National Festival of the States in San Francisco













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 San Francisco for the past 15 years.

Explore. Experience. Enjoy. Those are the three commandments when visiting San Francisco. The city somersaults over a series of hills, every one holding a surprise. Whether starting at Union Square or Fisherman's Wharf, aboard a cable car or afoot, crossing the Golden Gate Bridge or visiting Chinatown, standing atop Nob Hill or Twin Peaks, you will discover unique vistas, Victorian homes, ethnic enclaves and historic treasures sure to keep you enthralled.

Imagine your group performing in the gothic Grace Cathedral or the modern St. Mary's Cathedral, learning in a workshop at Stanford University Music Department, performing at Ghirardelli or Union Squares, participating in a Mass at historic Mission Dolores, or sharing a concert at a local school.

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.

Everyone should experience San Francisco – and the best performing groups can, through the expertise of Music Celebrations International!

Sample Itinerary

Day One:

- Upon arrival in San Francisco, meet your MCI Tour Manager and be taken on a three hour sightseeing tour of the city with special stops at Twin Peaks, Golden Gate Park, the Cliff House, and the famed Golden Gate Bridge
- Check in at the Holiday Inn, a contemporary-style hotel conveniently located in the heart of the Fisherman's Wharf area
- After time to relax for a while, enjoy a gala welcome dinner at the world renowned Hard Rock Café at Pier 39

Day Two:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Full day tour to include crossing the Golden Gate Bridge, with a photo stop at Vista Point
- Continue to Muir Woods National Monument followed by some free time in picturesque Sausalito
- Return to San Francisco for a stop at the hotel for a quick change of clothes and a short ride to venue
- Performance as part of the National Festival of the States
- Spend the rest of the day exploring the waterfront attractions
- Dinner at Rainforest Café in the wharf area

Day Three:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Clinic with a renowned music professor / conductor
- Lunch, on own
- Performance as part of the National Festival of the States
- Return to hotel to relax before an evening in exciting Chinatown for a farewell dinner
- Time to enjoy the shops along Chinatown's Grant Avenue

Day Four:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Check out of hotel
- Transfer to the wharf area for the ferry to Alcatraz, "The Rock" (ratio of 1 adult per 7 students required at Alcatraz), including an audio tour of the cell blocks.
- Ferry back to Fisherman's Wharf with time for lunch (on own) and last minute shopping
- Afternoon transfer to airport or coach departure for home

This is a very flexible itinerary. Longer or shorter options are possible. 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.











Muir Woods was beautiful and the town of Sausalito was a great place to walk around and enjoy the view of the bay. Alcatraz was a fun experience for the students, to be able to ride a boat to the island and many of the kids enjoyed the audio tour, it let them go at their own pace.

The clinic [at Berkeley] was my highlight, we received great feedback on our playing and I received great feedback on my teaching and conducting. Having the opportunity to sit in with his band and even conduct the group was amazing! Definitely an experience I will never forget. The kids also enjoyed the performance at Pier 39.

Chris Argotsinger, Director Farmington High School Band Farmington, New Mexico

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

