



MEDIA INFORMER

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Girls Mark ANZAC Day During Music Tour to Japan

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Roseville College Years 9 – 11 Music Ensembles will travel to Japan for a Music Performance Tour among the infamous cherry blossoms from 15 – 26 April, culminating in an ANZAC Day performance in Yokohama on 25 April.

For two weeks, 51 students in the School's Wind, Vocal, String and Jazz Ensembles will participate in cultural and musical exchange, featuring workshops and performances with Japanese schools, including the College's Sister School, Bunka Girls High School in Tokyo. A tour highlight is an official performance for HE Mr Richard Court AC, Australian Ambassador to Japan, in proceedings following the solemn ANZAC memorial service at Yokohama War Cemetery on 25 April.



"Yokohama War Cemetery is the only war cemetery in Japan administered by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission," explains Roseville College's Head of Music, Mrs Noni Katada.

"Yokohama is the resting place of 277 members of the Australian army, navy, merchant navy and airforce, as well as two unknown Australian military personnel. As such, it is extremely special and timely for Roseville College students to honour and remember the ANZAC sacrifice, while simultaneously building their own personal connections in Japan that inspire richer cultural respect and understanding."

The students will also enjoy the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of famous musicians, experience the diversity of Japan's music and art culture (including attending a kimono fashion show and a private Koto music performance), and will explore the significance of local music history (including the development of Japanese musical instruments).

"This is a lifetime opportunity for students to expand both their musical and cultural horizons. Music is the common language of the tour; it is like the seed from which friendships grow," says Ms Katada. "Of course, no trip to Japan is complete without walking beneath the cherry blossoms, travelling by bullet train or visiting ancient sites like Kyoto's splendid Kinkakuji temple (the 18 carat Golden Pavilion). It is truly a privilege for the girls to tour Japan, sharing their love of music."

Students will participate in workshops and perform formally to audiences in glorious venues and spectacular settings in cities including Otsu, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, Odawara and Tokyo.

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Caption: Roseville College musicians and vocalists, Rachel Montford, Year 8, Natalie Vogel, Year 11, and Krystal Lau, Year 8, are visiting Japan for two weeks on the Roseville College Music Performance Tour.

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