

PRESS RELEASE

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Public Relations Section

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2020 SPRING CONFERMENT OF DECORATION

DR. WILLIAM P. MALM

Detroit, MI – On April 29, 2020 (Japan Time), the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2020 Spring Imperial Decorations. Among this year's recipients is Dr. William P. Malm, Professor Emeritus at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Malm will receive the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, in recognition of his contributions toward promoting academic exchange and strengthening the relationship between Japan and the United States.

- **DECORATION:** The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon
- **SERVICE:** Contributions toward promoting academic exchange and strengthening the relationship between Japan and the United States
- **NAME:** William P. Malm (92)
- **MAJOR TITLE:** Professor Emeritus of Musicology at the University of Michigan
- **ADDRESS (NATIONALITY):** Ann Arbor, Michigan (USA)

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. William P. Malm earned a Ph.D. in musicology at UCLA in 1959, with dissertation research focused on the music of Japanese theater. This led to the publication of *Japanese Music and Musical Instruments*, the first English-language study on the subject. Through this book, Dr. Malm introduced to the western world various types of Japanese music (including religious music, folk music, *gagaku*, *nohgaku*, and *kabuki* music) and musical instruments (such as the *biwa*, *shakuhachi*, *koto*, and *shamisen*).

In 1992, he was awarded the Fumio Koizumi Prize for Ethnomusicology, in recognition of his achievements in the ethnomusicological study of Japanese music. Dr. Malm taught music for

half a century, including 34 years as a member of the University of Michigan music faculty. Through his teaching, research, performances, publications, and presentations around the world, Dr. Malm has made significant contributions to academic exchange and the strengthening of the relationship between Japan and the United States.

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