



IAPSS World Congress



hosted by International Association of Political Science Students (IAPSS)

*Online broadcast from Oceania, Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America and USA/Canada
on 11-15 May 2021*

This document is Music for SDGs' program

for the musical performance during the IAPSS World Congress

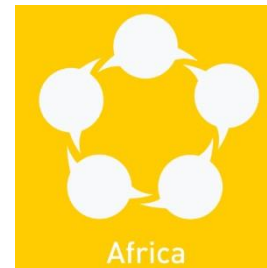
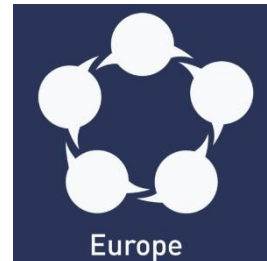
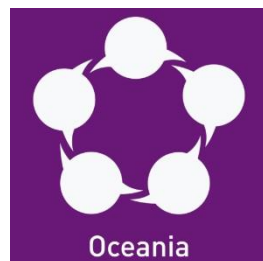
Mack Okubo, Project Director, Music for SDGs



The International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS)

The International Association of Students of Political Science (IAPSS) is a platform for students of political science and students interested in political science issues. The association is international, politically independent, non-profit, student-run and aims to have a global impact in the field of political science. IAPSS seeks to strengthen the academic profile and skills of all its members by providing a range of development opportunities.

IAPSS operates in six regions - Oceania, Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the United States/Canada - with a separate association organized for each region.



Promoting SDGs through entertainment and music

Music for SDGs Project:

*A project aiming to provide opportunities for general public to deepen understanding of SDGs in an easier and enjoyable way through music events, integrating entertainment and education under the slogan of **No one will be left behind***

Mack OKUBO (Project Director)

Mack is a multilingual and globally well-known policy advisor, and has been serving as Sherpa, **Asia Pacific Financial Forum (APFF) Insurance Pension Group, ESG Investment Working Group**, and co-Sherpa, **Sustainable Finance Development Network (SFDN)** in the APEC region.



He is also known as multi-talented entertainer and has launched **Music for SDGs Project** to enhance awareness of SDGs among the general public, inviting talented artists who share the same goals.

Music for SDGs Coalition

Mack



Flower Harmony



Kippeï

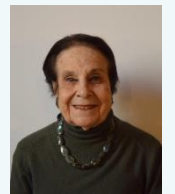


GloCha/IAAI, global partner #Action Now



Ambassador

Gloria Starr Kins



Musicians around the world presenting “We are the World” with music instruments around the globe

We are the World Musicians

(Berklee students and alumni)

We Are the World Musicians are proud to present their cover of Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie’s **“We Are the World”** by worldwide **Berklee students and alumni** with instruments around the world.



Supporting the soul with music. Singing “Wings to Fly” with singers around the world for hope, love and world peace

Ayumi Ueda (singer/sound healer)

Ayumi successfully completed a musical project **“100 Voices, 1 Heart”** together with vocalists from all around the world singing together **“Wings to Fly”**. She is also the founder of a Boston-based award-winning international vocal ensemble, Women of the World.



Promoting kimono culture to the world and contributing to sustainable fashion

Kimono Global Club (KGC) (President, Reiko Okamoto)



Reiko founded the Kimono Global Club (KGC) with the philosophy of "working on a business that breathes new life into the ancient Japanese culture". KGC plans to introduce kimono culture to the world through various projects such as introducing traditional kimonos and innovative kimono dresses, providing a members-only journal full of photos, videos and essays by our ambassadors, and holding entertainment events and seminars. Music for SDGs has a comprehensive partnership with KGC and cooperates in international public relations, planning, and entertainment.

A kimono dance PV choreographed by **Akane Kikaku**, renowned for "**Babbly Dance**" and the music video for "**Poupelle of Chimney Town**" has just been completed. KGC/Music for SDGs have also collaborated with Akane Kikaku in music events.



Akane Kikaku

Akane Kikaku, a leading dancing company in Japan, was launched in 2015 by **Akane**, whose goal is to "think up new and desirable entertainment and make it happen".



