

Bonsai Learning Center

Programs & Workshops



Our Final Season

For almost two decades the Bonsai Learning Center has served the needs of the bonsai community in the Southeastern US. That is why it is with mixed emotions we must announce that this year will be the last year for classes and workshops at the BLC.

Now that Nancy and I are officially senior citizens we have made the decision to buy ourselves a little bungalow on the sandy shores of sun drenched Florida and start enjoying our "golden years." Not that we haven't been enjoying the time we've spent with you, but let's face it.... You guys are a pretty high maintenance bunch and we have to scramble to keep you supplied with classes, plants, tools, pots and wire. For us old folks, the job gets tougher every year. It's always been our joy and pleasure to serve you and we appreciate the support and encouragement you have given us over the years, but now it's time for a change.

We have picked out a new home in Florida, but must sell the Charlotte property before we can make the move. We all know what the current housing market is like. So... we put it on the market and we wait for a buyer. A day, a week, a month or a year.

Our current plan calls for the BLC to remain OPEN through the end of June. We have scheduled classes and workshops through that time and plan to conduct business as usual. If nothing has happened "real estate" wise by the end of June, we will begin scheduling classes for the remainder of the year.

Nancy and I wish we could be more specific with you about our plans for the future, but sometimes you just have to wait and see how things shake out. So take a look at our class schedule for the first half of this year and join us for a session or two. Most especially plan on joining us for Open House this year. In addition to two great guest artists (see below) we are also planning some really special deals on our bonsai stuff.

Summertime Picnic & Open House

May 18 - 19 - 20

Special Guest Artist:

Ken Duncan & John Geanangel

If you were to list the best bonsai artists in the Carolinas on the fingers of one hand, Ken Duncan & John Geanangel from Columbia, S.C. would certainly make the list. The dynamic duo are consistent winners at the annual Carolina Bonsai Expo in Asheville as well as frequent program leaders and demonstrators for the Expo. Between them they have more than half a century of bonsai experience. We have always believed in featuring the "local" bonsai talent and this year we are able to make the services of two of the finest teachers and artists the Southeastern US has to offer. Messrs. Duncan and Geanangel will conduct one demonstration only, on Saturday, May 20, beginning at 1 p.m. This demonstration is free and open to the public. In addition, they will lead a special all day workshop on Friday May 18. Workshop details are listed below.



Open House Activities 2012



Special All Day Workshop

with Ken Duncan & John Geanangel

Subject: Japanese Black Pine

Friday,

May 18th 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fee: \$335

This is an all day workshop. If you are going to work with two of the best teachers the Carolinas has to offer then you should have outstanding material to work on. We've got it! The trees are three gallon specimens of Japanese Black Pine. All were hand picked by us specifically for this workshop. They have trunk diameters about the size of a quarter or better with excellent trunk movement and branch placement. All are "mikawa" cultivars. They will make an excellent addition to any collection. Although you will not be transplanting these pines, an unglazed imported container is included in the price. Morning and early afternoon will be spent working on the pines. The remainder of the day will be structured as an open workshop. You should feel free to bring material of your own choosing. A buffet luncheon will be provided. Registration is limited. Early registration is advised. Sorry, no observers.

Open House includes lots of other fun activities as well. First we have a great gushing of peach tea and lemonade backed up by all the hotdogs, chips, slaw, beans and chocolate cake you can suck down. Plus.... There will be a very special exhibition of our students bonsai along with selected other artists from around the region. And this year the savings on plants and bonsai merchandise in our inventory will be greater than every before.



Free Public Demonstrations Saturday

May 19 1 p.m.

Ken Duncan & John Geanangel

(Famous talents from south of the border)

"Shimpaku Juniper on a Rock"



Free Public Demonstrations Sunday

May 20 1 p.m.

