

# Kawasaki - City of Music



Kawasaki has a wealth of “music resources,” such as two music universities, the MUZA Kawasaki Symphony Hall, and many civic orchestras, choirs, and brass bands. With the city hosting more international events in recent years, *Kawasaki - City of Music* is increasingly gaining international attention.

»Based in Kawasaki, one of the leading orchestras in Japan  
**Tokyo Symphony Orchestra**

Kawasaki City franchise orchestra. In addition to the kids program, “Orchestra Experience from Age Zero,” the orchestra has composed a fight song for Kawasaki Frontale and conducts other wide-ranging activities. It actively performs ensembles at the city’s schools and public facilities.



»Kawasaki’s valuable “music resources”  
**Civic orchestras, choirs, and brass bands**

Kawasaki has four civic orchestras and more than 100 civic choirs, corporate brass bands, and other music groups. Many community music activities are held at various locations throughout the city.



»Acoustics raved by top international artists **16**  
**MUZA Kawasaki Symphony Hall** MAP

Features Japan’s largest pipe organ, spiral seating that surrounds the stage 360 degrees, and optimal sound reverberation for classical music. Currently closed due to the Great East Japan Earthquake; scheduled to reopen on April 1, 2013.



»Host of popular biannual music festival **17**  
**Senzoku Gakuen College of Music** MAP

Established the first university jazz course in Japan. Recently added courses include musical and rock & pop. The spring and winter music festival held at Maeda Hall attracts many visitors.



»Exchanges with community members **18**  
**Showa Academia Musicae** MAP

Facilities include Teatro Giglio Showa, a horseshoe-shaped theater unique in Japan, and Yuri Hall, where off-campus groups also hold concerts. The university actively conducts community promotion activities, including student performances at the city’s elementary schools and nursing home and welfare facilities.



»Live music supported by city residents and communities  
**Street corner performances**

“Busker (street performer)” events are held at the Kawasaki Ginza Shopping Mall and Isago-dori. Live music in an array of genres is also performed in front of the MUZA Kawasaki Gate Plaza and the Ward Office lobby.



Having been born and grown up in Kawasaki, I held my 20th debut anniversary recital at MUZA Kawasaki Symphony Hall. Many people flew or took the Shinkansen from all over Japan and gathered in Kawasaki! I still give performances at elementary schools in Kawasaki in between my national tours and TV and radio appearances. I am experiencing *Kawasaki - City of Music* firsthand.

Mr. Takashi Obara Cultural Envoy of Kawasaki



Kawasaki - City of Music mascot character  
 Kawasaki Muton

## Music events in Kawasaki

The genre of music is indeed diverse, ranging from classic to jazz, pop, and international folk music. Various events are held from performances by amateurs living in Kawasaki to festivals featuring world-class musicians.

- Internationally noted music festival that transcends genres  
**Montreux Jazz Festival Japan in Kawasaki**  
© Masakazu Yokota / Montreux Jazz Festival Japan



● Performances by nine orchestras  
**Festa Summer MUZA**



● Gathering of young musicians from all over Japan  
**Echo of Exchange**



● Gathering of unique musical instruments  
**National Handmade Music Instrument Idea Contest**



● Two-day all-Asian music event  
**Asia Exchange Music Festival**



● Nagesen-type (money donated by spectators) outdoor festival  
**Keihin Rock Festival**



● Competition between musicians  
**Kawasaki Street Music Battle**