

# **IKEBANA**

## The Japanese Art of Flower Arranging Basics for guides @ Art in Bloom

This is intended to be a quick reference document. It is not a comprehensive teaching tool for this masterful art of floral arranging. There is more information here than a guide will need during in AIB tour. More is always available online.

- The Japanese art of flower arranging, dating back to 7<sup>th</sup> c.
- May look simple but very difficult to master!
  
- A few points about the approach:
  - Less is more
  - Negative space is important
  - Use Nature-at-hand /whatever is accessible and available right outside the door. Will typically see twigs and branches
  - Asymmetry with balance
  - Container is chosen carefully
  - A Water element – we SEE the water, rather than hide the water
  - high – middle – low “realms”
  - Shadows created on the table (pedestal) are considered also
  
- The Schools
  - Thousands worldwide and a few in Twin Cities area
  - Many variations of philosophy/approach/discipline from school to school
  - Disciplined, lifelong study
  - AIB pedestal labels indicate which metro school & number of years in training
  - For AIB participating schools, Masters / Instructors are involved with students here at Mia and make final approval and adjustments