National Festival of the States in San Antonio







Music Celebrations International Concert Tours With Integrity







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!

San Antonio captures the spirit of Texas. Now the eighth largest city in the United States, the city has retained its sense of history and tradition while carefully blending in cosmopolitan progress. The city has always been a crossroads and a meeting place. Sounds and flavours of Native Americans, Old Mexico, Germans, the Wild West, African-Americans and the Deep South mingle and merge. Close to twenty million visitors-a-year delight in the discovery of San Antonio's charms.

The actual founding of the city came in 1718 by Father Antonio Olivares, when he established Mission San Antonio de Valero, which became permanently etched in the annals of history in 1836 as The Alamo, where 189 defenders held the old mission against some 4,000 Mexican troops for 13 days. The cry "Remember the Alamo" became the rallying point of the Texan revolution against Mexico. Located in the heart of downtown, today The Alamo is a shrine and museum.

The National Festival of the States concert series offers visiting performing ensembles rich musical experiences from performing in a well known venue such as San Fernando Cathedral or participating in a workshop with a faculty member at the University of Texas. 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.

Everyone should experience San Antonio, the Heart of Texas –and your band, orchestra, choir or dance troupe can, through the expertise of Music Celebrations International!

Sample Itinerary

Day One:

- Arrive in San Antonio and meet your Tour Manager(s)
- City sightseeing tour to include The Alamo, Market Square El Mercado, The Riverwalk, the Tower of the Americas (including elevator fees), the Spanish Governors Palace, and San Fernando Cathedral - where the remains of Davy Crocket, Col. James Bowie, and Col. William Travis rest
- Check into the hotel
- Dinner at a local restaurant on The Riverwalk
- Enjoy an Evening Barge Cruise on The Riverwalk
- Return to the hotel for overnight

Day Two:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning sightseeing to Mission Trails National Historical Park Concepcion, Espada, San Jose and San Juan Missions
- Lunch, on own
- Performance or clinic as part of the National Festival of the States
- Enjoy an evening ranch-style dinner where you can also experience games and entertainment
- Return to the hotel for overnight

Day Three:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Performance as part of the National Festival of the States
- Lunch, on own
- Leisure time for additional guided sightseeing and/or shopping at El Mercado at Market Square
- Enjoy an evening ranch-style dinner where you can also experience games and entertainment
- Return to the hotel for overnight

Day Four:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Hotel check-out and board your motorcoach for last minute shopping and sightseeing
- Depart for home

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.











I just wanted to let you know we had a fabulous time in San Antonio and Austin! The ranch was a highlight for the students! They went above and beyond all our expectations. The kids got to feed longhorns, fish, and learn roping. They had a fiddler, and some of the kids joined in playing with him. At the end of the evening, they brought everyone out to the grass, turned out all the lights and showed everyone what the stars looked like away from the city lights. Then our host sang to the kids as they were watching the stars. It was a wonderful evening!

The clinic was great and all three venues they performed were wonderful!

Kathy Hays, Tour Coordinator Marcos de Niza High School Orchestra Tempe, AZ

National Festival of the States

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Thank you so much for all your company has done for us with our tour. We had a great trip. You are one of the best companies I have ever worked with. Your company's attention to detail is unrivaled by anyone else. Thank you so much!

Bruce Denmead, Director of Bands Emmaus High School Emmaus, Pennsylvania





1440 S. Priest Drive, Ste. 102 Tempe, AZ 85281-6952 Toll-free: 800.395.2036 | Fax 480.894.5137 www.musiccelebrations.com | info@musiccelebrations.com