

## Call for Input: Examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

### Report Form

Date of report November 30, 2018

Name of municipality Musashino City and the City of Brasov, Romania

Name of country Japan

Title of peace education initiative	Concert for the 25th Anniversary of the Musashino-Brasov Friendly Relationship: Musashino City Presents Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 for Friendship and Peace Brasov Philharmonic Orchestra of Romania
The initiative was implemented by (Choose one ✓)	<input type="checkbox"/> School <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipality <input type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Joint initiative by:
Theme/Aim	(Example: Nuclear disarmament/terrorism/violence) Peace
Participants (age, school grade, number, etc.)	(Example: 60 children (12-year-old) + 30 adults (parents and people in the community)) 260 citizens from Musashino City
Location	Musashino City, Tachikawa City, Koganei City, and Matsudo City of Chiba Prefecture
Date(s) of initiative	November 21 to December 4, 2017 (for 14 days) <i>*If it is an initiative held regularly, please tell us when it started and how frequently it is held.</i>

Please answer the questions below clearly and concisely.

*1. Please describe the initiative. For classroom lectures and events, please provide a timeline of the event. For other types of initiatives, such as a competition, please describe the process in detail.*

For the 25th anniversary of cultural exchanges between the cities of Musashino and Brasov, the Brasov Philharmonic Orchestra, which had paved the way for this alliance, was invited to Musashino City. Through information dissemination and promotion activities concerning Romania and Musashino City, the host city of Romania, citizens were expected to foster a sense of multicultural coexistence and international mindedness, centering on an amicable and peaceful relationship.

The Brasov Philharmonic Orchestra of Romania was invited to Japan to perform at various venues. Mr. Daisuke Soga (resident conductor of the Tokyo New City Orchestra), a Musashino citizen who played the role of a catalyst in the relationship, served as a conductor. For a performance at Musashino Civic Cultural Hall, a choir consisting of 260 citizens selected from among applicants was organized (by a planning committee) to sing Beethoven's Ninth Symphony along with the orchestra's performance. After the performance, a reception was held jointly with the Romania Embassy in Japan. Additionally, the orchestra members paid a visit to choir members' homes. The choir prepared for the performance by practicing as many as 17 times. Orchestra performances were also given as part of a project, Children's Active Learning in the Tama and Islands Areas of Tokyo, subsidized by the Tokyo Association of Mayors. Furthermore, the orchestra's performances were presented jointly with Seikei University, a school that has a comprehensive partnership agreement with Musashino City. The orchestra also performed in other associated municipalities, such as Tachikawa City and Matsudo City of Chiba Prefecture. Musashino City actively promoted these events through various means, such as flyers, posters, the City's website and Facebook pages. This effort led to nurturing a sense of multiculturalism and internationalism among citizens.

[Schedule of the Orchestra ]

Arrived in Japan on Tue., Nov. 21/ Rehearsal on Wed., Nov. 22 / Performance of the Ninth Symphony at Musashino Civic Hall, and a reception, on Thu., Nov.23 (national holiday) / Rehearsal on Fri., Nov. 24 / Home visit (in Musashino City) on Sat., Nov. 25 / Performance for Active Learning for Children (Koganei City) on Sun., Nov. 26 / Performance at Musashino Kita High School on Mon., Nov. 27 / Performance at Seikei University on Tue., Nov. 28 / Performance in Tachikawa City on Wed., Nov. 29 / Rehearsals on Thu., Nov. 30

and Fri., Dec. 1/ Performance in Matsudo City, Chiba Prefecture, on Sat., Dec. 2 / Performance for Active Learning for Children (Musashino City) on Sun., Dec. 3 / Leaving for Romania on Mon., Dec. 4

*2. Please tell us about the response from participants.*

The choir developed teamwork among its members through repeated rehearsals. This served to create new citizen-level exchanges. Visits to Musashino citizens' homes by Romanian orchestra members and other activities involving the orchestra members helped to enhance a sense of a multicultural society and international mindedness. We got to know attractive features of Musashino City and Romania.

*3. Please tell us about positive outcomes that resulted from the initiative.*

Hosting the Romanian Philharmonic Orchestra, which paved the way to the bilateral friendly relationship, gave us the opportunity to reflect on the history of our city's international exchanges and further strengthen international ties.

Through recruiting choir members (200 people) from among Musashino citizens, we were able to widely communicate attractive features of Musashino City and Romania. Further exchange activities were promoted even after the project.

Our aggressive strategy to publicize the project contributed to externally spreading the features of Musashino as an international and cultural city embracing multiculturalism. It is hoped that this effort will lead to attracting more visitors from home and abroad.

Through a friendly relationship with Brasov, we hope to encourage athletes and general citizens of Romania to visit Japan to facilitate peaceful exchanges through sports, art, and cultural activities.

This program contributed to increasing the number of people who registered as a supporter for the Romania Host Town Program, the amount of donations to support Romanian Paralympic athletes, the number of participants in exchange programs with other cities abroad, and the number of host-family applicants.

This program also helped increase membership in the Musashino International Association (public interest incorporated foundation), an organization providing support for foreign residents. It also led to promoting international understanding and multicultural coexistence among citizens. We hope that our aggressive strategy to publicize the project will contribute to externally spreading the features of Musashino as an international and cultural city embracing multiculturalism, as well as to attracting more visitors from home and abroad.

*4. Please tell us about the challenges encountered in the initiative if any.*

The following year, in fiscal 2018, a delegation consisting of some of the choir members and other citizens who are in charge of promoting Japanese culture was sent to Romania for the promotion of Japanese culture and a performance with a local orchestra. Further support is needed to continue this amicable relationship and develop it to citizen-level initiatives.

*5. Please identify any materials used in the initiative (books, videos, slideshow, etc.).*

*6. May the Mayors for Peace Secretariat post the material mentioned in Question 5 on its website? (if there are no copyright or other problems in sharing them publicly)*

Yes    \*Please attach the material(s).     No     Don't know.

If you would like to submit photos and other materials, please send them in a separate file.



At the concert