



NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Part of the
150TH COMMEMORATION *of the*
AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

2011 - 2015

A unique musical opportunity for orchestras



Organized by
Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours with Integrity



NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF THE STATES - *An Exclusive Concert Series*



The *National Festival of the States* is an annual concert series developed by Music Celebrations in various cities throughout the United States. These performance tours are supported by local government offices, community organizations, tourist boards, and the like. Such affiliations offer a more memorable musical, cultural and educational experience for recommended ensembles (both instrumental and vocal) to perform in different venues in the most historic cities and celebrate the founding, history, and institutions of the United States! Music Celebrations has been successfully organizing the National Festival of the States concert series in Washington, D.C. for the past 15 years. In conjunction with the National Park Service, the Armed Forces Retirement Home,

and the U.S. Navy Memorial, Music Celebrations International invites choirs, bands, and orchestras of the highest quality throughout the country to take part in this concert series event, which features these ensembles in the most prestigious venues available with the greatest potential for audiences.

From its celebrated symbols of patriotism to its undiscovered neighborhoods, the sights and sounds of the nation's capital inspire millions of visitors every year. Packed with famous sights, free attractions, and an endless calendar of special events, Washington, D.C. offers year-round inspiring experiences.

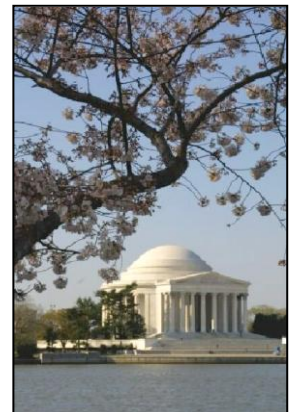
Washington, D.C. is a town of much renown: it is a government town, a company town, a scandalous town and the political capital of the world. But Washington also has another significant distinction – it is a musical town. In a city that claims *Duke Ellington, Pearl Bailey, Jelly Roll Morton* and *Shirley Horn*, it is expected that jazz not only be appreciated, but showcased. *John Philip Sousa*, “The March King”, was a native of D.C. and conducted the U.S. Marine Band for 12 years. The city’s proximity to the Appalachian Mountains led to bluegrass and country first finding a large forum in the Washington, D.C. area. The first nationally televised country music concert was broadcast from Constitution Hall in 1948. Opera and classical music is the entertainment for dignitaries, diplomats, the sophisticated and the romantic. Washington, D.C. is home to one of the best opera companies in the world, the *Washington National Opera*. The Washington, D.C. area is also the capital of choral music, with more than 70 choral groups throughout the region.



Imagine your orchestra performing at the *National World War II Memorial*, in the acoustically-fine *National Presbyterian Church*, on stage for decorated military veterans, performing in one of the various DC-area concert halls or in one of the many gorgeous cathedrals D.C. has to offer! The *National Festival of the States* can make these possible for your orchestra!

An orchestra director recently said this about his recent experience in Washington, D.C. ~

“On this trip to Washington, we planted seeds in the minds and hearts of our students. We have no way of knowing what those seeds will bear twenty or thirty years from now. We may have students who are inspired to become great musicians. We may have teachers or civil servants. We may have politicians or members of the military. We may have senators or admirals. I do know that we will have strong, dedicated, patriotic citizens. The end of this trip is not the end of the journey, it is only the beginning.”



SAMPLE ORCHESTRA TOUR – *3 nights / 4 days*

DAY ONE - THURSDAY

Afternoon arrival in Washington, D.C.

Meet your Tour Manager, who will escort your choir through the duration of your activities

Take a panoramic motorcoach tour of Historic Washington, D.C.