They have been working on commercials and stage productions not only in Japan, but also overseas. They are actively working on creating unique, next-generation entertainment. <https://akanekikaku.com/>

A concert combining Anime, Jazz and SDGs

JAZZ4SDGs (jazz musician)

Jazz musicians covering music from anime movies on SDG topics all in Jazz.



Nobuki Takamen

(guitarist/composer)



Nobuki, a world-renowned jazz guitarist and composer, has been developing a reputation as “the best jazz guitarist Japan has ever produced” as lauded in AllAboutJazz. He also won the First Place for Instrumental Category at the 2019 USA Songwriting Competition

Nagi Okamoto

(tenor sax player)



After graduating Koyo Conservatory, Kobe, where she learned jazz and improvisational music, Nagi supported many bands as a professional musician to develop her musical career. In 2010, she entered Berklee College of Music with scholarships, where she learned with Grammy-award winning saxophonist Fred. After graduating, Nagi made her leader group. She is performing in Boston and New York.

A concert combining Anime, Jazz and SDGs

JAZZ4SDGs (jazz musician)

Jazz musicians covering music from anime movies on SDG topics all in Jazz

Miho Sasaki Miho is a composer, and music educator.
(pianist) She is originally from Akita, Japan.



She has studied jazz piano with Donald Vega at SUNY Purchase College in United States, where she was awarded the acclaimed James Moody Scholarship, which led to earning a B.M in jazz Studies. She has performed in many jazz venues and taught in the tri-state area.

Rina Komai
(jazz singer)



Born in Tokyo. After she graduated from Shobi Music University majoring in musical expression, Rina continued to appear in numerous Jazz festivals in Japan and in New York. In 2017, Rina released her first album "Taking a Chance." Rina now is considered as one of the bright young Jazz singers from Japan

David Soler Miho is a Tokyo based pianist, composer, and music educator. She is originally from Akita, Japan. She has studied jazz piano with Donald Vega at SUNY Purchase College in United States, where she was awarded the acclaimed James Moody Scholarship, which led to earning a B.M in jazz Studies. She has performed in many jazz venues and taught in the tri-state area.



Mack Okubo
(multi-entertainer)



Apart from being an international businessman and policy advisor, Mack is known for an entertainer and performed as singer, comedian and dancer. His entertainment activities include Kumamoto charity concert, impersonation at Carnegie Hall, NYC anime dinner show, Hachinohe Tanabata concert, Japan Fes Bon Bon dancer, Japan Music Junction, and off-Broadway jazz anime concert.

Swiss pianist with multi-culture background, known for arranging and playing video games and Japanese anime music

Salome Scheidegger (pianist)

Born in Kyoto with Swiss parents, Salome is a pianist and arranger studied in Switzerland, Paris, London, and New York City. She has toured and performed on concert stages worldwide as a soloist and with bands and orchestras.

Salome has recorded seven studio albums and won multiple competitions. Salome released her first video game themed solo album "PLAY" in 2015 and the following year "Salichan - The Ghibli Album," and continues to arrange songs for video games and Japanese anime soundtracks.



TV news producer, covering the United Nations, is pursuing her dream to be an actress and singer in Broadway

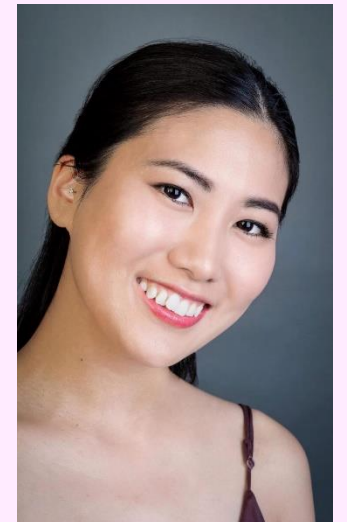
Shiho Matsuoka (actress, singer and TV news producer)

Her name, Shiho (志保), means to keep the passion in Japanese, and she absolutely lives up to her name. She is from Kyoto, Japan (with a huge Kansai spirit) and has been in NY for 8 years.

She is very honored to be part of this show to make more awareness about the SDGs and help make the world a better place.

