# National Festival of the States in New York City













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 International has been successfully organizing the National Festival of the States concert series in New York City for over 20 years.

By far the most populous city in the United States, New York is a world unto itself by virtue of its size, the density and diversity of its population, its dynamic economic activity and its vibrant cultural life. In one visit, you can experience the Empire State Building, listen to jazz in Greenwich Village, see Wall Street where fortunes are gained or lost, watch the Today Show in person, choose to eat any cuisine known to man, feel the atmosphere of Times Square by night, and attend a Broadway Musical.

Now imagine your group performing in St. Patrick's Cathedral, within the bustling milieu of South Street Seaport, underneath the Statue of Liberty, at the United Nations Building, or at the Lincoln Center Plaza. Perhaps your group would participate in a workshop with a famous resident musician or entertain at a community centre.

The National Festival of the States can make these possible for your performing ensemble! Participating groups are chosen on the basis of recommendation from state and national music educators, governors' and senators' offices and by audition. Selected groups perform in prestigious venues with maximum audience potential.

## Sample Itinerary

#### Day One:

- Afternoon arrival in New York City
- Meet your MCI Tour Manager for an orientation tour of the city
- Sightseeing and NYC orientation tour may include Midtown, 5th Avenue, Rockefeller Center, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Radio City Music Hall, NBC Studio Store, Grand Central Terminal and 42nd Street Deco architecture
- Evening sightseeing includes a trip to the top of the Empire State Building or Top of the Rock for a view of the Big Apple
- Evening Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant
- Check-in to the hotel for overnight

#### Day Two:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Performance or clinic as part of the National Festival of the States
- Lunch, on own
- Tour the Upper Westside including Harlem, Apollo Theatre, Grant's Tomb, and Columbia University
- Continue sightseeing of Central Park, Strawberry Fields, Bethesda Fountain, Lincoln Center, and Time Warner Building
- Evening dinner at a Times Square area restaurant
- Optional: Attend a Broadway Play/Musical (additional cost)
- Return to the hotel for overnight

#### Day Three:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Tour the Lower Manhattan sights of Battery Park, Wall Street, Trinity Church, Federal Hall (where George Washington was sworn in as the First President), Winter Garden and 9/11 Memorial (Museum is additional cost, minimum 2 hours, with strong content), Chinatown, Little Italy and Greenwich Village, as time allows
- Lunch, on own
- Continue sightseeing including Lincoln Center and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine
- Afternoon sightseeing includes a 1-hr narrated NYC Harbor Cruise
- Performance as part of the National Festival of the States
- Evening dinner at a local restaurant
- Return to the hotel for overnight

#### Day Four:

- Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out
- Morning sightseeing may include the High Line elevated park along the Hudson River with public art and gardens, Brooklyn Bridge walk,
- Greenwich Village, or Macy's shopping
- Afternoon departure for home











Music Celebrations International is a first-class concert touring organization for your choral tour needs. This was our 3rd tour with this company, and each time, the venues were outstanding...From Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin, Normandy Beach, to Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris...from our National Cathedral to the Kennedy Center in Washington... from the United Nations (The UN), The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, to St. Patrick's Cathedral and then to the base of the Statue of Liberty on the 4th of July in NYC, we were given fabulous singing opportunities...all inspiring and well organized and planned with and for us. If you want to perform in outstanding, highly recognizable concert venues, go with MCI.

Marcia A. Giambrone, Conductor/Music Director Buffalo (NY) Choral Arts Society (BCAS)Laguna

## National Festival of the States

### BOSTON • CHICAGO • DC • HAWAII • LA • MEMPHIS NASHVILLE • NEW ORLEANS • NYC • PHOENIX SAN ANTONIO • SAN FRANCISCO • SEATTLE

The level of attention to details during the planning, the willingness of MCI to meet every request, the fullness of the itinerary, the top quality tour guides and support staff in NYC, the quality of our tour: everything about this tour was first rate. There is no tour package out there that could offer as much quality (and quantity) for the price as your tour offered. Way to go MCI. I look forward to my next tour with you.

Nathan Artley, Orchestra Director Pine Forest High School Fayetteville, North Carolina