Check into your hotel

Attend a free 6pm concert on the Millennium Stage at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Dinner at the Kennedy Center Café

Take an evening walking tour of the Lincoln, Vietnam, Korean, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and National World War II Memorials, as well as the Washington Monument

Return to your hotel for overnight

DAY TWO - FRIDAY

Breakfast at the hotel

Visit Ford's Theater, where Lincoln was shot, and the Peterson House, where Lincoln passed away

Take a tour of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Lunch, on own

Visit Arlington National Cemetery and participate in a special wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*

Dinner at a local restaurant

*Performance for American Military Veterans as part of the National Festival of the States**

Return to your hotel for overnight

DAY THREE - SATURDAY

Breakfast at the hotel

Take a tour of the Smithsonian Institute's American History Museum, Natural History Museum, or Air & Space Museum

Lunch, on own, at the Old Post Office Pavilion

Take a walk along Pennsylvania Avenue for a view of the White House

(White House visits must be requested through a member of Congress)

*Performance at the U.S. Navy Memorial or the National World War II as part of the National Festival of the States and to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the American Civil War**

*Alternatively, take part in an orchestra workshop**

Take a walking tour of Capitol Hill and see the Supreme Court and Capitol buildings

Visit the Library of Congress, the largest library in the world

Dinner at a local restaurant

Take an evening walking tour of the Jefferson Memorial and the Iwo Jima Marine Memorial

Return to your hotel for overnight

DAY FOUR - SUNDAY

Breakfast at the hotel

Hotel check-out and board motorcoach

Afternoon departure for home

THIS ITINERARY IS VERY FLEXIBLE - LONGER OR SHORTER LENGTH TOURS ARE POSSIBLE – JUST ASK!

***All performances/ceremonies/workshops are subject to confirmation**

Further musical activities you may enjoy include:

- Concert at Wolf Trap Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna, VA
- Musical at the National Theater
- Hear the U.S. Air Force Band perform
- Hear the U.S. Navy Band perform
- Hear the U.S. Naval Academy Band perform
- Marine D&B Corps Tuesday performance at the Iwo Jima Memorial
- Tour Brucker Hall, home of the U.S. Army Band, in Ft. Myer, VA
- Travel to Ft. Meade, home of the U.S. Army Field Band

Nearby areas you may visit include:

- The "Historic Triangle"(Williamsburg/Jamestown/Yorktown)
- Gettysburg
- Philadelphia
- Six Flags Amusement Park
- Kings Dominion Amusement Park

Other site-seeing opportunities include:

- Bureau of Engraving and Printing
- Embassy Row
- George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens
- International Spy Museum
- National Arboretum
- National Archives Building
- National Gallery of Art
- National Museum of the Marine Corps
- National Zoo
- Medieval Times Dinner
- President Lincoln's Cottage
- Potomac River Cruise
- United States Holocaust Museum
- Washington National Cathedral

TESTIMONIALS



“Thank you so much for giving so much time and effort to the National High School Honors Orchestra. I am so grateful. I am not certain that anyone else really knows how much you and your company donate to the cause. I know that it would have been an impossible task for me without your help. Words cannot express my deep gratitude. Our six professional experiences with you and MCI have been of impeccable quality. MCI is a role model for all companies in your business. *I will continue to give others my highest recommendation to others to arrange their trips only with MCI.*”

~*Mary Lou Jones, Former Chair of the National High School Honors Orchestra*

“Our clinic with Col. [Arnald] Gabriel was a delight. Many of my students have worked with him at Midwestern Music Camp here at the University of Kansas. He was familiar face and we all had fun. Our performance at the Fairfax was very well received. What a charming audience we performed for that evening!”

~*Lynn Basow, Lawrence Free State High School Orchestra*



"Again, let me thank you for paving the way for our musical voyage to Washington, D.C. It was a most positive and memorable travel experience for our entire group.

Your company helped to set a benchmark of success for our students. We feel fortunate to have had this opportunity. I would strongly urge my peers in the future to secure your organization for travel and performance arrangements."

~*James G. Daugherty, Instrumental Director, Central Davidson High School*



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INTERNATIONAL

1440 S. Priest Drive, Ste. 102
Tempe, AZ 85281-6954

800.395.2036 | www.musiccelebrations.com | info@musiccelebrations.com