

Yokohama International School Japanese Music Ensemble **2015 New City Concert Tour**

Yokohama International School and the International Center for Japanese Culture are proud to announce their Japanese Music Program's 2015 New York Tour. The tour will feature performances by the Yokohama International School (YIS) High School Japanese Music Ensemble at venues in New York City between the 28th and 31st of October.

Tour Schedule

New York University Steinhardt Hall - Oct. 28 (Wed) 2 pm Lecture Concert

United Nations International School - Oct. 29 (Thurs) 9:50 am Lecture Concert

Mannes New School of Music - Oct. 29 (Thurs) 5:00 pm Composition Forum

Hunter College Lang Hall - Oct. 30 (Fri) 7:30 pm Evening Concert (open to public)

Noguchi Museum - Oct. 31 (Sat) 11 am and 1 pm Gallery Concerts (open to public)

Japanese Music Program at YIS

Established in 2003 by Dr. Joseph Amato as the only English language based primary/secondary curriculum for Japanese music education in the world, the program focuses on a deeper understanding and appreciation of traditional and modern Japanese music through education and performance. Currently students from grades 4 through 12 study traditional and modern repertoire for the koto, while also utilizing Japanese instruments in their classroom studies of both eastern and western musical concepts and composition.

YIS High School Japanese Music Ensemble

Consisting of 10th, 11th and 12th grade students, the ensemble performs regularly in both public and academic settings in and around the Tokyo area, and has toured to Australia, China and the United States. Under the direction of Curtis Patterson the group is drawing attention in Japanese music circles and the media due to its diverse international make up. Members of the ensemble have also been awarded top prizes at major national music competitions, and this too is turning heads.

New York Tour Programs

Performances will include a selection of modern compositions for the koto and bass koto, as well as the classical *Rokudan*. Concerts at NYU and Hunter College will feature premiere performances of *Traitor* by Hattori Reika. This work for bass koto and violin was recently awarded first prize in the International Center for Japanese Culture's 21st Century Music Competition. Other highlights of programs are the definitive bass koto concerto *Homura* and the rarely performed but groundbreaking *Fukei* by Shimizu Osamu.

International Center for Japanese Culture and the 21st Century Music Project

Located on the YIS campus, ICJC is a non-profit Institution promoting traditional and modern Japanese arts and culture. The center is designed to help international students and adults explore and appreciate Japan's rich and unique culture through music education, arts programs, special guest lectures, and live performances. The New York Tour is an extension of the 21st Century Music Project's first initiative, a call for compositions for Japanese koto and a western instrument.