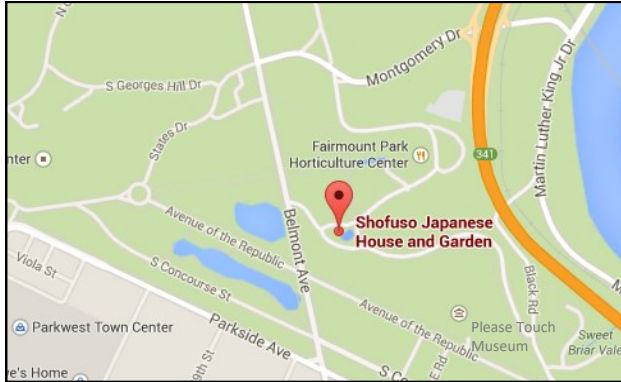


FUNDERS



DIRECTIONS



BY CAR

From I-76 Take exit 341/Montgomery Dr. from I-76/Schuylkill Expressway. Turn west on Montgomery Dr. and take the first left on Horticultural Dr. at the sign for the Horticulture Center and the Japanese House and Garden. Pass through the black iron gates and follow Horticultural Dr. around the greenhouses to Shofuso.

From Belmont Ave. Turn east on Montgomery Dr. toward the Schuylkill River. Take the first right on Horticultural Dr. at the sign for the Horticulture Center and the Japanese House and Garden. Pass through the black iron gates and follow Horticultural Dr. around the greenhouses to Shofuso.

BY SEPTA

Take the route 38 bus from Center City or the Wissahickon Transfer Station to the Please Touch Museum (PTM) stop at Memorial Hall Drive. Walk behind the PTM, turn left, and walk through the black iron gates to Shofuso or look for the Shofuso sign on Avenue of the Republic west of the PTM.

BY PHILLY PLASH— ridephillyplash.com

Take the purple Philly Plash shuttle from any pickup point in Center City or West Philadelphia to the Please Touch Museum. Walk behind the PTM, turn left, and walk through the black iron gates to Shofuso or look for the Shofuso sign on Avenue of the Republic west of the PTM.

Shofuso Japanese House and Garden is a traditional-style Japanese house and nationally-ranked garden in Philadelphia's West Fairmount Park that reflects the history of Japanese culture in Philadelphia from 1876 to present day.

Shofuso was built in Japan in 1953 using historic techniques and traditional materials. The house was exhibited in the courtyard at the Museum of Modern Art in New York and then moved to Philadelphia in 1958 to the site of several previous Japanese structures dating to the 1876 Centennial Exposition.

In 2007, internationally renowned artist Hiroshi Senju, inspired by our waterfall, created and donated the 20-panel *Waterfall* mural painting installation in our main rooms.

Shofuso was again named the third-ranked Japanese garden in North America by the Journal of Japanese Gardening in 2016, was listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places in 2013, and is a contributing structure to the Fairmount Park National Historic District since 1972.

Shofuso is administered by the **Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia**, a private nonprofit organization, that has administered, operated, funded, and preserved the city-owned site since 1982.

School, camp, and adult group tours
Summer camp | Adult and youth workshops
Public and private tea ceremony
Japanese tea lessons
Japanese dance classes
Language classes
Members-only events and activities
japanphilly.org

ADMISSION

In keeping with Japanese tradition, all visitors must remove their shoes to enter Shofuso.

Please bring a pair of socks if you're visiting the site.

\$12.00 Adults

\$8.00 Senior citizens, students w/ID,
and children ages 5-17

\$2.00 ACCESS cardholders

Free! JASGP members, active duty military w/ID,
and children under 5

HOURS

April through October

10 am—4 pm Wed—Fri

11 am—5 pm Sat & Sun

Closed Mon & Tues

Check our website for special holiday open hours.

INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS

Group tours available weekdays by appointment March through October. Contact tours@japanphilly.org

VISIT

Shofuso

Horticultural and Lansdowne Drs.

West Fairmount Park

Philadelphia, PA 19131

OFFICE

5070 Parkside Ave., #1404

Philadelphia, PA 19131



SHOFUSO
JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER

japanesehouse@japanphilly.org
215.878.5097 | japanphilly.org

ABOUT SHOFUSO



SHOFUSO
JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER

HISTORY OF SHOFUSO



Shofuso was conceived as part of an exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Designed by Junzo Yoshimura in 1953, the house was built in Nagoya, Japan, using traditional materials and

techniques. The house was part of "The House in the Museum Garden" series and was moved to Philadelphia at the exhibition's conclusion.

