



Photo courtesy of city of Temecula

Cultural exchange program brings the "Mayu Choir of Nakayama" to Temecula.

'Nakayama Friendship Choir' sings for a 'Sister City' crowd

TEMECULA — Four years ago, the city of Temecula took advantage of an opportunity promising a cultural exchange program with other cities around the globe. Today — the City — and Voorburg, The Netherlands and Nakayama, Japan, are united as "Sister Cities."

Both the City and the Temecula Valley Unified School District participate in the "Sister Cities/Sister Schools" program, which enjoys international recognition. Through the auspices of the Temecula Sister Cities Association, and affiliate organizations across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, all three municipalities share an extraordinary cultural exchange experience.

Dutch and Japanese delegations of digni-

ties, businesspersons and students previously traveled to Temecula, where they were introduced to its educational, cultural and historical attributes, and its prospering retail environment. Tours included side trips to the Wine Country, Old Town, City Hall and a school or two. Hospitable residents and the business community welcomed their guests with opened arms and hearts.

Favorite destinations included Disneyland and Sea World, and a shopping excursion to Costco and Target of Temecula.

On Aug. 28, in the true spirit of the Sister City alliance, ticketholders will be treated to a concert by the celebrated Mayu Choir of Nakayama (also known as the Nakayama Friendship

Choir) at Chaparral High School Performing Arts Center, 27215 Nicolas Road.

The group was formed in 1974 by young people who wanted to compete in a local music contest. In 1975, they captured first-place honors at that competition, as well as the regional event. Not content with those wins, they went on to the national contest, where they placed in the top eight.

Tickets for the Nakayama Friendship Choir's premiere performance and reception are \$10, \$7 for students. They will be available Aug. 15 at the Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce, 27450 Ynez Road, Suite 104.

For more information, call 676-5090.