

Sharon Bristow Bio for Ikebana

Sharon Bristow was born in Utah and moved to Chula Vista when she was one year old. She currently resides in Poway and is married with one adult son, one dog, and her son's two cats. Sharon retired from the local court system, having worked there for 30 years.

Sharon's ikebana journey began in 2014 with her sister at the San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden with Sensei Yumi Rakers. Sharon has continuously studied at the garden with Sensei Rakers and has earned the Sogetsu School rank of Teacher's Diploma 2nd grade Sanyo. Sharon also studies with Sensei Kika Shibata through workshops offered in San Diego and Las Vegas. She enjoys traveling to ikebana demonstrations and workshops offered by other branches and master instructors from Headquarters and participating in Sogetsu and Ikebana International San Diego chapter special shows, exhibitions, and workshops. Sharon also participates in the San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden & Museum annual exhibition, Art Alive at the San Diego Museum of Art, and I.I.'s collaboration with the Japanese Friendship Garden Tokonoma arrangements. Sharon gives demonstrations and workshops to the public on request.

Sharon currently serves on the Board of Directors of Ikebana International San Diego Chapter #119 and Sogetsu School San Diego Branch and has enjoyed meeting and working with many wonderful members and guests and learning the various tasks that make these organizations successful.

Sharon is thankful to have ikebana in her life and giving her a deep appreciation of nature and the patience and perseverance necessary to create something one can be proud of. She is also thankful to her entire family for their support and for the friendships gained through the ikebana organizations. She is looking forward to going to Japan in 2027 for Sogetsu's 100th anniversary celebration and to continue her journey with Ikebana International and Sogetsu School. In her spare time, Sharon enjoys taking Sumi-e painting classes, reading, traveling, and walking with her dog, Buddy.