveling exhibitions to add bonsai as an exhibition. These events, such as the workshop and exhibition of specimens, trays and tool sets, contribute to sustaining the dissemination of art on an annual basis with talks and educational demonstrations applied to bonsai for the entire community. Keeping this fascinating art alive is our mission, in addition to collaborating with the cultural activities that keep the doors of the Museum of Sacred Art and the San Francisco Solano religious complex open in the capital of Santiago. (images 10 Alejandro Bonardi, 11 Alejandro Bonardi)



BUENOS AIRES

LA CASA DEL BONSAÍ

As every year, "The House of Bonsai" celebrates its annual Bonsai exhibition. With more than 20 years of experience, our nursery-school has been a pillar in the training of new bonsai artists and in the preservation of this art in Argentina. This work was started by the teacher Marta E. Capelli, who passed away in 2012 and today we continue her legacy. During the exhibition, unique specimens from students and invited bonsai artists are presented, reflecting our dedication and passion for this practice related to the cultivation of miniature trees. (images 12 the house of bonsai) ARGENTINE JAPANESE CULTURAL FOUNDATION The XX Edition of the Bonsai Matsuri 2024 Exhibition, held on November 16 and 17 at the Japanese Garden in Palermo, Buenos Aires, was a prominent event that brought together enthusiasts and lovers of the art of bonsai from various regions of the country, including Tandil, Córdoba, Concordia, Rosario and the province of Buenos Aires. During an unforgettable weekend, attendees enjoyed a unique exhibition that celebrated the beauty and



tradition of this discipline, strengthening cultural ties and promoting Japanese art in Argentina. Organized by the Argentine Japanese Cultural Foundation that manages our beautiful Japanese Garden and supervised by Bonsai Director Javier Maure The Bonsai Matsuri is an annual event that has been held for 20 years, bringing together leading professionals and amateurs of the art of bonsai. With participants from different cities, the festival offers a unique exhibition highlighting high-quality techniques and creations, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the tradition and beauty of this Japanese art. (images 13matsuri, 14 matsuri)



BONSAI FRIENDS On October 26 and 27 of this year, in the grounds of the Parque de las Naciones in the city of Oberá, Misiones, Argentina, the 24th Bonsai Exhibition was held, organized by the group "Misioneros Amigos del Bonsai", where more than sixty trees belonging to the collection of its members were presented to the public. (images 15 misiones friends, 15 misiones friends)



CÓRDOBA FRIENDS OF BONSAI AND NATIVE FLORA, Villa María Since 1994, this group of bonsai enthusiasts has been meeting every Tuesday permanently for 30 years, in places provided to us by the Municipality of Villa Maria, where we also hold our Exhibitions. The name of the group refers to the fact that they mostly work with native specimens from the center of our country. With this year's Expo, they completed 30 years of uninterrupted Exhibitions, group work, trips, exhibitions, and demonstrations with respect for others, valuing their qualities. (images 06 friends of bonsai and native flowers) EXPO IN GENERAL DEHEZA The city of General Deheza, located in the southern region of the province of



Córdoba, was the venue for an event that brought together bonsai lovers from all over the region. More than 100 trees, carefully cultivated and designed, delighted attendees with their beauty and complexity. The diversity of species and styles, along with the talks and demonstrations of cultivation techniques, made this event a unique experience to learn and connect with nature. The show was not only an exhibition, but also a space for exchange and learning, demonstrating that bonsai is much more than a simple hobby, it is a philosophy of life that invites patience, contemplation, encounter and respect for nature. (images 07 Deheza) ASOCIACIÓN BONSAI DEL CENTRO ARGENTINO, San Francisco. Since its founding in 2003, this group of enthusiasts meet every Saturday from March to November to give workshops. This year, the 20th edition of the Expo was held on November 30 and December 1. (images 08 San Francisco, 09 San Francisco)









MEXICO

Carried out several activities including a regional meeting in Chiapas were several artist carried out demonstrations, the event was open to the public for the southwest part of Mexico to participate



From Puerto Rico

Felab Report, Puerto Rico Chapter



ACTIVITY REPORT

Bonsai in the Tropics is led by Jose Orlando Rivera and has a large group of members who meet six times a year to offer follow-up workshops and socialize. In March of this year, Jose Orlando participated in the organization and logistics of the Felab Convention in the Dominican Republic, offering a demonstration and participating as an exhibitor.

