**Shosetsu-en**

Shosetsu-en testifies to the effectiveness of learning the art of bonsai at Omiya Bonsai Village. Owner Mr. Kurosu studied at neighboring Toju-en before founding his own garden in 1977. Shosetsu-en now offers bonsai classes as well, with students exhibiting their work once a year as part of a festival in June. The garden has also diversified into teaching the craft of making ceramic pots for bonsai. The imposing, Japanese castle-like structure on the grounds is a venue specially built for these activities. Kurosu emphasizes how bonsai, with their great longevity, can transmit culture from generation to generation.