



## Hamamatsu supports its music sector during the COVID-19 pandemic

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic led to the interruption of cultural activities such as visiting museums and theatres, suspensions of concerts, restriction on organizing cultural events, amongst others. The lockdown has profoundly impacted the cultural sector and its professionals across the world.

To support music talents and the music sector, [Hamamatsu](#) (Japan), a UNESCO Creative City of Music since 2014, together with the city's Cultural Foundation has launched the initiative #MusicAtHome.

The initiative aims to offer a stage to young local musicians to perform while providing cultural experiences to its residents. These videos are made available through the Hamamatsu Cultural Foundation [YouTube channel](#). In addition to the musical performances, the initiative also provides content for young budding musicians via online lessons related to musical instruments, musical grammar and many other contents. The videos are mostly available in Japanese.

To further support the initiative and gain broader outreach, the Hamamatsu International Piano Competition that welcomes brilliant musicians every year, has also taken part in the initiative. Through its own [Youtube channel 'HIPICofficial'](#) messages from jury members, as well as award winning performances from previous competitions, are regularly uploaded for public access.

**KEY WORDS:**

- Youth engagement
- Education and learning