

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Bamboo in Japan: Gallery talk with slides**

Northeast Cultural Coop is proud to present a gallery talk with slides by internationally known textile and bamboo craftsperson, Nancy Moore Bess, on Saturday, April 22 at 2 p.m. at Ikebana Flower, 95 West Pearl Street, Nashua. For over 30 years, Ms. Bess has been creating unique baskets that reflect her research into the cross-cultural, especially Japanese, influences on her craft. She lectures and exhibits internationally and is an active member of the American Bamboo Society. She has been curator of many basket exhibits at galleries worldwide and has judged international basketry competitions.

The elegant publication, *Bamboo in Japan*, presented by the Japanese publishing company, Kodansha, will be available for sale and signing at this talk. To answer the question, how important is bamboo in Japanese society, the book opens with a quote from Basil Hall Chamberlain, "So extensive is the part played by bamboo in Japanese domestic economy that the question is rather, what does it not do?" Learn first hand, through beautiful color photography and narration, just how prevalent bamboo is in Japan and how many exquisite ways it enhances the beauty of daily life.

This program, sponsored by Northeast Cultural Coop under a grant from The Freeman Foundation, is free and open to all interested in this topic. Examples of baskets and other products made of bamboo will be on display. Audience members are also invited to enroll in a special one-day basket making workshop that will be held at Ikebana Flower with Ms. Bess on a future date.

*Northeast Cultural Coop, a non-profit organization based in Amherst, NH, is dedicated to offering the citizens of the northeast opportunities to understand and experience cultures near and far. For further information on this and other programs visit [www.NortheastCulturalCoop.org](http://www.NortheastCulturalCoop.org)*

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