

The ABS Learning Seminar at Denver Botanic Gardens, June 2023 presented a lot of wonderful opportunities for bonsai enthusiasts to develop their skills as well as local RMBS members to lead workshops, presentations, volunteer, and participate.

Planning Team:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| David McPeters | Convention chair |
| Peter Parker (ABS) | Registration chair |
| Larry Jackel | Program chair and DBG liaison |
| Adam Johnson | Treasurer |
| Mike Britten | Vendor chair |
| Connie Garrett | Auction and Raffle chair |
| Patrick Allen | Co-chair of registrations desk, designer of bags, lanyards, bottles |
| Pat Deutschman | Co-coordinator of lobby desk, biographer, history exhibit |
| Kevyn Young | Social Media, webmaster |
| Lydia young | Social media, graphic design |
| Samantha Holm | Kusamono exhibit |
| Steve Burn | Event Planning chair |
| David Fletcher | Technology chair |
| Darrell Whitley | Stone show |

Workshop and Presentations: * RMBS members:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Todd Schlafer* | Dan Kingery * |
| Jennifer Price | Karen Harkaway |
| Kathy Shaner | Jim Doyle |
| Lou DeHerrera* | Lori Ann Levy-Holm |
| Scott Dressell-Martin | Kristy Majeske |
| Darrell Whitley* | Pete Parker |
| Linda Paul* | Mark Fields |
| Paul Koenning* | Darell Havener* |
| Larry Jackel* | Mike Britten* |
| Samantha Holm* | Mary Corruthers* |
| Hal Sasaki* | |

Volunteers:

Many thanks to our multiple volunteers who spent hours upon hours assisting in many ways from setting up the exhibits, helping to carry in vendor products, manning the front desk, taking photographs, assisting in workshops and presentations, collecting trees for workshop materials, submitting trees for exhibit and competition which all resulted in everything going smoothly!

RMBS members who won awards at the ABS Learning Seminar, June 2023

ABS Award of Merit: Adam Johnson

Best in show: Adam Johnson

Rocky Mountain Juniper

Photo: Dan Wiederreck



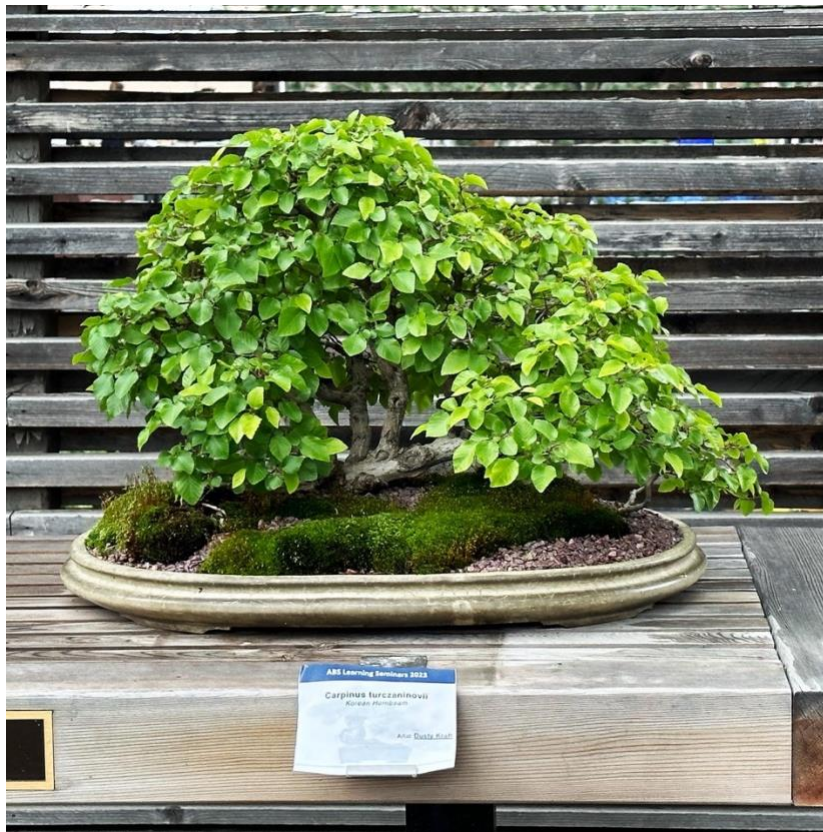
Best Conifer: Dusty Kraft

Ponderosa Pine

Photo: Dan Wiederrecht



Best Deciduous – Dusty Kraft



Korean hornbeam

Photo: Dan Wiederrecht

Best Tropical- Lou DeHerrera

Portulacaria

Photo: Stephen Lee



John Naka award – Dan Wiederrecht



The John Naka Award is given to a North American Bonsai Artist or hobbyist who exhibits the spirit of artistic design taught by Master John Y. Naka using native North American material as shown by one of their bonsai creations.

The Awards are given each year at the American Bonsai Society Learning Seminar/Convention

Lodgepole pine
Photo: Dan Wiederrecht

Korean Hornbeam
Photo: Dusty Kraft



ABS Learning Seminars 2023
Carpinus coreana
Korean Hornbeam
Artist: Dan Wiederrecht

Superfly New talent contest – Dave Regan



“Each contestant had between 9AM and 5 PM to work on their tree. Three appointed bonsai artists will judge the completed bonsai. The artist whose bonsai receives the highest number of Points will be the winner. The winner will receive \$1,000.00 towards the study with a bonsai professional of their choice. “

Congratulations Dave!

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| First Runner up: | Joshua Stewart (RMBS member) | \$500.00 |
| Second runner up: | Tim Luetkemeyer (RMBS member) | \$250.00 |

Best Kusamono – Samantha Holm



Honorable Mention: Mike Britten and Lindsay Stewart RMBS members

Workshops, Learning Seminars, Demos and Presentation

Photos: Dan Wiederrecht, Dusty Kraft, David Fletcher, Brant Hall



Traditional Forms: China and Japan















American Bonsai Society 2023 Learning Seminar Sponsors

Organizations

[Denver Botanic Gardens](#)

[American Bonsai Society](#)

[Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society](#)

Enthusiast

[The Krafting Home Team REALITYONEGROUP](#) – Owner Dusty Kraft, RMBS member

[Leiffa BRANDS](#) – Bart Hall RMBS member

Contributor

Larry Jackel – RMBS member and curator of the Denver Botanic Gardens bonsai collection

Mark Mills – RMBS member

Mark Fields – ABS past President

Joe Gravis – ABS Treasurer

City Floral

Pauline Ayersmenk – RMBS member

Basic

[Colorado Springs National Karate](#) – Owner David Kuntz, RMBS member

[The Purple Pot Society](#)- Samantha Holm, RMBS member

[Superfly Bonsai](#)

[Golden Arrow Bonsai](#) – Owner Andy Smith