Randy Clark (BLC Resident Artist)

"Learning How To See the Potential"

About The Center

The Bonsai Learning Center, located in Charlotte, North Carolina, is a full service bonsai nursery offering a wide variety of containers, tools, books, plant materials and supplies for the art of bonsai. In addition the Center offers a full curriculum of classes and workshops designed for students from beginner to advanced. The Center is owned and operated by Randy Clark, an internationally recognized bonsai artist, teacher and author. Mr. Clark has more than two decades of bonsai experience and has appeared as a lecturer and demonstrator for bonsai clubs and federations throughout the US and Europe. We invite you visit the Center and to participate in any of the classes and workshops offered each year. Whether you are a beginner looking for a good starting point or a practiced veteran of bonsai looking for ways to expand and enhance your talents... the Bonsai Learning Center can provide you with a very special learning experience. Please Join Us!

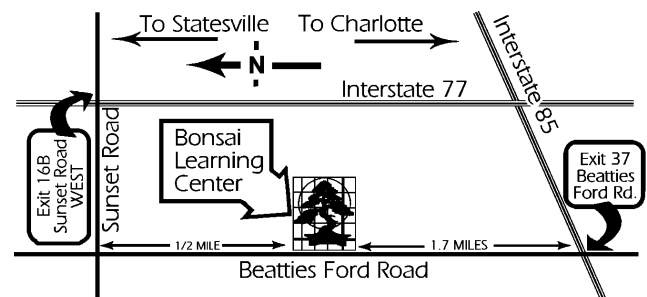
Enrollment - Cancellation Policy

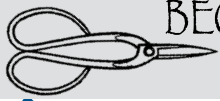
We endeavor to limit class sizes to 8 persons, but some classes may contain more. We also reserve the right to cancel classes with fewer than five participants and to refund or credit your deposit. We will NOT refund deposits from participants for cancellations which are received less than two weeks prior to the scheduled class date. Selection of plant material for any given class is based on a first registered, first pick basis. Early registration is advised.

Randy Clark
4416 Beatties Ford Road,
Charlotte, NC 28216
Phone: (704) 392-9244

HOURS:

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Other Times By Appointment





BEGINNER PROGRAMS



Beginner Basics - Bonsai 101

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fee: \$145

This is a one day learning experience designed to equip you with a basic understanding of the art of bonsai and with the skills necessary to get you started. The price of the course includes instruction, a full-color textbook, a container and a bonsai, which you will create during the class. The morning session will consist of lecture/demonstration. After lunch students will be given trees, pots, tools, wire and soil and will create their own bonsai under the guidance of the instructor. At the end of the day you will not only go home with a bonsai which you have created on your own, but more importantly, with enough information and "hands-on" experience to serve as a solid foundation for learning more. It is a Saturday class which begins promptly at 10 a.m. and will continue until about 5 p.m. It is offered twice during the year.

April 28 or June 23



Transplant Seminar

Saturday, March 17, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fee: \$55

This is like an open workshop, but is specifically focused on assisting you with potting and transplanting tasks. We have scheduled it early in the springtime just as plants are pushing their new growth for the season. It's an all day event and we invite you to bring as much material as you feel you can work on during the course of the day. As an added bonus our professional grade bonsai soil will be on sale this day at 20 percent off its regular price. Pack up your trees and come get your hands dirty with us.

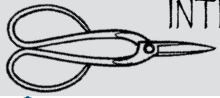


Open Workshops

Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fee: \$65

Open workshops are BYO tree events. It's an excellent way to work out styling problems... or to just spend a pleasant afternoon with friends. You bring the plants and we will supply the technical assistance and advice. Students at all levels are welcome. This workshop is offered two times this year and may be repeated.

April 7 or June 2



INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED PROGRAMS



Technique & Design Series

Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fee: \$225

Work sessions will be held on Sunday. This is a Study Group environment. The group will be kept small. You will work on your trees and on ours. You must bring plant material to each session. Specific areas of study will be determined by the needs of each individual in the group. You will work hard and learn much from this intensive program. If you are serious about improving your technical and artistic abilities in bonsai, this is the class for you. This is a series of five sessions, however, only three are being offered at this time for a fee of \$225 total. The two remaining sessions will be scheduled after June 30 and are not included in the fee above.

