



PRESS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release

## KOBE INTERNATIONAL FLUTE COMPETITION ANNOUNCES APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR ITS 10TH EDITION

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Kobe, Hyogo Japan (August 5, 2020)— Kobe International Flute Competition (KIFC) announces application guidelines for its 10th edition, taking place August 26 through September 5, 2021, in Kobe, Hyogo Japan.

Committed to act as a stepping stone to success for young talented flutists since its inception in 1985, the KIFC is highly valued as a competition that produces many flutists currently at the forefront of international stages. Celebrating a milestone with its 10th edition, the KIFC brings back its five laureates who have become internationally well-respected flutists and professors—Petri Alanko, Sarah Louvion, Ayako Takagi, Arife Gülşen Tatu, and Henrik Wiese—as jury members, demonstrating the KIFC’s growth and contribution to the field of music.

KIFC’s chairperson of the management committee Hiroaki Kanda said: In the light of current uncertainty brought about by the novel coronavirus pandemic, I hope that, by announcing the application guidelines today, young talented flutists around the world will set this competition as their next goal, and that their wonderful performances demonstrated as fruits of their hard work would lead to a bright future that enriches the heart of audiences.

Backgrounder Attached.

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### About KIFC

Established in 1985 and held every four years, the Kobe International Flute Competition (KIFC) is committed to providing young promising flutists from around the world the opportunity to launch an international career while enhancing international cultural exchanges and friendships through music. In addition, the KIFC aims to promote cultural enrichment of our community in Kobe through music. The KIFC is one of the rare competitions in the world dedicated solely to flute, becoming the first Japanese member of the World Federation of International Music Competitions in 1987.

For information about the KIFC, visit [kobe-flute.jp/en/](http://kobe-flute.jp/en/)

Contact:  
Secretariat for the Management Committee of the Kobe International Flute Competition  
c/o Kobe Cultural Foundation  
[kifc@kobe-bunka.jp](mailto:kifc@kobe-bunka.jp)  
+81 (0)78 351 3597

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## BACKGROUND

### **10TH KOBE INTERNATIONAL FLUTE COMPETITION**

#### Beginning of Its New Chapter

After three decades since its inception, the KIFC was on the verge of suspending its 9th edition (2017) due to the Kobe City Government's decision to eliminate public funding to the KIFC; the City's concerns were its high dependence on the public funding and its low recognition among Kobe citizens. Yet, with great supports from Kobe citizens and admirers of music all over the world, the KIFC overcame challenges and made its 9th edition great success, making its turning point.

With the experiences the KIFC gained during those challenging years, it is keen to further contribute to the promotion of music culture, international friendship, and Kobe's prosperity by aiming high and coping with changing times. And, its 10th edition will set a new starting point for the KIFC's future.

#### **DATES**

Thursday, August 26, through Sunday, September 5, 2021

1st Round August 26 (Thu) – August 28 (Sat)

2nd Round August 30 (Mon) – August 31 (Tue)

3rd Round September 2 (Thu)

Final Round September 4 (Sat)

Awards Ceremony & Exhibition Concert September 5 (Sun)

\*Depending on the situation of the novel coronavirus pandemic, the dates above will be subject to change.

#### **VENUES**

Kobe Bunka Hall - First Round through Final Round

Portpia Hall - Awards Ceremony & Exhibition Concert:

#### **ORGANIZERS**

Management Committee of the Kobe International Flute Competition, Kobe City Government, Kobe Cultural Foundation, Japan Federation of Musicians, Japan Flutists Association

#### **STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION**

The Competition consists of four rounds: the First, Second, Third, and Final Rounds. Approximately fifty contestants who passed the Preliminary Screening based on the submitted recording and document will participate in the Competition. The order in which contestants perform will be determined by drawing lots for each round. All performances will be open to the public.

## JURY

**SAKAI Hideaki** [Chairperson]

Japan Flutists Assoc., Vice-Chairman; Senzoku Gakuen College of Music, visiting Prof. / Japan

**Petri ALANKO\***

Sibelius Academy, Lecturer / Finland

**Renate GREISS-ARMIN**

University of Music Karlsruhe, Former Professor / Germany

**KANDA Hiroaki**

NHK Symphony Orchestra, Principal; Professor, Toho Gakuen School of Music / Japan

**LEE Soyoung**

Seoul Performing Arts High School, Instructor / Republic of Korea

**Sarah LOUVION\***

Frankfurt Opera and Museum Orchestra, Principal / France

**TAKAGI Ayako\***

Tokyo University of the Arts, Assoc. Professor / Japan

**Arife Gülşen TATU\***

Trossingen University of Music, Former Professor / Turkey

**Henrik WIESE\***

Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Principal / Germany

\* Laureates of the KIFC

## PRIZES

1st prize            JPY2,000,000

2nd prize           JPY1,000,000

3rd prize            JPY500,000

4th-6th prizes    JPY200,000

\*Special prizes may be awarded apart from those mentioned above.

## ELIGIBILITY

Open to flutists of all nationalities born between 1988 and 2005.

(between the ages of 15 to 32 as of December 31, 2020)

## APPLICATION PERIOD

Thursday, October 1, 2020 through Monday, February 1, 2021

## COMPLETE RULES AND CONDITIONS

To download, please click [here](#)