

ANNOUNCEMENT

12th Osaka International Chamber Music Competition

WORLD FEDERATION
OF INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC COMPETITIONS

World-renowned chamber music competition in JAPAN

May 17th – 24th, 2026
Sumitomolife Izumi Hall

Section I String Quartet **Section II** Piano Trio or Piano Quartet

Eligibility: The Competition is open to ensembles of all nationalities, whose members were born on or after May 18th, 1990.

► Schedule

- 2026 May
- 17th Section I 1st round
 - 18th Section II 1st round
 - 19th Section I 2nd round
 - 20th Section II 2nd round
 - 21st Section I 3rd round
 - 22nd Section I & II Final round
 - 23rd Prizewinners' Concert (Osaka)
 - 24th Prizewinners' Concert (Tokyo)

► Upcoming Schedule

- 2025
- Spring Announcement of Rules & Regulations
 - April Application Open
 - October Application Deadline
 - November & December Preliminary screening
- 2026 March Announcement of contestants

► New commissioned work for 3rd round of String Quartet



Kenji SAKAI
Osaka, Japan
Associate Professor
of Kyoto City University of Arts

► Jury



Chairperson
Monika HENSCHER
Germany/Viola
Henschel Quartet



Kazuki SAWA
Japan/Violin
Sawa Quartet



Weigang LI
USA/Violin
Shanghai Quartet



Oliver WILLE
Germany/Violin
Kuss Quartet



Mai MOTOBUCHI
USA-Japan/Viola
Former Borromeo String
Quartet member



Alasdair TAIT
UK/Cello
Former Belcea Quartet
member



Sung-Won YANG
South Korea/Cello
Trio Owon



Rieko AIZAWA
USA-Japan/Piano
Horszowski Trio



Ichiro NODAIRA
Japan/Piano
President of
Tokyo College
of Music

You can check the latest update
on our website and SNS.

JCMF JAPAN CHAMBER MUSIC FOUNDATION



Cultural exchange of borderless music in JAPAN

May 9th – 13th, 2026

Semi-final & Final Round
Sumitomolife Izumi Hall

1st Round *Subject to Change
Mie Pref. Fine Arts Center
Toyama Prefecture Takaoka Culture Hall

For Ensemble consisting of 2 to 6 instrumentalists.

Any instrument is welcomed!

No age limitation

Voted by audience members

SPOTLIGHT on 12th edition

Welcoming more diversity!

Osaka International Chamber Music Festa welcomes not only classical music, but also traditional and ethnic music performances of the world. We will accept more diverse performing arts related to instrument music than past Festa.

Offering new special prizes for diversity!

New special prizes such will be presented to praise various forms of music and new wave for performing arts in addition to the existing "Menuhin Gold Prize" and "Folkloric prize". We hope these changes will make the Festa more festive chamber music stage!

Getting more performance chance!

The 1st round of the Festa will be held out of Osaka so that we can share the joy of music with people in Mie and Toyama prefecture. Then the ensembles which could not get to next round will also be invited to Osaka alongside the ensembles who advanced to semi-final round, to appear at a separate concert titled "ENSEMBLE SHOWCASE" to show their performance. All participating ensembles will have more stages!

*Further detail will be announced on the Rules and Regulations published in March, 2025.

► Schedule

- 2026 May
- 9th [Mie] 1st round
 - [Toyama] 1st round
 - 11th [OSAKA] SHOWCASE#1
 - 12th [OSAKA] Semi-final round
 - SHOWCASE#2
 - 13th [OSAKA] Final round
 - Awards Ceremony

► Jury

The screening for each round will be held by a jury consisting of a large number of audience members (non-professional musicians) and special guest jury who will be commissioned by the organizer.

► Upcoming Schedule

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12th Osaka International Chamber Music Festa



COMPETITION & FESTA