Dates are: March 25 - April 22 - June 3



Dawn Redwood Forest Planting Saturday & Sunday May 26 & 27, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fee: \$265

THIS IS A TWO DAY EVENT. You will build a forest planting (yose-ue) from the ground up using a variety of relatively young Dawn Redwoods. Saturday will be spent learning the principals behind the correct placement of trees into a forest grouping and in selecting and preparing each tree and the container. Sunday will be spent actually constructing the forest. Seven Dawn Redwoods (metasequoia) with trunk diameters varying from thumb sized to pencil will be planted into an oval, grey ceramic tray. Cost includes plants, container, soil and other supplies. Students need to bring their own tools and wire. This IS NOT a class for beginners. Only students with a year or more of experience should apply.



Korean Hornbeam Shohin Bonsai

Saturday, May 5, Noon to 4 p.m. Fee: \$125

Shohin is the Japanese term for bonsai which are 3 to 6 inches in height. For those with limited growing space, this is often an appealing size of bonsai, because large numbers can be kept in a small space. Because of their small size, certain styling and maintenance techniques are used which are different from regular bonsai cultivation. The Korean Hornbeams (*carpinus coriana*) we have selected specifically for this class are well established specimens. TWO trees are included in the cost of this class. One will be in a finished, glazed bonsai container and the other in a nursery container. Korean hornbeams are excellent subjects for bonsai with leaves about one third the size of our American hornbeam. They have spectacularly brilliant fall color.



Literati or Bunjin Bonsai Design

Saturday, April 21, Noon to 4 p.m. Fee: \$125

The slender trunks and delicate flowing lines of a Literati bonsai often suggest the graceful movement of a ballet dancer. It is a sophisticated approach to the art which can be seen in many old Chinese and Japanese scroll paintings. We were fortunate to obtain some interesting shimpaku junipers which have been pre-trained for styling as literati. Plant material and an imported ceramic container suitable for bunjin style bonsai is included in the cost.

How to register for a class



There are three ways to register for a class or workshop.

1. You may call us directly and we will take your registration over the phone. Our number is 704-392-9244. Class deposits may be charged to a Visa or Mastercard account.
2. You may drop us an e-mail letting us know which classes you wish to register for. Include your telephone number. We will call you back to obtain your credit card number. DO NOT send credit card information in an e-mail please. Our e-mail address is: randybonsai@carolina.rr.com
3. You may complete the form below and send it through the regular postal service. Be sure to include credit card information or a check for the deposit.

An advance, non-refundable deposit is required for each class you select. Balance for the class is due on the day of the class. Checks should be made payable to: Bonsai Learning Center. You may also charge fees to your VISA or MasterCard.

PLEASE NOTE: The selection of trees for any given workshop is based on a "first registered, first choice" system. We reserve the right to cancel classes with fewer than 5 students. It is therefore advisable to register as early as possible.

Number of students	Class & Dates		Deposit per Person	Total
	Bonsai Beginner Basics <small>circle one please</small>	APRIL JUNE	\$50	
	Technique & Design Series	(Mar. 25 - Apr. 22 - June 3)	\$50	
	Black Pine Workshop Open House with Ken Duncan & John Geanangel	(FRIDAY - May 18)	\$60	
	Transplant Seminar	(Mar. 17)	\$20	
	Open Workshops <small>circle choices</small>	Apr. 7 June 2	\$20 ea.	
	Redwood Forest Planting	(Sat. & Sun. May 26 & May 27)	\$50	
	Korean Hornbeam Shohin Bonsai	(May 5)	\$30	
	Literati/bunjin Bonsai	(April 21)	\$30	
TOTAL				

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

May we have your E-Mail address ?:

You May Charge Your Registration To Your Credit Card

Please send this registration form along with your deposit to: Bonsai Learning Center, 4416 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216.

Circle One:



Name on card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Amount of charge _____

VIN # (from signature area on card) _____

Signature: _____

Address to which bill is sent each month: _____