Credits include Stuffy Fluffy (Samantha), To Live in Peace (Wilhelmina), The Little Mermaid (Pirate/Rev Gumbo) Sister Act (Ensemble/Fantasy Singer) Wifey (woman).

IG@shihomatsuoka



Providing education through musicals, covering topics such as empowerment of women, diversity & inclusion, environment, technological innovation, and disaster resilience.

Yurina Kutsukake (actress, singer and dancer)

Yurina was born in Japan and raised in America, mostly in California, Boston and New York. She is a graduate from Pace University with a BFA in musical theater and minors in Arts, Entertainment and Dance. Yurina was recently seen performing with the National and International tour of the Wizard of Oz. Countries included US, China, Bahrain and even Saudi Arabia. Her other credits include Mamma Mia, Sayonara, and A Chorus Line. She is currently based in Japan and provides children education through music and dance at Eigo de Dance with Seika.



Seika Itoh (musical actress and singer)

Seika is a musical actress and singer, who performed both Japan and the US. She appears also on TV as a reporter. Her credits include Angels in the Dark, All That Jazz, Miracle on the 34th street, South Pacific and Miss Saigon. She provides children's education, including SDGs topics, through music and dance in Japan and various Asian countries. She participated with Mack and Women Orchestra in musical presentations on SDGs at Efma Insurance Summit in Vienna, ASEAN Insurance Congress in Bali and Keio University and Kyoritsu Women's University lecture in 2019-21.



Supporting artists, nurturing young talents, and aiming to build a better society through culture, arts and entertainment

CATCH US PERFORMING ARTS (CUPA)

CUPA was founded as a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization on September 1, 2018. The board directors are; a life advisor, Yuko Motoki (CEO of Japan Center NJ), event producer, Hiroshi Kono (CEO of Mar Creation, Inc.) and dance school owner, Miyoko Hirakawa (CEO of TMH Dance, LLC.). CUPA's mission is to support artists under the themes of Japan and nurture young talents, to strive to maintain a relationship between the U.S. and Japan in an effort to build a better society through culture, arts and entertainment. CUPA's main activities are hosting showcase events, workshops and lectures.

Keito (dancer and choreographer)

Keito Ito is from Yokohama, Japan. His career started as an instructor at studios in Tokyo. In 2010, he started a job as a back dancer and choreographer for the Japanese Pop duo, "Chemistry". He has worked with other artists as well, including "Kana Nishino". Keito also works as an assistant for his mentor, Sheryl Murakami, a famous choreographer for Beyoncé and Lady Gaga. He performs with his own style and choreographs from various styles: jazz, hip-hop, ballet, lock, house, and contemporary.



Yuri Yamada (dancer and fitness instructor)

She started dancing at the age of 11. She is the exclusive dancer for Miliyah Kato and has been a back-up dancer for various artists such as Ken Hirai, Tsubasa Imai, Hiromi Goh, and SMAP. She also began her career as a Latin dancer, working as a lead dancer in the Latin dance company "JIL Entertainment Gallery" and in professional Latin ballroom dance competitions. She is also active as a fitness instructor based on the Pop Pilates method, a total body workout that combines music and Pilates.



Argentina world bachata champions encouraging people and bringing happiness through dancing

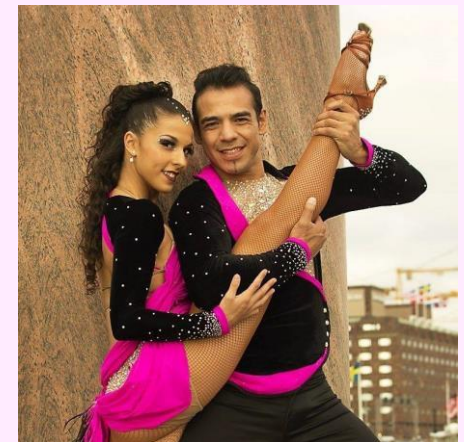
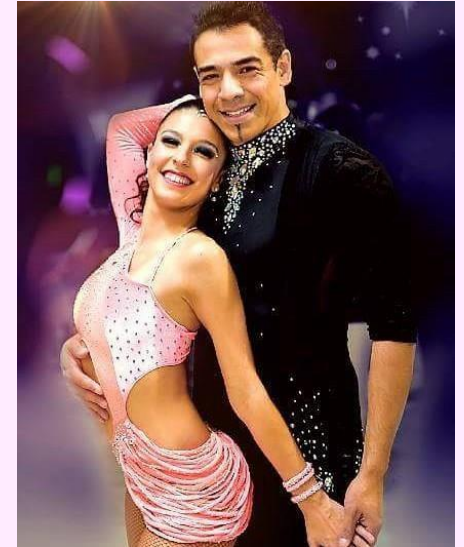
Marcelo & Belen (Bachata dancers)

