

Fellow World Artists,

World Music and Dance Festival 2010



Photo by Emoto Hideyuki

The World Music and Dance Festival (WMDF) aims to be Japan's first and foremost festival focussed on regularly bringing large numbers of overseas performers to the country. Staged in Hakodate City, Hokkaido, Japan the initial events have featured over 300 performers and attracted a total audience of over 20,000. Based on the success of the first WMDF events, a new and yet more ambitious festival will be held in 2010, from August 06 to August 11.

The Festival will be centered on an outdoor concert stage with a spectacular view in front of Hakodate Mountain, and also incorporate numerous smaller scale performances and workshops at "Fringe" events around the town.

The Festival will be supported by an organising committee comprising staff from all walks of life in Hakodate City, and especially by the members of "Hinoki-ya", a traveling band formed in Hakodate. Hinoki-ya have appeared at music festivals around the world, including Croatia, Brazil, France, Greece, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. They are proud and excited to have the chance to use their experience to create an unforgettable tradition in their home town.

2009 marked Hakodate's 150th anniversary, and WMDF celebrated this by looking not just at the past, but also by encouraging a long view of the future: "150 years past, 150 years forward". Music and dance are excellent models for this kind of "Long Now" view of the world, since they link us to past histories and ideas whilst at the same time providing a model for how ideas and culture can become the heritage of future generations.

We would like to invite you to participate in the WMDF 003 Festival. Especially, we are looking to recruit performers that can help us appreciate connections with the past, glimpse the possibilities of the future, and understand our own significance to the present. We have summarised the details below, and would be happy to answer any further inquiries. If required, we can supply official invitations with your group name or other paperwork.

The people of Hakodate are looking forward to welcoming you to our town, to making your stay a memorable one, and to your performances.

Sincerely yours,

Ian Frank, Chairman of WMDF
北海道函館市陣川町52番地1
はこだて国際民俗芸術祭組織委員会
組織委員長 イアンフランク

Naoto Soga, Director of WMDF
Leader of Hinoki-ya
Hakodate good will ambassador

2010 CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATING GROUPS: WMDF 003

Event Name: World Music and Dance Festival 2010, Hakodate "Kokusai Minzoku Geijutsu Sai"
English Web site: <http://wmdf.org/en/>
Place and Country: Hakodate, Japan
Dates: Aug 06 - Aug 11, 2010
Audience: About 20,000
Organization: Committee of the World Music and Dance Festival
Chairman: Ian Frank
Collaboration: Hakodate City Culture and Sports Promoting Foundation
Assistance: Hakodate City, Hakodate City Board of Education
Director: Naoto Soga
Production: Hitococochi Inc.

1. Preliminary Schedule for Groups, August 2010:

Wed 04: Earliest date for participants' arrival (long-haul travel).
Thu 05: Latest date for participants' arrival, reception party.
Fri 06: Workshops and Evening Festival performance (outdoor stage).
Sat 07: Workshops/Fringe & Evening Festival performance (outdoor stage).
Sun 08: Fringe & Evening Festival performance (outdoor stage).
Mon 09: Sightseeing & Evening Party.
Tue 10: Fringe & Evening Festival performance (outdoor stage).
Wed 11: Grand Finale (indoor stage), Farewell party.
Thu 12- Fri 13: Participants depart.

2. Duration of Performances:

- * Festival Performances: 10, 20 mins.
- * Outreach (Old peoples' homes, schools, etc): 30-40 minutes.
- * Fringe Performances: 10-20 min.
- * Workshops (for elementary school children and public): 60 min.

Note: Festival performances bring together many overseas groups to perform at an outdoor stage (weather permitting) in front of a large audience. Our experience is that some WMDF-goers will attend several (or even all) the Festival performances. We therefore hope that visiting groups can prepare Festival sets with some variation.

Fringe and Outreach performances spread the news of the Festival to different locations around our area, and will typically feature just two overseas groups, maybe also with local Japanese groups.

3. Stage Details:

- * The stage has a frontage of 10.8m and a depth of 9.0m.
- * We have 8 Shure 58 microphones (or equivalent) with boom stands, and monitor speakers for performers.
- * Standard lighting (RGB) equipment.
- * There are no special effects on stage.

4. WMDF Agrees to Provide For All Accepted Groups:

- * Free meals and accommodations during their time Hakodate.
- * Transport within Hakodate (from/to Hakodate airport, and between the stages and accommodations).
- * General event insurance and first aid.
- * Provisions to support the sale of group CDs and other small goods at primary events. Since we cannot be responsible for the security of expensive items, or large amounts of currency, we ask that groups do not bring large numbers of goods, or goods with high intrinsic value.

5. All Applying Groups Agree To:

- * Play live music (not tapes, CDs, etc.).
- * Perform with up to 15 people (or 25 people for groups including dancers).
- * Cover all transport and expenses to/from Hakodate.
- * Ensure current medical insurance (please bring a copy of certificate for us).
- * Pay own visa application fees.
- * Be in attendance for the entire Festival period.

Note 1: We recommend that participants use Korean Airlines for the most convenient flight to Hakodate (for instance, we can negotiate with Korean airlines to accommodate greater luggage allowances, and also arrange a special flight if enough groups travel to/from Seoul on the same day). Both Sapporo and Tokyo are far from Hakodate, and since August is peak season, internal flights may be expensive and crowded.

Note 2: Stays shorter than the Festival duration should be discussed with the Committee in advance.

Note 3: During your stay, it is likely that you may be accompanied by television or print media reporters. Reasonable cooperation with these reporting activities, and the agreement to allow footage, images, and interviews to be used in TV broadcasts, and for publicity and advertisement of the WMDF, are assumed to be a condition of participation at the Festival.

6. Application Procedure. WMDF Requires:

- * The WMDF 2010 application form, with Section 0 completed (available online).
- * Some original photos (reproduction quality).
- * A DVD or DVD-R with performances (sorry, not DVD-RW).
- * A CD or CD-R for promotion.
- * Any promotional fliers or publicity materials for events that the group has been involved in.

Note: Should your group's application be accepted by the Committee, the supplied information and materials will be used by WMDF for posters, fliers, TV broadcast, and other promotion.

Please send these promotional materials until Friday October 30, 9am JST (please confirm by e-mail to wmdf@wmdf.org when you send us a package by post).

Contact: Committee of the WMDF

c/o Hitococochi, Inc.

52-1 Jinkawa-cho, Hakodate-shi, Hokkaido 041-0833 JAPAN

Phone: +81-138-51-5727 (apologies, but Japanese only)

Fax: +81-138-51-6465

Email: wmdf@wmdf.org

Note: We are sorry but since our office cannot guarantee telephone interaction in a language other than Japanese, we request you put your correspondence in fax or email. Please also note that the WMDF email is generally only staffed on weekdays from 10am to 6pm, Japan time.

WORLD MUSIC AND DANCE FESTIVAL 2010

Condition for Participating Groups

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