

ONE ART ONE HEART



bci &



Regional Convention

April 30 to May 2, 2023

Vigan City, Philippines

Hosted by the Philippines' biggest bonsai federation, the Bonsai and Suiseki Alliance of the Philippines, Inc. (BSAPI). Mark your calendars, as you will be immersed in cultural fusions and multi-artistic adventures, in a world-renowned historic city, Vigan City, a UNESCO World Heritage city and the new Seven Wonders of the World.



The convention coincides with the **Viva Vigan International Arts Festival**. Your valuable presence will enhance the artistic learnings of the convention delegates and at the same time enjoy the diverse multi-artistic approaches in: pottery, handicrafts, woven fabrics, culinary arts, dances, wardrobes, paintings, wood carvings, and more.

Filipino Fiesta

This grand convention will also coincide with the annual city fiesta, so expect a plethora of festive events—parades, street dances, concerts, fashion shows, beauty contests, street foods, fiesta, all in a COVID-free city.

And of course, witness an expansive display of more than 300 bonsai trees and world-class bonsai demonstrations by international artists. Over 400 suiseki will be basking in their glory as the province of Ilocos Sur (where Vigan City is located), is a “treasure trove” of viewing stones in the Philippines.

The tours are another story ([video and website links at \[www.bonsai-bci.com\]\(http://www.bonsai-bci.com\)](#)). Beaches, waterfalls, suiseki rivers, horse-drawn carriage rides (calesa), heritage buildings, and bonsai gardens, just to name a few.

We invite you to this once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of a meaningful and fun bonsai journey, amidst a grand Filipino Fiesta! See you soon!

