

神戸国際中学校・高等学校 河野記念アルモニホール

**KOBE INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
HARMONIE HALL**

A wood structural framed gymnasium in concert with the surrounding environment

The Kobe International Junior High School and Senior High School Harmonie Hall was based on an idea of a clear and open axial plan utilizing concrete and wood to respond to the campus' history while creating a new relationship with the natural landscape. Harmonie Hall is an ancillary facility that includes a gymnasium that can be used as both a basketball court and an auditorium. Functionally, gyms tend to be enclosed spaces removed from their surrounding environment, but this time, by utilizing a wood structural frame, the building is in concert with the vibrant local environment as much as possible.

The south side leads to an existing building and is comprised of a long 20m wood structural span for views of the woodlands supported by a concrete wall. Opening the building to the lush ecosystem of the north campus was a natural configuration. The north side is a rich and open ecosystem. By providing a sufficient aperture to the wind and natural landscape, a space filled with light and consistent breezes from the north is realized. Also, by supporting the horizontal force with concrete walls on three sides, with the north side being the exception, the structural roof frame was designed to transfer vertical load to the wooden poles on the north facade. The idea for using structure to maximize openness to the surrounding environment, both conceptually and visually, marries the wind and light of the natural environment with the new space. The environment is the architecture.