

The Moanin' Frogs Saxophone Sextet Takes Top Prize at International Competition in Japan



OSAKA, JAPAN (May 13, 2026) – The Moanin' Frogs, a saxophone chamber music sextet, have won the Menuhin Gold Prize at the 12th Osaka International Chamber Music Festa in Japan. This international recognition reflects an extraordinary level of musicianship and creativity on a global stage.

Held every three years since 1993, the Osaka International Chamber Music Competition & Festa features competitively selected groups from around the world. The Chamber Music Competition is restricted to string ensembles, but the Festa is open to all genres and musical instruments for groups of two to six members. The Moanin' Frogs were one of only 16 ensembles from 10 different countries that advanced to live rounds in Osaka, Japan, this month and was one of only two American groups selected.

“We are so grateful and honored to have participated in the Osaka International Chamber Music Festa and to receive this prize,” said Jeffrey Leung, DMA, baritone saxophonist in The Moanin' Frogs, in a brief acceptance speech on behalf of the group. “Our thanks to the voting audience for selecting us and to the organizers for producing this impressive event. This win represents an exciting moment, but I speak for all six of us in saying that the highlight of this competition has been meeting so many outstanding musicians from around the world and hearing them perform. All the participants here were worthy and inspiring competitors.”

The competition's highest honor, the Menuhin Gold Prize, includes a cash award and a Grand Prix Concert Tour across Japan in 2028. Advancement in the Festa is determined by popular vote by a jury of music-loving community members vetted by the

Japan Chamber Music Foundation and four highly regarded musicians serving as Special Jurists. The Festa is part of the Japan Chamber Music Foundation, which exists to “share the beauty of chamber music with Japan and the world.” This achievement marks the sextet’s second international competition win, having won First Prize at the 2018 M-Prize Chamber Arts Competition.

The Moanin’ Frogs are widely known for their virtuosic artistry, theatrical energy, and innovative chamber music programming that guides audiences through a journey of hits from the last 500 years of music. The group features six different saxophones, from soprano to bass. Members of The Moanin’ Frogs include: Edward Goodman, DMA (soprano saxophone), Gabriel Piqué, DMA (alto saxophone), Jeffrey Siegfried, DMA (tenor saxophone and vocals), Jonathan Hulting-Cohen, MM, (soprano and tenor saxophones), Jeffrey Leung, DMA (baritone saxophone), and Lucas Hopkins, DMA (bass saxophone). Performances by The Moanin’ Frogs celebrate movement, emotion, and joy.

[Livestream recordings from the competition](#) are available on YouTube, including [The Frogs’ competition highlights](#) and [Final Round performance](#). For more on the competition, visit <https://jcmf.or.jp/12thcompetition-festa/en/>.

ABOUT THE MOANIN’ FROGS: The Moanin’ Frogs are an award-winning ensemble that features six saxophones (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, and bass) in an amphibious blend of classical, jazz, pop, singing, and humor. “A cover band for hits from the last 500 years,” The Frogs are distinguished by the impressive virtuosity of their classical training and a strong focus on entertainment and audience connection. Listeners of all ages and backgrounds experience a new and exciting take on chamber music that has to be seen to be believed. A registered 501(c)3, the sextet regularly presents concerts and educational programming across North America that showcases the versatility of the saxophone for players and audiences across age and skill level.

For more on The Frogs, visit TheMoaninFrogs.com.

BOOKING INQUIRIES

Jean Schreiber Management

jschreibermanagement@gmail.com

Tel: 818-436-6173

MEDIA INQUIRIES

Lauren Camacci

themoaninfrogsmarketing@gmail.com