

NCAR Sensei Network Sensei Profile

Name:	Karen Napoli
Chapter/State/Time Zone:	Rochester #53/New York/ ET
School/Rank:	Ichiyo/ Master
Email:	Ichijo.k.bana@gmail.com
Virtual/In-person/Both:	In person
Travel for Demos and Workshops (Y/N):	yes
Kid/Youth programs (Y/N):	yes
Additional Language:	no
Social Media/Website(optional):	https://www.facebook.com/IchivolkebanaOfRochester
Video example (optional):	Coming soon
Meet & Greet (Y/N) (optional):	Yes, email me for a time to chat.
Mentoring(Y/N):	no
 	<p>The first time we moved to Japan I had no intentions of playing with flowers, let alone studying a formal art. I was not a craft person, but I loved my gardens and nature. As life sometimes leads you down unexpected paths, I was invited to an Ikebana International Tokyo monthly meeting and had a wonderful experience.</p> <p>I joined I.I. in 1993 and was on the BOD for TFC or I.I. HQ the entire 10 years. My two most treasured and proud positions were being TFC's President and I.I. 9th World Convention Coordinator working with Mrs. Ikezawa. We lived 10 years there in two separate blocks of time, returning lastly in 2006. I joined the Rochester Chapter in 1996 and have continued to be on their BOD while living in Rochester.</p> <p>I began the study of Ichiyo Ikebana also in 1993. The character of the teachers and the gentleness and talent of Iemoto Akihiro Kasuya is where I found my comfort zone and inspiration to pursue this art form. I was blessed to study directly under Iemoto Akihiro Kasuya the last six years while in Tokyo.</p> <p>I think besides the calm that all ikebana brings to self is that the Ichiyo School highlights the person and their individualism. Once you go through a few courses learning line, space, balance, color etc. you are given more freedom for self-expression. You learn to create.</p> <p>I received my Master Certificate from Iemoto Akihiro Kasuya in August of 2012. We became an official Ichiyo Branch in Rochester that same year. I have been actively teaching in my home since 2007. I hold Tuesday morning and evening classes with students progressing at their own rate. Students may bring their own materials, or I supply for them. I also offer special themed classes on a few Saturdays for all students plus special outdoor arranging for teachers. Though classes are held at my home, we try and rotate the teachers to host the Saturday events so I am not the only one teaching. We also have annual exhibitions at the local library for all students. Usually about 25-30 arrangements with demos by all the teachers and sometimes small workshops.</p>