

## **Press Release**

### **Ambassador Matsubara Hosts Foreign Minister's Commendation Ceremony for the Bonsai Society of Trinidad and Tobago**

On November 15, 2024, His Excellency Yutaka Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan, hosted a ceremony and reception to present the Foreign Minister's Commendation to the Bonsai Society of Trinidad and Tobago.

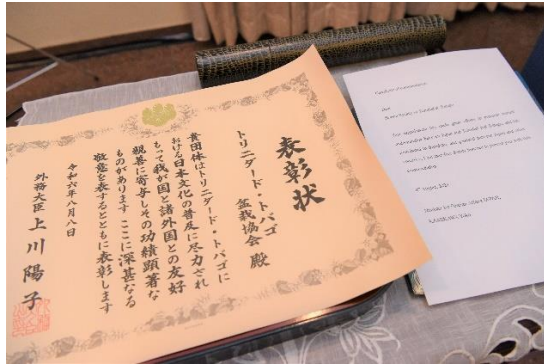
This commendation recognizes the Bonsai Society's outstanding contributions to promoting Japanese culture and the art of bonsai within Trinidad and Tobago. Since its establishment in 1993, the Bonsai Society has played a crucial role in fostering cultural exchange and enhancing the understanding of bonsai as a living art form.

In his welcome address, Ambassador Matsubara acknowledged the dedication of the Bonsai Society, who has made remarkable strides in promoting and disseminating bonsai culture throughout Trinidad and Tobago. He expressed gratitude for their efforts in strengthening the cultural ties between Japan and Trinidad and Tobago. He further proposed that the Bonsai Society collaborate with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to participate in the International Horticultural Green Expo 2027 in Yokohama, Japan.

Ms. Nyasha Akiibua-Granger, Director of the Horticultural Services Division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, gave congratulatory remarks on behalf of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to the Bonsai Society.

Mr. Peter Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad, and Tobago accepted the award on behalf of the Bonsai Society and expressed his thanks to the Government of Japan for their recognition of the efforts of the Bonsai Society.

The Foreign Minister's Commendations are awarded to individuals and groups with outstanding achievements in international fields, acknowledging their contributions to the promotion of friendship between Japan and its partners. This recognition aims to highlight the importance of cultural initiatives and encourage further collaboration between Japan and Trinidad and Tobago.



Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation.



H.E. Ambassador Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan gives his welcome and congratulatory remarks.



Ms. Nyasha Akiibua-Granger, Director of the Horticultural Services Division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, gives congratulatory remarks on behalf of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to the Bonsai Society.



H.E. Ambassador Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan presents the Foreign Minister's Commendation to Mr. Peter Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad and Tobago.



H.E Ambassador Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan presents the Foreign Minister's Commendation to Mr. Peter Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad and Tobago.



Mr. Peter Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad, and Tobago gives his remarks.



From left to right: Mrs. Matsubara, H.E Ambassador Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan, Ms. Dawn Atherton and Mr. Peter

H.E Ambassador Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan and Mr. Peter Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad, and Tobago, pose with the Foreign Minister's Commendation.



H.E Ambassador Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan and Mrs. Matsubara with the executives of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad and Tobago



H.E Ambassador Matsubara, Mrs. Matsubara, Ms. Nyasha Akiibua-Granger, Director of the Horticultural Services Division in the Ministry of

Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad, and Tobago.

Agriculture, Land and Fisheries and Mr. Peter Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad, and Tobago with members of the Bonsai Society.



From left to right: H.E Ambassador Matsubara, Ambassador of Japan, Ms. Nyasha Akiibua-Granger, Director of the Horticultural Services Division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries and Mr. Peter Lennard, President of the Bonsai Society of Trinidad, and Tobago.