



MATSUE-NEW ORLEANS TOMODACHI EXCHANGE

## **Matsue Exchange Participants**



**Ms. Yuka Ikejiri**

I love the music of New Orleans. I'm very happy to create more opportunities in Matsue to listen to New Orleans music and to spread awareness about our Friendship City relationship. I'd like to work towards attracting more visitors to Matsue based on this relationship.



**Mr. Hitoshi Kashiwai**

I like talking about travels and cuisine, and being physically active, so I like taking a proactive role in conversation. I cannot speak much English, but I hope things will go well.



**Mr. Hiroyuki Katayama**

Throughout college and graduate school, I played bass in a jazz band. Although I am not currently involved in band activities, I still love listening to jazz, funk, soul, and other kinds of African-American music. Ever since I was a student I felt that I wanted to have ties all around the world, and during graduate school I took part in a JICA internship program, during which time I lived in Bolivia for half a year. In addition, I have had shorter stays in places like China, Cambodia, and Morocco.

Through my work, I have planned and reviewed projects geared towards interregional exchange with people who live in all areas of Shimane. I think this experience will be a great strength in planning and overseeing exchange activities following this program.



**Ms. Mika Miyamoto**

My specialty is playing the saxophone. I'd be very pleased to interact with the locals by performing together. I am cheerful and personable, so I hope to make a lot of friends in New Orleans. I'm looking forward to a great exchange through music that goes beyond borders.

**Mr. Toranosuke Mizumoto**

My name is Mizumoto Toranosuke, and I am from Matsue City, Shimane Prefecture. I was born in 1991 and am 23-years-old. I got married when I was 20, and I have a 2-year-old daughter. I work at a company that does general city development, and I currently focus on event and convention related matters.

I like to spend time with my friends. Matsue has nice things to do in each season, so we make the most of nature here by doing things like flower viewing in spring, BBQing at the beach in summer, viewing leaves in fall, and going skiing and snowboarding in winter. I can't play any instruments, but I am a club DJ.



**Ms. Naoko Nagase**

I teach kendo for a club at the high school where I work, so I work up a sweat every day after class. I do daily yoga, and when the weather is nice I like to go jogging around Lake Shinji on the weekends, too. I am not very knowledgeable about jazz, but sometimes I sing some vocal jazz with the students, and we enjoy listening to jazz in the background while working on things in class.

**Ms. Ayaka Notsu**

I'm a very curious person, so I'm interested in many things. I'm looking forward to the things I'll discover in New Orleans, a city I so far only know through pictures and things I've heard. I like music, and I've practiced piano since I was very young.

Thanks to my father I discovered jazz, which got me started on a continuing admiration for New Orleans. Furthermore, I really like going abroad, and I usually go once a year. Even if I can't communicate much through words, I always actively find ways to have communication with the people I meet.

**Ms. Sachi Yamane**

I like interacting with people. I have interests ranging from hand crafts, baking, and guitar to sports and athletic events, so I have active interaction with people across a wide age range.

