

## The World Festival of Children's Performing Arts in Toyama, 2022 (PAT2022) Prospectus (planned)

From the dawn of the year 2020, people all over the world were greatly shocked. The new coronavirus infection tormented many individuals in every country of the world, and social activities stagnated. “The TOYAMA World Festival of Children’s Theatre in 2020” which was planned for 2020, unavoidably, also had to be canceled.

In these circumstances, under sufficient measures against infectious diseases, we had successfully organized performing arts performances and exhibitions in Toyama from autumn 2020, and we had brought a big light of hope to the people who eagerly waited for artistic and cultural activities. Also, with the use of the Internet media, people who live in remote locations or cannot go outside were able to experience parts of such activities.

We have learned a lot from this situation. By being forced to isolate, we have engraved in our memory the importance and the irreplaceableness of meeting in person, the friendship that cares for each other in difficult situations and being hand in hand in the international cooperation toward common dreams and goals.

The Toyama Prefecture is an ambitious local government that has overcome disasters with people’s efforts and is aiming for the ideal "SDGs Future City<sup>1</sup>" for humankind. Everything is happening under the beauty and changing richness of nature starting from the 3000m-high Tateyama Mountain Range with Japan's only glacier, to Toyama Bay of the “World's Most Beautiful Bays Club<sup>2</sup>”. Our Prefecture has achieved top-class results in Japan not only in performing arts but also in arts, crafts, and other fields. In addition, the places to become venues for the event: Toyama City aims to become a Compact City Toyama<sup>3</sup> and Resilient city<sup>4</sup>, and Takaoka City has retained its traditional culture of over 1300 years. We would like everyone to experience various attractions of these venue cities, starting from traditional culture to the state-of-the-art era.

Up until now, since the holding of the “Toyama International Amateur Theatre Festival (TIATF’83)” in 1983 as the event for the 100-year anniversary of the establishment of the Toyama Prefecture, we have held many big international festivals every few years.

“The World Festival of Children’s Performing Arts in Toyama” which features children who will build the world in the future, has been held every four years from 2008 to 2016, and the festival in 2022 will be the 4th event of this kind. Along with the stage performances, we plan to organize a place for attractive cultural exchanges, a lot

of workshops, and excursions.

The exchanges that deepen each other's imagination, and overlap dreams and goals have already started. Let's exchange words face to face, and share the joy of overcoming the difficulties and experiencing each other's stage performances in August 2022. We anticipate expanding the circle of wholehearted friendships, and to join hands to open the new doors for international cooperation in performing arts and culture here in the lands of Toyama.

The Executive Committee of the World Festival of Children's Performing Arts in  
Toyama  
President Akira KINOSHITA

- 1) Aiming at the Sustainable Development Goals for mankind proposed by the United Nations, the national governments recognize local governments that have made excellent proposals for solving economic, social, and environmental issues and creating new merits.
- 2) The World's Most Beautiful Bays Club is an international non-profit association with headquarters in France, gathering remarkable bays or gulfs on the world's coast. 5 bays in Japan are affiliated.
- 3) An efficient and sustainable city where various facilities necessary for daily life are close to each other. Toyama City is famous for public transport development such as its first LRT (Light Rail Transit) in Japan.
- 4) Rockefeller Foundation is supporting 100 cities worldwide to take a lead in tackling international issues. Toyama City was selected as first in Japan.