Marcelo Alcaraz and Belén Tejedor are from Argentina and currently based in Europe. They met each other in 2015 in a ballet class. Marcelo Alcaraz has been dancing and competing in salsa and bachata for 15 years. When they started dancing together, they immediately won a regional competition in Buenos Aires. That same year, they became **South American champions of Bachata Stars Competition**, which brought them to compete in the world final in Spain, getting the 4th place.

In 2016, they won the 2nd place in World Bachata Open, in Albacete, Spain. They competed in World Latin Dance Cup in Miami and won the 2nd place in Bachata Dominicana Cabaret and the 3rd place in Bachata Sensual Cabaret.

In February of 2017, they became champions, winning the 1st place in World Bachata Masters, the most important competition of all. In 2017 they also became **champions of World Bachata Open and World Bachata Fusion competition.**

In 2018, they won the 2nd place, and **in 2019, they won the 1st place again in World Bachata Masters.**



A top Broadway star, the current Christine Daaé of the Phantom of the Opera, promoting empowerment of women and sustainability

Meghan Picerno (coloratura soprano/opera singer/musical actress)

Meghan Picerno currently stars as iconic leading lady, Christine Daaé, in **the Phantom of the Opera** on **Broadway**, and is consistently praised for her exciting, crowd-pleasing performances in opera, theatre, and on concert stages throughout the world. After delighting audiences with her performances as Christine on the World Tour of The Phantom of the Opera, and in the US Premiere/National Tour of **Love Never Dies**, fan favorite, Picerno made her highly-anticipated Broadway début as Christine Daaé this past fall in Broadway's longest running production, The Phantom of the Opera where she was hailed as one of the **Top Broadway replacements of 2019** (Broadway Box) and nominated as **Broadway Replacement of the Decade** (Broadway World).

Meghan's impeccable portrayal and vocal performance as Christine Daaé led to special invitations from Andrew Lloyd Webber to represent his body of work in performance on the **ITV television** broadcast of the **Classic BRIT Awards** in 2018, and a guest appearance on the **Live at Chelsea Concert** Series honoring his 70th birthday.

Follow her: IG@meghanpicerno, FB@meghanpicernocoloratura,
www.meghanpicerno.com



(Photos from **the Phantom of the Opera** by Matt Murphy)

Building a society which would regard handicap as personality and positively evaluate diversity

Shihori (pop singer songwriter, pianist and composer)

She is a New York-based prominent singer and music creator, and composes and sings for movies, games, TV commercials and TV anime.

She has a natural hearing loss in her left ear, but a perfect pitch in her right ear and a heart shaking voice. She is also promoting sustainable music carrier.

Perfect Imperfection (her new single)

<https://youtu.be/w1FBd45HfJw>



*Let's sing and dance together
"No one will be left behind."*

Rina Yoshikawa (dancer, MC, and choreographer)
& **FaiRy** (kids dancer group)

A dancing team led by Rina Yoshikawa, where **children with and without disabilities are dancing together.**

People with and without disabilities create a piece of work together through dance, song, and talk, and perform at various community events to bring smiles and energy to people. Through entertainment, the group conveys the message that children with and without disabilities can **"live together" beyond the "barrier of disability"**



An opportunity for children in Japan and Africa the first step towards "future Japan" and "future Africa". A blind guitarist playing "SKY" with his "FretPiano" method.



