National Festival of the States in Seattle











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 for the past 15 years.

Seattle is home to an eclectic mix of art and science, forest and metropolis, seafood and coffee, and waterfront and storefront – anything and everything is possible in the "Emerald City." As a major center for the arts in the Northwest, Seattle is home to an orchestral scene few other locales can boast – the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestras is one of the largest community youth orchestras in the United States, and the much-lauded Seattle Symphony Orchestra has been thrilling audiences for over a century. The city is also home to the Seattle Opera, known for its superb interpretations of Richard Wagner productions, and the Pacific Northwest Ballet School, which is considered one of the top ballet training institutions in the United States. The Seattle music setting cannot be discussed without mentioning the early 1990's popular music known as grunge, thanks to the many local bands that popularized the music, such as Pearl Jam, Alice in Chains, and the hometown favorite, Nirvana.

There is also no lack of sights to visit. The Seattle Center, an arts and entertainment district built for the 1962 World's Fair, is home to the Space Needle, one of the tallest structures in the United States, the outrageously designed EMP Museum, and the Pacific Science Center – home of the Boeing IMAX Theater, Eames IMAX Theater, and Seattle Laser Dome. Pike Place Market, one of the oldest continually operated public farmers' markets in the United States, is a wonder of local food and shops.

With its rich and eclectic culture, Seattle is the perfect tour stop for performance ensembles that participate in Seattle's National Festival of the States concert series!

Sample Itinerary

Day One:

- Afternoon arrival in Seattle
- Meet your Tour Manager who will be with you for your entire stay
- Sightseeing, as time permits, for an orientation tour of downtown Seattle
- Evening Welcome Dinner at a local restaurant
- · Check-in to the hotel for overnight

Day Two:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Morning visit to the University of Washington Campus including entrance to the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture
- Clinic or performance as part of the National Festival of the States
- Lunch, on own
- Visit Seattle Center, an arts and entertainment district built for the 1962 World's Fair
- Tour the Museum of Pop Culture to view rare artifacts and memorabilia and experience the creative process by listening to musicians tell their own stories. Interactive activities included in galleries like Sound Lab and On Stage where visitors can explore hands-on the tools of rock and roll through instruments, and perform music before a virtual audience.
- Take a ride up the Space Needle to the observation deck for a great view of the city
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Performance as part of the National Festival of the States
- Return to the hotel for overnight

Day Three:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Visit Pike Place Market, internationally recognized as America's premier farmers' market and is home to more than 200 year-round commercial businesses;
 190 craftspeople and approximately 100 farmers who rent table space by the day; and 240 street performers and musicians
- · Lunch, on own
- Spend some free time shopping at the Seattle Waterfront and Pioneer Square
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Return to the hotel for overnight

Day Four:

- Breakfast at the hotel, followed by check-out
- · Morning at leisure, for additional shopping and/or sightseeing, as time allows
- Lunch, on own
- Depart 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.











Thank you to everyone that had a hand in our trip. It was beyond our expectations and we had the best of times. I have nothing but positive things to say about how everything was planned. Our schedule worked out to the minute and no time was wasted. Thanks again – it was the experience of a lifetime.

Michael Townsend, Choir Director Destrehan High School Destrehan, Louisiana

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



