

July 18, 2011

The Green Band Association is sponsoring a band to participate in the 2012 Rose Parade. This band will be the Tachibana High School Green Band from Kyoto, Japan. The band will consist of approximately 160 performers. In addition to the Rose Parade performance on January 2, the band will also be performing at the Bandfest at Pasadena City College on December 31. Also, the band will culminate its visit to Southern California in a performance on January 3 in a Green Band Festival, which we intend to be a fund-raising performance to provide charitable donations toward helping victims of disasters. In past years the Green Band Festival has provided donations to worthy causes such as victims of wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, and other natural disasters that have affected music programs and students in the local areas. This year the band intends to dedicate their performance to the victims of the Northern Japan earthquake and tsunami and the victims of the 2011 tornadoes in the U.S. midwest.

Another focus of the Green Band program is to foster music-based international student exchange through a home-stay program while the band is visiting the U.S. The dates we hope to provide home stay opportunities for the band are December 30-31 and January 2 for a total of three nights. They will stay in hotels the night of January 1 to facilitate their performance in the Rose Parade on January 2.

Hosting schools are given a stipend, estimated at a total of around \$75 per performer hosted by the school. Families not affiliated with the hosting schools may receive this stipend directly. Because of the relationships established with their hosted students, families who have participated in this program in the past have generally expressed a desire to repeat the experience again.

We hope you will be able to participate with us in this year's event. I will be available to discuss this opportunity and any questions you may have regarding the program.

Best Regards,

Green Band Association

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