



Groundbreaking for the Clark College Japanese Friendship Garden took place at the college's 2010 Sakura Festival. Dr. Chihiro Kanagawa of Shin-Etsu Chemical Co. Ltd., extended the offer to establish the garden and name it in honor of former Vancouver Mayor Royce E. Pollard

# Historic Gift at Clark College

## Japanese Friendship Garden dedication set

Clark College's 2012 Sakura Festival will honor a historic gift of friendship and beauty as the college hosts the dedication ceremony for the Royce E. Pollard Japanese Friendship Garden on Thursday, April 19 at 1 p.m. at the garden, which is located next to the music building on the Vancouver college's main campus at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way.

Dignitaries who are scheduled to attend include former Vancouver Mayor Royce Pollard; former Vancouver Mayor Bruce Hagensen; Vancouver Mayor Tim Leavitt; Takamichi Okabe, Consul General of Japan (Portland); and Tatsuo Ito, Executive Vice President of SEH America Inc.

The ceremony will include a koto performance

by Yukiko Vossen and a performance by the Clark College Women's Ensemble. The koto, a stringed musical instrument, is the national instrument of Japan.

Dr. Chihiro Kanagawa, chief executive officer of Shin-Etsu Chemical Co. Ltd., extended an offer to establish a Japanese friendship garden in the city of Vancouver. The city then honored Clark College by proposing that the garden be created on Clark's main campus near a grove of 100 Shirofugen cherry trees which were given to the city in honor of the 100th anniversary of Washington's statehood.

"Our predecessors had the vision to embrace the gift of those magnificent cherry trees, and we are all the beneficiaries of that legacy. We are proud to have the opportunity to embrace another historic gift which will be cherished across our community for generations to come," said Clark College President Robert K. Knight.

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