



1st HASEKURA CHILDREN CHORUS FESTIVAL

Commemorating Launch of the “League of Hasekura Cities”

PROPOSAL

The lord **Date Masamune**, who built Sendai (now the biggest city in Tohoku region) and “Date’s Black Ship (San Juan Bautista) as a founder of Date Clan in 1600, dispatched **Keicho Delegation** headed by **Hasekura Tsunenaga** to Spain and Rome in 1613. The mission arrived in a town called Coria del Rio in Seville province in 1614, when they were presented to King Felipe III in Madrid. Next year, they arrived in a port called Civitavecchia in Italy to have an audience with Pope Paulus V in Rome. They stayed in Coria area for some time, where their descendants are believed to live under the surname **Japón** (more than 700 in Coria area and over 1,000 in entire Seville area).

Mr. Modesto Gonzalez Marquez, mayor of Coria del Rio, advocated the proposal “League of Hasekura Cities” in 2017 which intends to establish a brand-new international partnership based on the historical ties by and between the cities where Hasekura Tsunenaga or The Keicho Mission visited, in collaborating and developing in a various sectors including culture, education, sports, trades and tourism. The League is now expected to launch during this year among Prefecture of Miyagi, Province of Seville, and cities of Sendai, Ishinomaki, Onagawa, Osato, Kawasaki, Yonezawa, Coria del Rio, Seville, Espartinas and Civitavecchia. Vatican City State, and cities of Rome, Acapulco, Havana, Saint-Tropez, Genova and Manila may join later.

Now, commemorating the launch of the League, the 1st HASEKURA Children Chorus Festival will take place under the following manner;

1. Date: August 18 (Tuesday), 2026
2. Venue: Sendai City War Reconstruction Memorial Hall, Sendai, Japan
[仙台市戦災復興記念館 - 仙台コンベンションナビ 施設ガイド](#)
3. Admission: Free
4. Participating Choirs (provisional)
 - Coro Orfeón de Sevilla from Seville
 - Circle Wind Boys & Girls Choir from New York
 - more from Spain, Italy or France
 - Choirs from middle schools and high schools from Hasekura related cities in Miyagi and Yamagata Prefecture



5. Length of Performance: 10-15 minutes each, depending on the total number of participating choirs.
6. Music: Free. A traditional song representing locality of the choir may be welcome.

Organized and sponsored by: League Hasekura Support Group (provisional), San Juan Museum in Ishinomaki, NPO Circle Wind (USA)

Supported by each municipality of participating choir, embassies, related entities, and media

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[ハポン・ハセクラ後援会ウェブサイト](https://www.japonhasekura.com/) : <https://www.japonhasekura.com/>

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[Japan Choral Harmony～合唱団「とも」| オフィシャルサイト \(jch-tomo.org\)](http://jch-tomo.org)