It was reassembled at the current site in 1958 with a garden designed by Tansai Sano, where there had been a continuous Japanese presence since the 1876 Centennial Exposition when the first Japanese garden in North America was installed behind a small Japanese bazaar.

From 1905 until a fire in 1955, the site was occupied by a gate from a Japanese Buddhist temple built in the early 14th century, which had originally been brought to the United States for the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, MO.



Timeline

- 1876 First Japanese garden in North America at Centennial Exposition.
- 1905-9 Installation of the Temple Gate with Lotus Pond garden.
- 1953-4 Shofuso built in Japan and exhibited in New York.
- 1957-8 Installation of Shofuso and garden in Philadelphia as first post-WW2 Japanese garden in North America.

THE GARDEN AND HISTORIC LANDSCAPE OF SHOFUSO

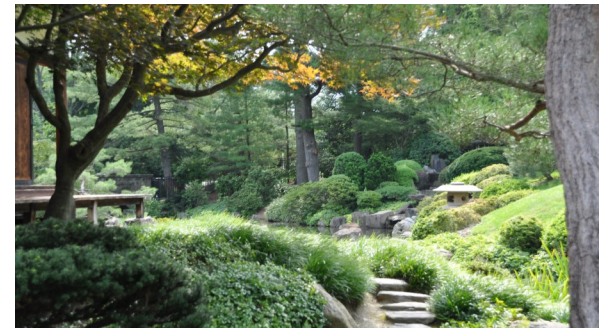


The garden around the Japanese House was designed by Tansai Sano to incorporate existing landscape elements into a 17th century-style garden comprising three different gardens on its 1.2 acre site: a hill and pond garden with island and waterfall; a tea garden, with a winding path for guests to approach the tea house; and a courtyard garden with rain chains in an urban style popularized in Kyoto after the great fire of 1788.

The main garden is designed in the style of a hill and Pond viewing garden, distinct from a strolling garden and intended to be viewed from the veranda and the main rooms. Garden sculpture includes a stone pagoda donated by the city of Kyoto, and a statue of Jizo, a Buddhist deity associated with the salvation of young children.



About 250 of the rocks decorating the garden were imported from Japan with the house to its first home in New York in 1954. In the pond reside more than thirty koi, brightly colored "brocaded carp" trained to come toward the board landing for feeding.



Traditional plants of Japan, such as bamboo, pine, hinoki cypress, and azalea are propagated in harmony with local species. Great care has been taken in the layout, landscaping, and cultivation of this garden in order to create in a limited space the impression of depth and great scale. The rocks, pond, and trees recall the mountains, streams, and forests of Japan. Shofuso is truly a piece of Japan brought to Philadelphia.

Shofuso's current garden was the first post-World War II Japanese Garden in North America. Shofuso reflects the history of Japanese culture in Philadelphia from the 1876 Centennial Exposition to the present day and is the embodiment of friendship between Japan and the United States.

Shofuso is the [Japanese] site with the greatest historical significance in North America, its building is the most authentic and striking Japanese structure outside Japan, and its garden is also first rate.

Kendall Brown, PhD, professor of Asian Art History, CA State University, Long Beach;
author, *Quiet Beauty: Japanese Gardens of North America*

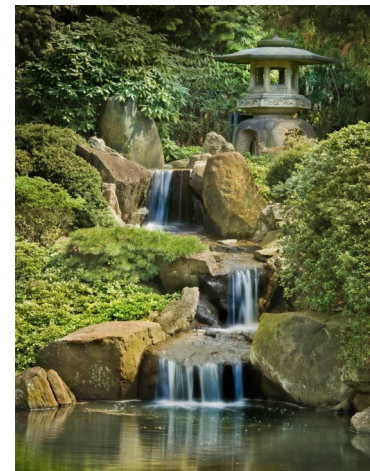
WATERFALL MURALS

In April 2007, revered contemporary Japanese artist Hiroshi Senju created installation of twenty murals for Shofuso. The murals, titled *Waterfall*, appear on the sliding paper doors and in the large alcove in the main rooms. The murals continue the Japanese practice of placing contemporary art in historic buildings.



Inspired by Shofuso's own waterfall, Senju said, "Waterfall is living energy." A waterfall demonstrates the passage of time as water rushes down while spray and mist rise.

Senju belongs to a movements of Japanese painting called *nihon-ga* (literally "Japanese painting").



Senju's technique combines pigments from natural materials – minerals, seashells, corals—in an acrylic medium applied to washi paper, made of mulberry fibers.

Senju calls the primary earthy gray color in this paintings the "Shofuso" color.