

Kurashiki Junior Philharmony Orchestra

Christchurch Visit - Saturday 29 March - Friday 4 April 2003

Visit Sponsored by; Christchurch / Kurashiki Sister City Committee

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Japanese Ensemble Returns as Full Junior Philharmony Orchestra

In April 2002, Christchurch was privileged to host a small 18 person 'Ensemble Group' from their Japanese Sister City, Kurashiki. Most of the young musicians were in their 20's and were music teacher in the Primary and Junior High Schools of Kurashiki.

Soon after their return to Kurashiki, they decided to plan a return visit to Christchurch and bring with them over 50 Children from their school music classes. Together with the original ensemble members, they are part of the huge Kurashiki Junior Philharmony Orchestra. Supported by a few parents, chaperones and leaders, a 100 strong group will emerge on Christchurch for 7 days at the end of March 2003.

As several of the full Junior Orchestra were unable to travel at that time, they will second approx 15 members from the Christchurch Junior Orchestra to perform at their main Public Concert, in the new Aurora Centre at Burnside. This concert is planned for Tuesday 1 April 2003 and will feature both the Kurashiki and the Christchurch Junior Orchestras.

During their visit to Christchurch, they will be attending three rehearsals at the Centre but will still be able to enjoy a few of the City sight-seeing attractions. The group will be split between two inner central city B & B's and they will have the opportunity to visit to the Maori Marae for a Hangi Meal and Maori concert, the Antarctic Centre, Willowbank, Akaroa and a Springfield Farm visit

The true benefits of our strong link with our Japanese Sister City, Kurashiki has proven yet again that we can give our visitors a good stay in our city. This enlarged return visit speaks volumes.

Any further information regarding this visit or any other Kurashiki Sister City information, please contact the Kurashiki Sister City Co-Ordinator, Barbara August on (+64-3) 941-8251 or by email at, barbara.august@ccc.govt.nz

OR the Kurashiki Sister City Committee Chairman, Newton Dodge on (+64-3) 354-5610.

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