



**Press Release**

**For Immediate Release**  
October 13, 2022

**Circle Wind Concert Is Back in New York !  
~ Dedicating Its 14th Concert to Former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe ~**

[New York, NY]— **Circle Wind Concert**, an NPO based in New York, in collaboration with the **Japan Choral Harmony (JCH) “Tomo,”** a mixed choral group, will present its 14th Circle Wind Concert at Good Shepherd-Faith Presbyterian Church, 152 West 66th Street on Sunday, November 13. The performance will start at 4:30 pm. (The door will open at 4 pm.) Free admission.

The NPO will present the program for the first time in two years since they performed in Sendai, Japan, to cheer up New York medical workers who worked hard during the COVID crisis. In New York, this will be their first performance in three years.

This year, the concert, entitled “***Thank you, Prime Minister Abe !***”, will be held in memory of the late Mr. Abe, who was gunned down on July 8. The organizers want to express their gratitude and sympathy from New York to the notable leader who died an untimely death. The former prime Minister Abe was a rare politician in Japan’s constitutional government history with numerous outstanding achievements. He was a leader not only of Japan but also of the G7 nations. Worthy of particular mention is his contribution to restoring the Japan-U.S. relationship, which had been awkward.

The program will include *Memorial Processional* by JCH “Tomo” as a memorial for the deceased. This piece, originally composed as a symphony by Gregory Singer, a conductor and composer, to commemorate the victims of the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, has been arranged for mixed chorus by Singer’s friend and JCH’s music director, Masaki (Mike) Shiota. The Circle Wind Chamber Ensemble, mainly consisting of strings, will perform Samuel Barber’s Adagio, among other pieces. Barber’s Adagio has been repeatedly played at memorial concerts for 9.11 victims. The Sendai Philharmonic performed this masterpiece in a concert to aid in recovery from 2011 devastation. It was also one of the pieces played during the national funeral ceremony for Emperor Hirohito.

The concert will also feature **The Circle Wind Boys & Girls Choir**, who will sing *The Flower of Thank You* bringing youthful energy as usual, and **Yuriko Nonaka**, the Boston-based soprano.

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