



THE AMERICAN FEDERATION PUERI CANTORES

*Bringing together boys and girls throughout
the United States to sing the Peace of God*

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The American Federation Pueri Cantores is pleased to announce an association with Music Celebrations International to coordinate events and organize the *Pueri Cantores American Festival*, including arrangements with the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, an exciting patriotic musical presentation celebrating the birth of our country, and other group events and inclusions outlined in the day-by-day itinerary.

Music Celebrations International has great experience in Washington, DC, and has a local office and crucial connections in the nation's capital. They have managed the National Independence Day Parade for 15 years, the National Memorial Day Parade for 5 years, the National Festival of the States for 25 years, and many festivals/concerts in the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the National Cathedral, the Basilica of the National Shrine — and individual concerts for hundreds of choirs, bands, orchestras, and dance troupes throughout the metropolitan Washington, DC area.

Using a professional agency in Washington, DC, during one of the busiest (and most exciting!) periods in Washington, DC will save groups and directors incalculable hours and headaches. Getting around to all included activities using the local Metro will not be an option and can even be extremely slow and intimidating throughout the day of July 4th. AFPC shares MCI's commitment to the safety of our children and all participants and appreciates MCI's long experience in dealing with security issues during this national holiday.

We strongly recommend use of the full MCI package for the following reasons:

- (1) MCI has reserved large room blocks at hotels near the Shrine which are convenient to other events and sightseeing at very competitive rates, including full American breakfast daily.
- (2) MCI has national contracts with airlines and local bus companies to provide safe, experienced, and competitive transportation throughout.

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- (3) MCI Tour Managers in Washington, DC, are experienced, and handle hundreds of groups of young performers annually. They make the Washington, DC experience both educational and exciting, receiving very high ratings for their professionalism, their knowledge, their ability to negotiate events and traffic during one of the busiest periods in the nation's capital.
- (4) MCI's \$2M liability insurance umbrella protects AFPC and individual groups traveling with MCI.

In planning your participation in the American Festival, please note that *all festival participants* (including non-singers), are required to pay a \$100 per person festival fee, payable to American Federation Pueri Cantores. Groups receiving quotations from Music Celebrations will see that the Festival Fee has already been included in their package price.

Festival Fees – which are assessed at all Pueri Cantores Festivals – support the musical and coordination expenses of producing large-scale events. The Pueri Cantores American Festival Fee covers the following

- Priority access to the Basilica of the National Shrine for the July 5 Mass via Pueri Cantores American Festival Participant Badge
- American Federation Pueri Cantores t-shirt that will also be used as the uniform dress for the July 4 patriotic performance
- Festival box lunch and snacks on July 5 at the Basilica for all participating choirs
- Coordination of venues and production of the patriotic concert
- American Federation Pueri Cantores Administration Fee

I invite you to join us on this pilgrimage to Washington, DC! The office of American Federation Pueri Cantores also looks forward to hearing from you regarding our ongoing mission: *“That choirs of boys and girls throughout America may join together in singing the peace of God!”*

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Patrick Flahive
President / Artistic Director