Among other local activities, Bonsai en el Tropico holds two annual exhibitions, one in May and another in August at Plaza Centro Mall in Caguas, PR. In July, several members of Bonsai en el Tropico participated in the 7th National Bonsai Festival, an event that is visited by more than 4,000 people during the exhibition days.

In October of this year, Jose exhibited a shohin composition, one of the trees in his composition was awarded as the best shohin and as best of the show.

During the month of December, Bonsai in the Tropics offered a Christmas party to its members.
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Felab Report, Puerto Rico Chapter

BONSAI SHOHIN OF PUERTO RICO



ACTIVITY REPORT

Bonsai Shohin of Puerto Rico is led by master Carlos Morales, the club meets monthly and offers basic bonsai courses.

In July, Carlos Morales participated as a demonstrator in the 7th National Bonsai Festival and shared the stage with the great international masters Koji Hiramatsu and Sean Smith. He also participated in the exhibition with one of his trees. In August, he gave a talk to the Felab community at Bonsai al Dia through Facebook live and Zoom.

This year, during the month of October, the club offered an annual exhibition that was visited by around 2,000 people at the Jardín Selecto facilities. This event allows bonsai artists from different clubs to have the opportunity to exhibit their trees and participate in talks. The event included the participation of master bonsai artist Mike Lane who offered a talk and demonstration.

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FELAB

FEDERACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA Y CARIBENA DE BONSAÍ

El Municipio Autónomo de Trujillo Alto y la Federación de Bonsái de Puerto Rico les invitan al



7^{mo} festival NACIONAL de BONSAI
Trujillo Alto

19, 20 y 21 Julio 2024 Coliseo Rubén Zayas Montañez



Exhibiciones, Charlas, Artesanías, Sorteos y Mucho Más...

¡Ven y comparte en familia de la Exhibición más GRANDE de Bonsái en Puerto Rico!

Horarios:

Viernes y Sábado de 9am a 8pm Domingo de 9am a 6pm

¡Entrada libre de costo!



Felab Report, Puerto Rico Chapter



SAN JUAN AND MAYAGUEZ CHAPTER

The Puerto Rico Bonsai Club is one of the oldest clubs on the island and has two chapters. One in San Juan led by Ines Rivera and another in Mayaguez led by Lidia Pares.

Both clubs have large memberships, meet monthly and offer bonsai courses.

Both chapters hold annual exhibitions. This year, the Mayaguez chapter held two exhibitions at the Mayaguez Mall. In addition, its members participated in the exhibitions held by the Shohin Bonsai Club of PR, the 7th National Bonsai Festival, and other groups that held other exhibitions. As an initiative to interest those younger groups, the club offered a well-attended talk at the University of Puerto Rico's Mayaguez campus.

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Felab Report, Puerto Rico Chapter



Jade Bonsái

ACTIVITY REPORT

Jade Bonsai is led by Yanira Hoyos.

With the aim of continuing to promote the art of bonsai, Jade Bonsai offered monthly bonsai courses at the Rio Piedras Botanical Garden, where families and people with functional diversity participated. We also created a group to offer them follow-up workshops. In March 2024, we participated in the Felab Convention in the Dominican Republic.

On July 19, 20 and 21 I had the opportunity to participate in the 7th National Bonsai Festival as a speaker alongside the great masters Koji Hiramatsu from Japan and Sean Smith from the USA and we exhibited a shohin and a kifu composition.

On September 18, we offered a talk to the Felab community through Bonsai al Día on Zoom and Facebook live with the topic "Visual intelligence and the perception of art". From October 3rd to 5th, we participated in the Bonsai Shohin of Puerto Rico exhibition with a composition and in November we gave a talk to 42 children from an elementary school from 1st grade to 4th.

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Felab 2024
República Dominicana 🇩🇪





ACTIVITY REPORT

The Bonsai Club of Carolina was founded in 1988 and has been an important pillar in the preservation and practice of this ancient art on the island. Over the years, it has had the participation of numerous enthusiasts, many of whom are older people who, although no longer actively practicing, have left an invaluable legacy of knowledge and love for bonsai. In an effort to revitalize the club and ensure its continuity, the current board is implementing innovative strategies to attract new members, especially young people interested in the art of bonsai.



Enrique Castaño de la Serna
Director, Latin American Region
March 5 2025