Social-Japan (Representative Yorihiro Monden)

Music for SDGs Project is organized in collaboration with Social-Japan, a general incorporated association established to support social contribution activities with an initiative of Yorihiro Monden. He is a renowned general producer of the exposition events and music festivals. Recently he directed Guest Lounge "Japan Booth" at Grammy Awards 2019. He has been also involved in the "Sports of Heart" program to promote Paralympian athletes and social contribution projects that connect Africa and Japan through entertainment.

Africa Kids Summit & "TE · WO · ARAO" (Let's Wash Our Hands)

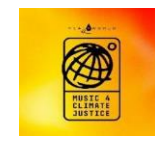
Africa Kids Summit has been held every year, where Japanese and African children are connected and share own cultures and interact each other. The song "TE-WO-ARAO" was created by children in African and Japan at Africa Kids Summit 2020 to serve as the theme song for the event with the hope of reducing the number of children suffering and dying from disease in the world.



Hiroaki Tagawa (guitarist)

Hiroaki picked up a guitar at the age of 10. Due to his congenital blindness, he did not have a visual perception of how to play the guitar and started playing the guitar on the floor like a piano. Eventually, he began to play the guitar standing up, which led to his unique backhanded technique of holding the neck of the guitar from above. His song "SKY", recorded in LA funded by crowdfunding was chosen for the coming Olympic and Paralympic Games in Japan.





Teaming up with Music for Climate Justice (M4CJ), bringing artists around the globe to promote sustainable future

Music for Climate Justice with Rocky Dawuni (Grammy nominated musician and activist)

Music for Climate Justice (M4CJ) is planning to hold a highly ambitious music event in the conjunction with COP26, with A-list artists from around the world performing their most meaningful work **to save planet and people**, and indigenous artists stepping into the light to share their art with the world. Music for SDGs aims to support this initiative, which share a common goal to promote sustainable future through music, art and entertainment.

Rocky Dawuni –GRAMMY nominated Ghanaian musician and activist straddles the boundaries between Africa, the Caribbean and the U.S. to create his appealing Afro Roots sound that unites generations and cultures. **Named one of Africa’s Top 10 global stars by CNN**, he has showcased his talent at prestigious venues such as The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center and The Hollywood Bowl. Rocky Dawuni’s sixth album, *Branches of the Same Tree*, was nominated for a **GRAMMY for “Best Reggae Album”** for the 58th Annual GRAMMY Awards.



A beautiful choir from South Africa, City of Durban, singing to promote sustainable development of Africa, a future land of the earth

The Clermont Choir



Under the leadership of **Wiseman Mkhize** as the Chief Executive, an ensemble now 28 years old – **the Clermont Choir** has become a sort of family. This family is a foundation upon which many individuals have built, instilling the imperative values of discipline, commitment, respect for oneself and one's neighbour, passion for one's work, and **a sense of contribution to society**.

With a massive 28 years' rich experience in choral music initiatives, the Clermont Choir is one of the oldest and surviving choirs in South Africa. The profile of this choir speaks volumes including national and international accolades on their belt. Since 2009, **the Clermont Choir are the undefeated champions in the prestigious South Africa's Old Mutual National Choir Festival**.

The Clermont Choir has been engaged in various music events to **enhance awareness on environmental and social issues, including the empowerment of women**.

Here is another evidence to prove that **music is a powerful tool to promote sustainable development and social contributions**.

During our program, you will witness through their music performance and messages their **commitment, passion and love** for the future of Africa and the Earth.





Awards launched to target technologies, services, and initiatives that contribute to the achievement of the 17 goals of the SDGs

Mother Earth Cup Zero

MOTHER EARTH CUP ZERO (MEC ZERO) is a citizen participation type contest on the theme of SDGs. The contest targets **technologies, services and initiatives that contribute to the achievement of the 17 goals of the SDGs**. We will receive video materials from the applicants, edit a 2-minute promotional video and a 10-minute full-length video at no charge, and make these introductory videos collectively available for viewing. The number of paid views will be evaluated as the number of votes and awards will be given. The videos will be subtitled in English so that they can be disseminated not only in Japan but also overseas.

