



Hakone Foundation

P.O. Box 2324
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www.hakone.com

Mission:

Dedicated to conserve and enhance Hakone Estate and Gardens for the enjoyment and benefit of the public, to preserve its Japanese authenticity for the future, to promote a deeper understanding of Asian cultures, and to serve as a global forum.

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The Hakone Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) Not for Profit Corporation.
FEIN: 77-0054274

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Dear Hakone Supporter,

We value your interest and potential support in our Pond Renovation Project. We appreciate your understanding of the value of Hakone's role of culture, diversity, and education in the community.

The historic Hakone Estate and Gardens served as a private residence for the first 50 years of its existence, and for the last 52 years it has been a crown jewel as one of Saratoga's parks. The City and Foundation would like to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy this cultural beauty.

Hakone has become a destination for visitors from all over the globe; Hakone also serves as an event venue for private family events and business meetings and retreats. But most importantly, Hakone is a place for you to experience a wide variety of Japanese and Asian culture including: meditation, tai chi, karate, Urasenke tea ceremony, Omotesenke tea ceremony, Chinese Lunar New Year Festival, and the Hakone Matsuri. When you visit the gardens, you experience a sense of peace and tranquility in an authentic Japanese garden.

Since Hakone was originally designed as a private residence, the gardens offer a unique personal experience for everyone. However, the estate lacks many of the amenities to "welcome" our visitors. Additionally, our 100-year-old buildings and pond need to be renovated. In 2014, the city of Saratoga and the Hakone Foundation Board of Trustees agreed to hire The Portico Group to develop a Master Plan which would address these issues. Members of the community, city staff, and Hakone Board and staff, met, to define the scope of the project. The Master Plan was developed and unanimously approved by the Saratoga City Council and Hakone Foundation Board of Trustees.

The next step of this ambitious plan is fundraising. We are turning to you, one of our much-appreciated supporters, to help us by donating. In addition, would you please reach out to your family, friends, and associates about the importance of Hakone continuing to provide wonderful cultural events, activities, and experiences. Give future generations the opportunity to learn and experience the culture of another country right in their own backyard.

Thank you for your support of this historic and cultural gem.

Sincerely

Ann Waltonsmith
Chairperson-Hakone Foundation

Shozo Kagoshima
Executive Director