

Executive Summary

In 2003, the Ohio Arts Council (OAC) and Arts Midwest (AMW) began thinking about an International Artist Residency project with master Japanese performing artist Eitetsu Hayashi. Initially, the OAC identified three Ohio arts organizations that had successfully implemented artist residencies and cultural exchange programs as possible local partners. These organizations were directed to begin thinking about the cultural exchange more formally:

- What kinds of activities could take place in your community?
- Who would be involved?
- What would be the purpose of an international artist residency in your community?
- How would your organization implement the project into its overall goals and objectives?

The interested organizations were invited to travel to Japan to see Mr. Hayashi perform, to meet and discuss possible cultural exchange and residency activities, and to learn what Mr. Hayashi's goals and objectives would be as the participating artist. From the very beginning, it was understood that the mission of the hosting organization(s) would be to recognize and implement residency activities that would benefit all participants involved the project.

Mr. Hayashi subsequently visited the Ohio area twice prior to the beginning of formal residency exchange activities. The meetings provided Mr. Hayashi the opportunity to meet possible project partners and participants, visit residency activities sites, learn more about the communities where activities that might take place and to further develop project goals and desires in tangent with representatives of the potential participating arts organizations, OAC and AMW.

At this point, a determination was made to begin the Dublin/Columbus residency in 2004, with the Cleveland residency to begin in 2005. Dublin Arts Council, the local partner for the Dublin/Columbus residency began seeking out possible partners and participants who could assist in the successful implementation of the cultural exchange program. These partners included: The City of Dublin, The Dublin City Schools, Capital University, Dublin Coffman High School student Jacob Yandura and various music educators and performers throughout the State of Ohio. In May 2004, Mr. Hayashi made the first of six visits to the Dublin/Columbus area to begin the International Artist Residency Project. This unprecedented international exchange encompassed taiko performance, original composition and educational outreach, as well as the exchange of cultural information, language, and friendship. Crossing cultural boundaries and transcending language barriers through music, Hayashi worked with educators, musicians, middle school students and college-level conservatory students to impart the emotional, physical and spiritual power of traditional Japanese drumming and Japanese culture.

Major project components of the Dublin/Columbus residency

Major activities: May 2004 – April 2005

Davis Middle School, Dublin City Schools, Dublin, Ohio

Hayashi worked intensively with a core group of 20 students at Davis Middle School on taiko performance. The ensemble learned to play several taiko compositions from memory and worked together to compose an original composition.

Hayashi met with larger groups of students at Davis Middle School (grades 6 – 8) for lecture/demonstration events, expanding his impact on the school district, and providing the artist and the larger student population with opportunities to interact with one another.

The school, as a whole, embraced the residency, and teachers incorporated a variety of Japanese studies into their curriculum, including Japanese language, culture, geography, food and government. At the end of year, the school shared the artifacts from their studies at a culminating event, including 2,000 paper cranes that had been folded by the Davis school community over the course of the cultural exchange program. These cranes were shipped to Japan and have since been placed at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial by Hayashi, along with a wish for peace from Davis Middle School. Hayashi sent the Davis students photos with original and translated newspapers articles, showing their cranes placed at the memorial.

Jacob Yandura, Dublin City Schools, Dublin, Ohio

Hayashi forged a special relationship with Dublin Coffman High School senior and composer Jacob Yandura, who was selected to create an original composition for taiko, piano and chorus. Hayashi and Yandura collaborated each time Hayashi visited the Dublin community, and the resulting composition blended the ideas, cultures, musical talents, strengths and vision of each artist. Yandura's composition, Synthesis, premiered at the culminating event of the international artist residency project.

Train the Trainer

A third component of the residency project included three days of intensive taiko instruction for a group of music educators from across the state of Ohio. Titled "Train the Trainer," the workshop was developed to broaden Hayashi's impact on the greater community by providing skills, training and knowledge to a group of educators who would, in turn, teach taiko in their classrooms.

Capital University, Bexley, Ohio

A final component of the yearlong residency included a special course in taiko for Capital University's Conservatory of Music students. Fifteen Conservatory students enrolled in Music 493, taught by Hayashi and his assistants. The course provided students with an intimate, in-depth, hands-on learning experience from one of the worlds most accomplished musicians. Like the students at Davis Middle School, the Music 493 students also composed an original taiko piece.

Culmination, Dublin Coffman High School, Dublin City Schools, Dublin, Ohio

A culminating event took place for a full house on April 30, 2005 and featured the artifact sharing of Davis Middle School studies in the lobby of the Dublin Coffman High School performing arts center. Stage performances included Hayashi's 20-student ensemble from Davis Middle School in Dublin; students from Hayashi's Music 493 class at Capital University's Conservatory of Music; and participants in the "Train the Trainer" workshop. The evening also included the world premier of *Synthesis*, Jacob Yandura's original composition for taiko and vocal performance, as well as a special performance by Eitetsu Hayashi and his ensemble, Fuun-no-Kai.