Naoto Anzai **Toshihiro Yoneyama**

(President)

(Vice President)



Mina Horie

(PR Ambassador)



Gloria Starr Kins (Ambassador, Society and Diplomatic Review)

Editor-in-Chief and Publisher of **Society & Diplomatic Review (SDR)**, a United Nations accredited publication that serves as a directory of Ambassadors, UN Secretariat, and the Consular Corps, has been appointed as a **Special Advisor** to Mother Earth Cup Family. Gloria is Vice-Chair of the **Center for Global Action for Sustainable Development (CGASD)**. In honor of her great contributions in building sustainable society, it was decided to establish the **Gloria Award** as the grand prize.



Yuta Sono (singer) & **Natsumi Nishikawa** (singer)

Singing Mother Earth Cup Zero's theme song "**WITH YOU**" (Lyrics Toshihiro Yoneyama)

An independent French artist from the south of France inspired by different languages, cultures, and genres

SAO TI (singer song writer and composer)

She developed her passion for music very early and was very inspired by different music genres. Indeed, this brings to her a rich musical culture from all over the world. She sings in French, Arabic, English, Spanish and Portuguese and also has been influenced by many different styles such as Rnb, Soul, Jazz, Hip Hop and World Music.



Multi-talented artist “Miss Earth USA Eco 2019” advocating SDGs, climate actions, and human rights, recently joins Kimono Ambassadors

Nicolette Templier (actress, musician, and activist)

Nicolette (also known as “**Aera Moon**”) is a multi-talented singer and songwriter born in Brooklyn and raised between Haiti and America. She is an actress, musician, human rights & mental health advocate, as well as a youth advocate for the United Nations’ SDGs. Nicolette has had a successful career in the pageant world, earning her the title of Miss Earth USA Eco 2019. Her debut single “Moonlight (Love)”, aiming to unite the world through love and hope, are available in both English and Japanese.





Mack (Makoto Okubo) *(Project Director and multi-entertainer)*

Mack is a multilingual and globally well-known policy advisor, traveling around the world. Formerly he worked for an international organization in Switzerland. Among other responsibilities, he is now chairing ESG Investment Working Group and co-chairing Sustainable Finance Development Network in APEC and is actively promoting SDGs in collaboration with United Nations, OECD, and APEC. He is also known as multi-talented entertainer. He performs as a singer, dancer, comedian and mimicry artist in various events. He has launched Music for SDGs Project to promote United Nations' SDGs through music and produces entertainment events, inviting talented artists who share the goals.



Flower Harmony *(Yurikago Voice Yukiko Yamashita and music producer Takeda P)*



Flower=Every flower is wonderful, and every human being is important. With the theme of "A world where everyone can shine", they connect Japan and the world, and play harmony and love at entertainment events, shrines and temples across the country as a dedication performance. They also host "Japanese Tradition Expo," conveying Japanese traditional culture. They incorporate activities for the Earth and for the universe into his business and artistic activities, and their song "Earth of Cosmo" won the Global Award at the United Nations World Space Week Japan 2020.



Kippe Miyahara *(Singer/songwriter, music producer & MC, community engagement supporter)*



Born in Wakayama, and now based in Kashima City. Apart from his main business, he has been working on revitalizing the community and fostering culture through his musical activities, and always aspires to give live performances with a sense of unity and customer participation with the keyword "enjoy". In addition to songs for himself, he has produced songs for the J1 Kashima Antlers soccer team, local artists and idols, boys and girls choir, and Yosakoi groups. He performed in NY at Off-Broadway in 2018 and Carnegie Hall in 2019.

Diversity and Inclusion: Being bridge between Japan and the World through music

Ai Yamashita (pianist/keyboardist/composer)

Ai Yamashita from Japan, a Boston-based keyboardist, songwriter and alumuni of Berklee College of Music 17'. Her mission statement is **“Being bridge between Japan and the World through music”** and she has been contributing for **cultural exchange and music diversity in US** with her J-Pop band **“Ai’s Sakura Band”**.

