

# KEIJI OSHIMA

## ARTIST & BAMBOO MASTER GARDNER

Keiji Oshima left his native Japan for America over thirty years ago. Although he has lived all over the United States, he found that both he and the bamboo liked Hendersonville, North Carolina best.

Today he and his wife successfully own and operate Haiku Bamboo Nursery. He currently grows fifteen varieties of bamboo and envisions that bamboo will become established as an agricultural crop here in the Southeast. Besides landscaping, bamboo has many other uses, including: erosion prevention, air purification, food source, durable wood for flooring/furniture, and health benefits.

Keiji is also a skilled artisan, making many types of bamboo crafts which have been featured in bamboo festivals and artisan markets. He creates bamboo mirrors, lamps, frames, baskets, flutes, vases, walking sticks, and more...all of which can be viewed at their warehouse just off US Highway 64.

Because of their passion for bamboo, the Oshima's have recently decided to open Oshima Bamboo School. Here Keiji hopes to impart his extensive knowledge with those who are just beginning their journey with bamboo.