This portion of the project was produced by Dublin Arts Council, the Ohio Arts Council, the U.S./Japan Cultural Trade Network and Arts Midwest, with major support from the National Endowment for the Arts and private contributors. Additional support was provided by HAL, Inc., Dublin City Schools, Capital University, Ohio State University, Asano Taiko Co., the City of Dublin, Clarion Hotels, Hidaka USA, the Institute for Japanese Studies at OSU, Ippon Supplies, the Japan-American Society of Central Ohio, Nissin Travel Service, the Ohio Arts Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education.

Major project components of the Cleveland residency

Major activities: January 2006 – May 2006

From January 2006 through May 2006, Eitetsu Hayashi and his company, including the company manager, two apprentice drummers and a technical director made three visits to Cleveland, Ohio. During this time, they partnered with five institutions including; Playhouse Square, Cleveland State University, Trinity Cathedral, Cuyahoga Community College and the Cleveland School of the Arts in University Circle.

Playhouse Square and Cuyahoga Community College

Eitetsu and his drummers spent five days with 20 students selected at random by the staff of Playhouse Square. The students and Eitetsu worked for six hours Monday through Friday to prepare for their performance Saturday evening. While studying taiko drumming, the students also had many opportunities to interact with Eitetsu. Students learned several simple compositions and also created their own improvisational pieces under Eitetsu's careful eye. On Saturday, the students and Eitetsu performed a concert at Cuyahoga Community College. Approximately 500 were in the audience. The response to the students playing was wonderful and the standing ovations after each of the pieces performed by Eitetsu and Fuun-no-kai were overwhelming! This partnership was a great success, artistically and philosophically. The twenty students learned not only taiko drumming and facts about Japan, but also experienced the opportunity to work closely with new partners to create an ensemble. The feedback from students, teachers and parents spoke specifically to this point.

While at Playhouse Square, Eitetsu and Fuun-no-kai presented two 45 minute lecture/demonstrations at the State Theatre as part of Cuyahoga Community College's series. Each lec/dem had 500-600 in the audience and was quite well received by young and old alike.

Trinity Cathedral

Daniel Hathaway, director of Music and Performing Arts at Trinity, was a member of the first mission trip to Japan and met Eitetsu. Since that first meeting, they have looked forward to the opportunity to play together. Eitetsu and Daniel performed a piece written for organ and taiko at Trinity's Wednesday Brown Bag concert series. In the same concert, Eitetsu performed with his company, Fuun-no-kai. The audience of 400 included; students, business people, clergy, community members and many seniors who were brought to Trinity for the concert. This particular concert was a tremendous success. Eitetsu was also invited to participate in the Sunday morning worship service. This was very moving for the congregation and Eitetsu and it brought together the spirituality of both the Christian faith and Eitetsu's Buddhist faith.

Cleveland State University

Eitetsu and Maestro Victor Liva worked with the CSU orchestra over a period of five rehearsals to perform a piece written for taiko and orchestra. In addition to the CSU students, ten students from the Cleveland School of the Arts were also invited to play. This was a wonderful experience for these talented students. Eitetsu also provided a

lecture/demonstration for the CSU community. The audience of 900 was moved to a standing ovation of several minutes. The staff of CSU counts this as one of their most moving experiences.

Cleveland School of the Arts

Eitetsu wanted the experience of working with an inner city school and youth at risk. Eitetsu spent several days of each visit with 20 select CSA students. The students, ranging in age from 12 to 18 worked very hard. They learned several pieces written by Eitetsu and also had the opportunity to create their own improvisational pieces. They were wonderful! The entire school became involved in the Japanese culture. The creative writing class studied haiku and tonka. The choirs learned Japanese folk songs. The visual arts students created beautiful fabric banners done in Japanese style, dancers studied movement and theatre students learned kabuki traditions. All these efforts resulted in a benefit performance created by Eitetsu and the artists and teachers of CSA. The performance was held at Trinity Cathedral and there were 350 in attendance. 150 students participated on stage while countless others worked behind the scenes. The benefit was quite successful artistically and financially!

This portion of the project was produced by the Ohio Arts Council's International Program in partnership with Arts Midwest, the U.S./Japan Cultural Trade Network, U.S. Department of Education, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ohio Arts Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education and JASNO (Japan America Society of Northeast Ohio), with major support from Playhouse Square Foundation, Cuyahoga Community College, Music and Performing Arts at Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland State University and the Cleveland School of the Arts.