

The 60-year history of the Ishibashi Cultural Center

1956

The Ishibashi Cultural Center opened on April 26, 1956. [Facilities donated] Art museum, gymnasium, cultural hall, a 50-meter pool, outdoor music hall, tennis courts, kids amusement park, etc.



An aerial photo (above) of the celebratory event on the opening day.

1963

Opening of the Ishibashi Cultural Hall / Ishibashi Cultural Auditorium.

1964

Launched the amusement park business including tiny cars on the former tennis court site.

1971

Completion of the Japanese Garden (first-phase construction) and the free rest area, Rakusuitei.

1977

The gymnasium was closed for the construction of the public library. The amusement park was closed.

1978

The Kurume Public Library (present Central Library) was opened.

1993

The 50-meter pool was closed.

1996

The Annex of the Ishibashi Museum of Art was opened.

2006

The Ishibashi Cultural Center marked its 50th anniversary.



2010

The camellia garden at Ishibashi Cultural Center was recognized as the "International Camellia Garden of Excellence."

2016

The Ishibashi Cultural Center marked its 60th anniversary on April 26. November 19th. The Kurume City Art Museum and the Shoji Ishibashi Memorial Museum were opened.



Inquiries

Ishibashi Cultural Center

Open hours

9:00–17:00 (admission free)  
Closing time extended to 19:00 from May 1st to September 30

Closed

Mondays (opened on Mondays that fall on national holidays and makeup holidays)  
Year end and New Year (December 28 to January 3)  
\* The garden is opened to the public all year.

Tel 0942 33 2271 Fax 0942 39 7837 www.ishibashi-bunka.jp

Kurume City Art Museum and the Shojiro Ishibashi Memorial Museum

Open hours

10:00–17:00 (entry permitted until 16:30)

Admission

Kurume City Art Museum

The admission price is set for each exhibition.  
Please inquire with the museum for details.

Shojiro Ishibashi Memorial Museum

300 yen  
admission free for high school students and younger.

Closed

Mondays (opened on Mondays that fall on national holidays and makeup holidays)  
Year end and New Year (December 28 to January 3)  
\* May be altered depending on the fiscal year  
Closed for switching exhibitions

Tel 0942 39 1131 Fax 0942 39 3134 www.ishibashi-bunka.jp/kcam/

Transportation guidance

JR Train

Approximately 20 minutes by Shinkansen or approximately 40 minutes by rapid train from JR Hakata Station to JR Kurume Station. Approximately 30 minutes by limited express or 40 minutes by express train from Nishitetsu Fukuoka (Tenjin) Station to Nishitetsu Kurume Station.

Bus

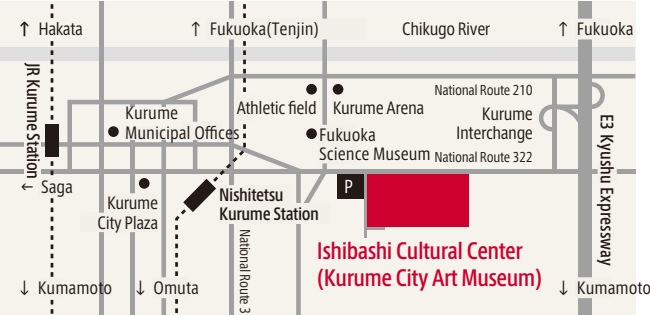
Approximately 50 minutes via Nishitetsu Highway Bus from Fukuoka Airport to "Bunka Center Mae" bus stop. Approximately 15 minutes from JR Kurume Station. Approximately 5 minutes from Nishitetsu Kurume Station. Nishitetsu Bus, Routes 1, 9, 20, 22, 25 Get off at "Bunka Center Mae".

By car

Approximately 10 minutes from Kurume Interchange.

Parking

200 yen for up to 2 hours during 8:00–22:00 and 100 yen for every 30 minutes thereafter.  
\* Free if the duration is 30 minutes or shorter. Maximum parking fee after 24 hours of parking is 1,000 yen.



