

SGI PRESIDENT IKEDA'S MESSAGE TO THE DAY OF NEW YORK FESTIVAL

FRIENDSHIP IS THE GREATEST HAPPINESS

'True friendship binds one person to another,' writes SGI President Ikeda, 'regardless of position, nationality, race or even religion.'

My heartfelt congratulations on holding your Culture Festival commemorating the Day of New York. I thank you deeply for all your continuing energetic struggles.

It is our conviction that humankind's bright future exists where youth who have grown

up amid different cultures can generously exchange ideas, deepen friendships and form ties based on a common humanity. True friendship binds one person to another regardless of position, nationality, race or even religion. Having trusted friends is the greatest happiness in life.

I hope you will take time to enjoy this day while engaging in warm and pleasant conversation. I pray from the bottom of my heart for your excellent health and abundant good fortune.

Daisaku Ikeda
June 18, 2000



North East Shore rap group

New York Men's Chorus

Zigi raggae band

New Jersey Men's Band

Photos by:
DANNY SZE
KATHY CONDON
KIRK CONDLES
MISA CRYSTALL
MITSUHIRO SHOJI
SIMONA ARU
SOPHIE THEVEN
STEPHANIE SYDNEY

Bronx Youth Band