



# *Ikebana*: The Art of Japanese Flower Arrangement

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*Ikebana*, the Japanese art of flower arrangement, literally means "bringing flowers to life." Rooted in early Shinto and Buddhist practices, *ikebana* developed into a distinctive art form that emphasizes balance, seasonality, and the relationship between humans and nature. This presentation introduces the history, aesthetics, and fundamental principles of *ikebana* through examples from three major schools represented in the Columbus area: Ikenobō, Ohara, and Sōgetsu. Through photographs and a live demonstration, the audience will learn how different approaches to flower arrangement express both shared traditions and distinctive artistic philosophies. The session will also explore how *ikebana* reflects broader cultural values, including attentiveness to nature, seasonality, and impermanence, that appear throughout East Asian literary and artistic traditions.

**September 16, 2026**

**12:45-2:05 pm**

**Mendenhall Lab 191**

**Register to attend  
this in-person talk.**



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST ASIAN STUDIES CENTER