


## NCAR Ikebana International Sensei Network Sensei Profile

Name:	Joe Rotella
Chapter/State/Time Zone:	<b>Central Ohio Shibui Study Group</b> ( <i>Founder/President</i> ), Columbus, Ohio, EST <b>Ikebana International #84</b> , Columbus, Ohio, EST <b>Miami Valley Ohara Chapter</b> ( <i>Past President</i> ), Ohio, EST <b>Southeastern Ohara Chapter</b> ( <i>Newsletter Editor</i> ), Southeast US, EST <b>Northern Ohara Chapter</b> ( <i>Social Media Manager</i> ), Northern Ohio, EST
School/Rank:	Ohara School of Ikebana, <b>3rd Term Master</b> MyFrame, <b>Certified Instructor</b>
Email:	<a href="mailto:JoeRotella@OharaIkebanaColumbus.com">JoeRotella@OharaIkebanaColumbus.com</a>
Virtual/In-person/Both:	Both
Travel for Demos and Workshops (Y/N):	Y
Kid/Youth programs (Y/N):	N
Additional Language:	
Social Media/Website(optional):	<a href="http://www.OharaIkebanaColumbus.com">http://www.OharaIkebanaColumbus.com</a>
Video example (optional):	<a href="#">Teaching and Demonstrating Playlist on YouTube</a>
Meet & Greet (Y/N) (optional):	Y
Recommended especially virtual sensei	
	<p>Joe Rotella is an Associate Second Term Master of the Ohara School of Ikebana who began his Ohara journey in 1993 after being deeply moved by an <a href="#">Ikebana International Chapter #84</a> exhibition at Franklin Park Conservatory. Since then, he has dedicated more than three decades to studying, teaching, and advancing Ohara-ryu across the United States.</p> <p>Joe is the founder and President of the <a href="#">Central Ohio Shibui Study Group</a> and President of the Miami Valley Ohara Chapter. He also serves as newsletter editor for the <a href="#">Southeastern U.S. Ohara Chapter</a>, social media manager for the Northern Ohio Ohara Chapter, and is an active member of <a href="#">NAOTA</a>, <a href="#">EOTA</a>, and <a href="#">Ikebana International Chapter #84</a>.</p> <p>In 2023, Joe partnered with the <a href="#">Yokoso Center</a> to offer classes in their cultural arts space, expanding access to Ohara Ikebana in Central Ohio. By 2024, he launched a twice-monthly class schedule, guiding students through Hana-isho, Moribana, and seasonal study. That same year, he was featured in <a href="#">614 Refined</a> magazine and received the <a href="#">Iwaya Fund</a> Innovation Challenge Grant for his contributions to Ikebana education.</p> <p>On November 1, 2024, Headmaster Hiroki Ohara formally authorized the establishment of the <a href="#">Central Ohio Shibui Study Group</a>, granting official status for the term spanning November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2026.</p>

Joe continues to study with [Kamo-sensei](#) (Kiyochi Kamo) and remains committed to sharing the evolving spirit, technique, and natural beauty of Ohara Ikebana through teaching, writing, and community leadership.





