

Elaina Hatsis

Elaina Hatsis fell in love with ikebana (Japanese flower arranging) from the first time she saw pictures of it. Years later she learned that there was an ikebana chapter in the Portsmouth area. She knew that as soon as she retired from her teaching career, she wanted to join a garden club and join the local ikebana chapter. At her first garden club meeting she was surprised to learn that the guest speaker was the president of the Kittery Point Ikenobo Ikebana Chapter. Elaina has been a member of the chapter since 2007 and has served as its president from 2017 to 2019. Her teachers were Masako Yatsunami and Lois Horton. She is currently taking semiprivate lessons from Mimi Santini-Ritt. She, also, has attended workshops in the Boston area, San Francisco, and Kyoto, Japan. Her training is in the Ikenobo School of Ikebana, which originated Ikebana over 550 years ago. Sen'ei Ikenobo is the 45th Generation Headmaster of the Ikenobo School which has headquarters in Kyoto, Japan. It has a School of Floral Art which conducts a teacher training program, puts on workshops and gives out certificates. Elaina has achieved a level 6 certificate, qualifying her to teach Ikenobo Ikebana and give demonstrations.