Press Release: From the Oregon-China Sister State Relations Council, the Japanese Consular Office in Portland, and the Honorary Consulate for the Republic of Korea

Release Date: April 1, 2015

The Chinese, Japanese and Korean communities of our city, with generous support from the Port of Portland and the Institute for Asian Studies at Portland State University, are pleased to present a “Strings of Three Nations Concert” on Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 2:00 pm in the Ballroom (3rd Floor) of Smith Memorial Student Union located on the campus of Portland State University.

Three talented musicians from China, Japan and Korea will play the “guzheng,” “koto” and “kayagum,” stringed instruments native to their respective countries. The concert is free and open to the public, but guests need to obtain tickets from the Portland State Box Office at 1825 SW Broadway, online at www.pdx.edu/boxoffice, or by calling 503-725-3307. Seating is limited to 350 ticket holders. Doors for the event will open at 1:00 pm. For more information, go to: http://www.pdx.edu/asian-studies/.

The idea for the concert originated with officials from three Portland area offices: Jin Lan, President of Oregon-China Sister State Relations Council; Hiroshi Furusawa, Consul General of Japan in Portland; and Greg Caldwell, Honorary Consul for the Republic of Korea in Portland. In a joint statement, they said, “We want to show that, despite the political differences in our world today, our respective communities in Portland serve as a model of cooperation and friendship. In this spirit, we are delighted to share a bit of the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean cultures with the citizens of Oregon.”

The musicians for the concert are Emily Deng (China), Mitsuki Dazai (Japan), and Myung-Ja “Donna” Jang (Korea).

Emily Deng holds the highest-level certification from the China National Association of Musicians. She has appeared on numerous television stations in China and has performed locally at events sponsored by the Lan Su Chinese Garden.
Mitsuki Dazai pursued advanced studies in the “koto” at a number of well-known schools and conservatories in Japan. She has performed professionally throughout Japan, the US, and Europe since 1997. She was featured locally on OPB’s Oregon Art Beat. She currently leads Oregon Koto-Kai, a local “koto” ensemble group.

Donna Jang holds a master’s degree in music from Surabul Art University in Seoul. She performed as a member of the Seoul Philharmonic and Korean National Philharmonic Orchestra from 1964-1973. She currently serves as staff member and instructor at the Korean Music Association in Seattle.

Please join us for this exciting event!

Jin Lan, 
President 
Oregon-China 
Sister State Council

Hiroshi Furusawa, 
Consul General 
Oregon Consular Office in Portland

Greg Caldwell, 
Honorary Consul 
Republic of Korea in Northern Oregon