Special partner



ISHIBASHI CULTURAL CENTER

Public interest incorporated association, Kurume Cultural Promotion Association  
1015, Nonaka-machi, Kurume-shi, Fukuoka 839-0862  
Tel 0942 33 2271 Fax 0942 39 7837  
www.ishibashi-bunka.jp



ISHIBASHI CULTURAL CENTER

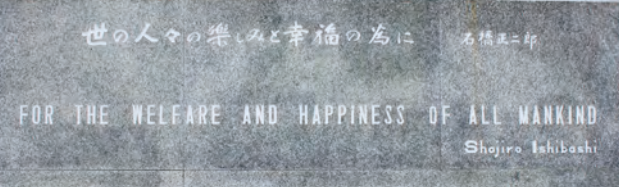
Ishibashi Cultural Center

The Ishibashi Cultural Center was donated by honorary citizen Shojiro Ishibashi who founded Bridgestone Corporation in 1956 to his home city Kurume. It is a composite cultural facility with an art museum, music hall, and library, and a vast garden with flowers including roses and camellia blooming in all four seasons. The premise filled with flowers and greenery has been cherished by the citizens as a venue for relaxation and a base of culture and art.



The principle behind making the donation

Shojiro's principle behind the donation etched on the main gate says, "For the welfare and happiness of all mankind." It is alive in every corner of the facility even today.





# ISHIBASHI CULTURAL CENTER Promenade Map

## D Creative Forest Zone

This area, surrounded by rich nature, is used for concerts and exhibiting artworks.



### ⑥ Sakamoto Hanjiro's Former Studio

The former studio of the painter Hanjiro Sakamoto from Kurume City was moved from Yame City and resurrected in 1980.



**Cherry**

(from late March to early April)

**Maple**

(November)

**Camellia garden**

Camellia (from November to March)

It was recognized as an International Camellia Garden of Excellence in 2010 at the International Camellia Conference.

## E Japanese Zone

Visitors can enjoy the abundance of each season and unique Japanese atmosphere in this circuit style garden.



### ⑤ Café and Gallery Shop Rakusuitei

It was named after Rakuzan Aisui that Shojiro cherished. It houses a café, takeout shop, and a gallery shop that offers a range of souvenirs from Kurume.



**Plum**

(from late January to early March)

**Maple**

(November)

## B A relaxing zone in reading and the shade of trees

Visitors can enjoy having tea and light meals or reading under the trees in this square on the south side of the library.



### ④ Kurume City Central Library

The Kurume City Central Library was built on a former gymnasium site and opened in 1978 within the premises. It has been used by many citizens.



**Dogwood**  
(April)

## F Rose Zone

Visitors can enjoy the colors, shapes and fragrances of many varieties of roses while strolling along the paths.



**Rose**

(Spring: May to August)

(Autumn: Mid October to December)

## A Memorial Zone

In this zone, the visitors can feel the spirit of Shojiro Ishibashi who donated the Ishibashi Cultural Center.



### ① Kurume City Art Museum

Kurume City Art Museum was opened in November 2016, inheriting over sixty years of history and tradition from the Ishibashi Museum of Art that was inaugurated in 1956. It also has a museum shop inside.



### ② Shojiro Ishibashi Memorial Museum

The Shojiro Ishibashi Memorial Museum (public asset) was donated by the Ishibashi Foundation to Kurume City in October 2016, after renovating the Annex of the Ishibashi Museum of Art, and was opened the same time as the Kurume City Art Museum. This memorial museum introduces the transitions of the Ishibashi Cultural Center as a base for art and culture and also introduces Shojiro Ishibashi's path in life and his character.



### ③ Ishibashi Cultural Hall

The Ishibashi Cultural Hall was completed in 1963. The hall born of the aspiration of Shojiro and his eldest son Kanichiro has earned a solid reputation among many musicians as a hall with superb acoustic effects thanks to the design by NHK Science & Technology Research Laboratories.



### Inheriting the Pool Jumping Board

Closed in 1993, this 50-meter pool was the first one in Japan to have underwater lighting and gave birth to a world record. Its jumping board has been preserved.



### Rhythm of Green

A bronze statue of two girls dancing, by Takashi Shimizu.



### Vénus de Milo

A faithful replica of Vénus de Milo owned by the Louvre in Paris.



### Pelican Fountain

The statue of three pelicans in the center is *Sanshi* by Toyochi Yamamoto.



## C A healing zone by the water with flowers

Visitors can spend a leisurely time here while taking in the waterfront and fragrant plants.



**Plum**

(from late January to early March)



**Water lilies**

(from May to July)



**Iris**

(from late May to early June)



**Hydrangea**

(from mid June to early July)



North

- Accessible toilet
- Baby chairs
- Diaper changing tables
- Nursing room
- Smoking area
- Steep slope