In addition, she has recently released new original song called **“Min na Tomodachi - We are all friends”** which aiming to work on many present problems such as Racism/Discrimination/Diversity and LGBTQ.



Ai arranged a number of Japanese anime and popular songs in Bossa, Jazz, Salsa, teaming up with Mack and Kippeï of Music for SDGs Coalition. She has recently released **ONE PIECE WE ARE! EDM Remix** (https://youtu.be/ecO_cqIGhDk)



Ai Yamashita Website

<https://www.aiyamashita.com/>

Ai’s Sakura Band <https://youtu.be/s7bhbzeYGa8>

“Minna Tomodachi” (In Japanese)

<https://youtu.be/uo2Nidz32J0>

Former and current ambassadors to the United Nations come together to support frontline heroes fighting against Covid-19

UNRocks & Ambassador Friends

The entire world is facing an unprecedented threat. The COVID-19 pandemic has rapidly covered the globe, spread suffering, disrupted billions of lives and endangered the global economy. The World Health Organization (WHO) is leading and coordinating the global effort, supporting countries to prevent, detect, and respond to the pandemic.

Under these challenging circumstances, during the year when we mark the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, there is a message of solidarity that **26 former and current ambassadors to the UN** want to send to the world, launching a music video with a cover of Michael Jackson's song "**Heal the World**". This video is a tribute to all those who contribute to healing the world – doctors, nurses, healthcare workers. It also wants to encourage donations to the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund for WHO, which can be made at www.COVID19ResponseFund.org.

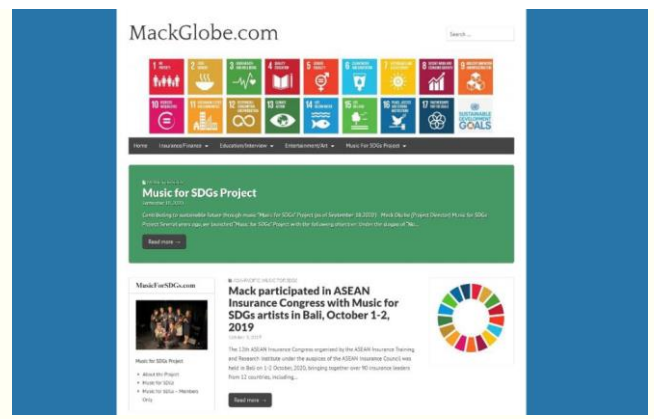
The music project is an initiative of **Simona-Mirela Miculescu**, founding member of UNRocks, the first ever music group composed of ambassadors to the UN.

With courtesy of Gloria Starr Kins, Chief Editor, Society and Diplomatic Review



"Music for SDGs" Project Contributing to sustainable future through music

Mack Okubo, Project Director



A music video prepared by Music for SDGs for the World Congress was edited by **Miki Takasugi**.

Based in New York, Miki has a full-time job as a Global Marketing Director, and also works independently as a Web Designer and Digital Creator. She has expertise in the field of fashion and beauty.

For more details, visit mackglobe.com or MusicForSDGs.com or email Mack (mackglobe@gmail.com or MusicforSDGs@gmail.com)

Music for SDGs' Main Schedule in 2021 (tbc)

- Jan 2021 **Music for SDGs Anime Festival** @online, supporting Pumpit's Cambodia elementary school construction project
- Jan 2021~ **Musical speeches and lectures** @Keio University, Kyoritsu Women's University (Kagayaki & Women Orchestra)
- 22 April 2021 **Earth Day Music Festival** @worldwide online
- 11 May 2021 **IAPSS World Congress** @worldwide online
- 22 June 2021 **Tiara Online Concert "Players for Okinawa"** @worldwide online
- July 2021 **United Nations HLPF side event**@ Connecting France, Japan and New York online
- Sep 2021 **UN General Assembly side event** @worldwide online
- 3Q or 4Q 2021 **Jazz Anime Concert** @NY
- Nov 2021 **Cop26 side event** @worldwide online
Joining Music for Climate Justice (M4CJ)'s Global Music Festival
- Throughout the year 2021 hosting music events, providing artists or panelists for meetings and SDG promoting events