Vigan Convention Center



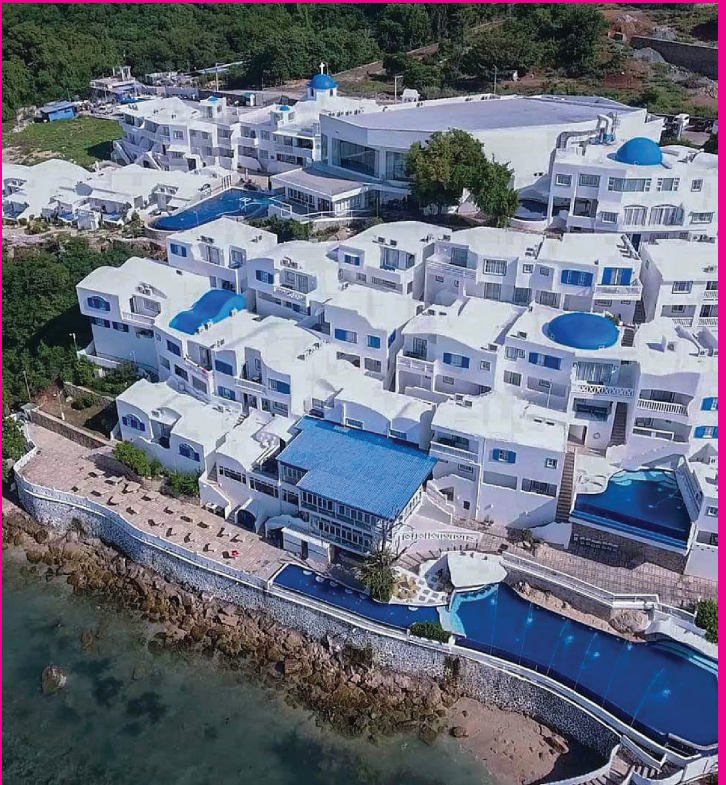
Cars for Guests



Hotel Luna

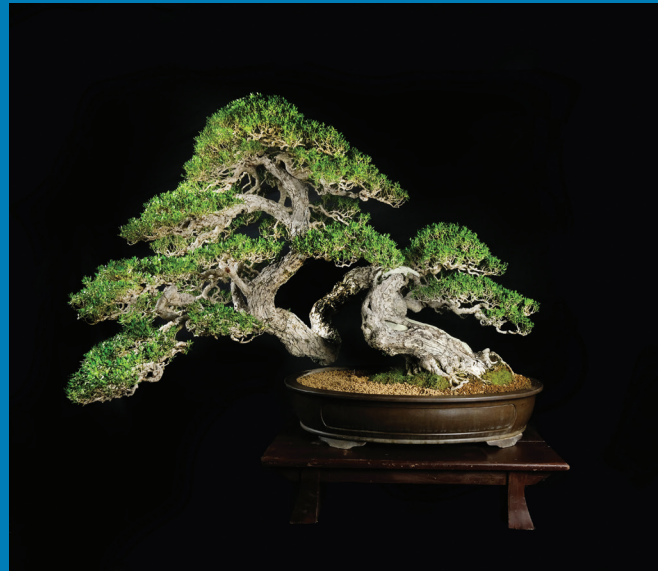


Vitalis Villa

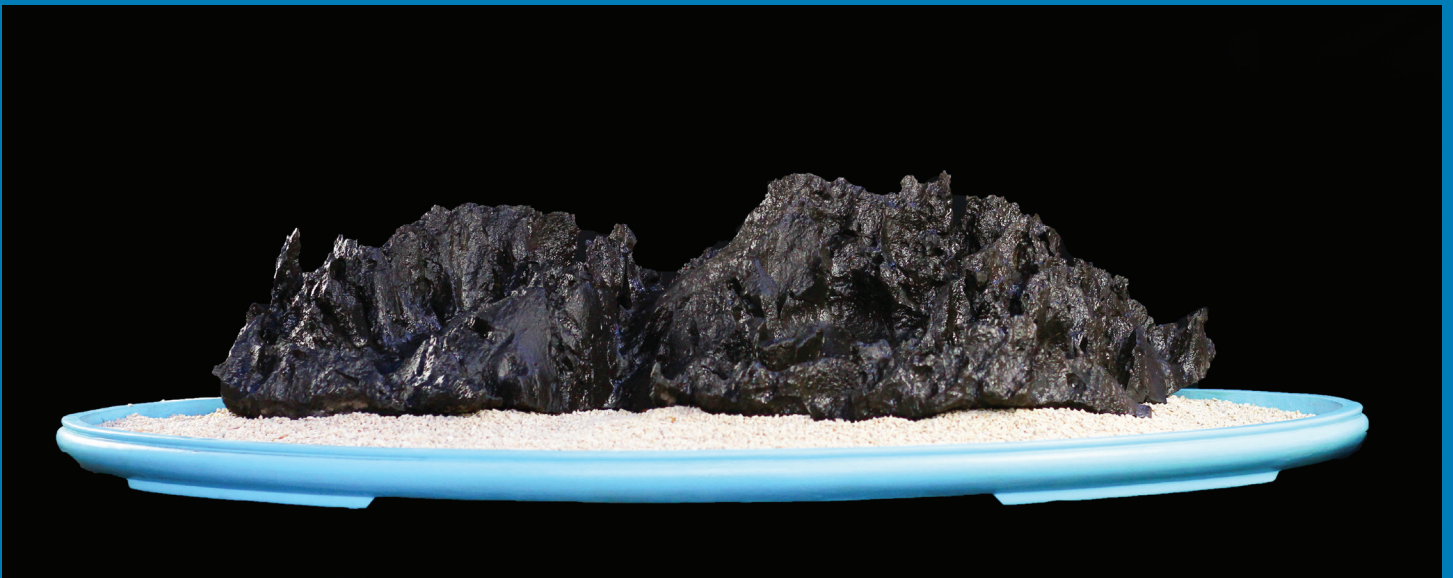
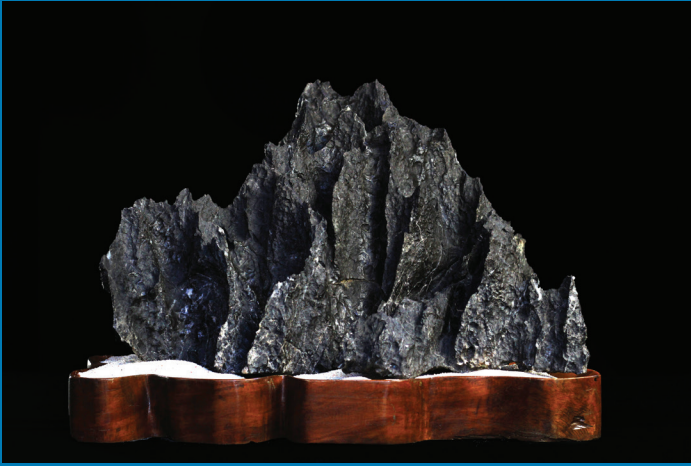
















Program

April 29		Arrival of Delegates with Accommodation at Night
April 30	8:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Registration and Judging
	1:00 PM	Opening Ceremony, Ribbon Cutting and Viewing of Entries
	6:00 PM	Welcome Party
May 1	8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	Demonstrations, Lectures, Calesa Tour to Pottery and Weaving
May 2	8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	Demonstrations, Lectures
	6:30 PM	Farewell Party and Awards Ceremony
May 3	Optional	City Tour and Fiesta Fun Activities with Parade
May 4	Optional	Stone Hunting Expedition and Ilocos Norte Tour



For more information, visit bonsai-bci.com home page

The bci 2023 convention preparations are now in full swing

Why Vigan?

Hmmm... let me count the ways.

- 1) It is UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage Site
- 2) It is among the New 7 Wonders in the World
- 3) It has adequate tourism facilities such as hotels, convention centers, and local transports
- 4) The local governments (city & province) are giving their all-out support
- 5) It has diverse tourist spots within and nearby: heritage city (1800s buildings), safari, themed beach resorts, indigenous arts & crafts, food fusion joints, gardens, desert (Ilocos sand dunes), waterfalls, mountains, suiseki rivers, and a lot more
- 6) It is the pottery center of the Philippines
- 7) It has tons of indigenous handwoven fabric industries
- 8) It is a zero-COVID city
- 9) It is a city with the lowest crime rate
- 10) Sunny climate all year round
- 11) It is endorsed by the most prominent bonsai organization in the Philippines, BSAPI (Bonsai & Suiseki Alliance of the Philippines, Inc.), with more than 95 affiliated clubs.

Whew! That was quite a pouring. BSAPI is now in a whirlwind effort to ensure that the upcoming 2023 BCI Convention will be a blockbuster. Mark your calendars for a never-before-experienced convention: April 29-May 03, 2023. The convention will coincide with the annual Viva Vigan Arts Festival. Prepare yourselves to be immersed in pottery making; weave fabrics of your own design; groove to street dancing parades; paint your art on a live carabao (water buffalo); indulge in culinary concoctions; shop till you drop at the trade fair; and of course, learn from the world-class masters' demonstrations/lectures and marvel at the largest bonsai & suiseki exhibition in the country.

The gargantuan and fully airconditioned Vigan Convention Center is ready to house all events under one roof: convention, bonsai show, suiseki show, selling booths, buffet area, organizing committee offices, travel agencies, money changers, and more.

Oh, did I tell you that your daily ride—hotel to the convention, local tours, shopping, errands—are calesas or local horse-drawn carriages? Some tourist roads are off-limits to motorized vehicles, and only calesas are allowed. Golf carts are reserved for delegates who are senior citizens and those with disabilities.

ONE ART, ONE HEART is the 2023 convention theme. **One art** is our shared passion for horticultural excellence, and **one heart** is our unity in advocacy and social responsibility.

See you all in Vigan City!

SUSAN LEE
President, BSAPI,
Director, BCI