

Virginia International Tattoo

All-American Chorus

April 28th – May 1st, 2011

at Scope Arena in Norfolk, Virginia

massed choir prepared by

ROBERT SHOUP, CHORUS MASTER, VIRGINIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

and conducted in performance by

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 ROBERT SZABO, U.S. MARINE CORPS



About The Tattoo

HISTORY OF THE TATTOO

In the old days, field musicians were vital to commanders as the sole means of relaying orders during battle. For marching, the bands kept the company or regiment in proper cadence, and served to beat the daily duty calls and ceremonies such as Reveille, Taps, the General, the Assembly and the Retreat. The distinctive and colorful uniforms were necessary to distinguish them easily on the battlefields, and were often the reverse color of those worn by the line soldiers.

The term "tattoo" derives from the cries of the 17th and 18th century Low Country innkeepers, who, as the fifes and drums of the local regiment signaled a return to quarters would cry, "Doe den tap toe!" - "Turn off the taps!" The sound of the "taps" caused the innkeeper's customers to depart and return to their barracks. The word "tattoo" evolved over time, and refers to what developed as a ceremonial performance of military music by massed bands today.

VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO FAST FACTS

What is a Tattoo?

Tattoos have evolved from a European tradition dating back to the 17th Century. They are ceremonial performances of military music by massed bands. Each Tattoo is different and influenced by the culture of the country in which they are presented. Most Tattoos now include civilian entertainment as well as military bands and emphasize the inclusion of performers from nations outside of the host nation.

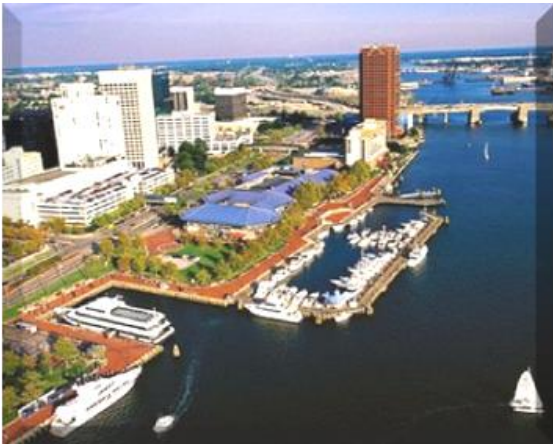
What is the Virginia Arts Festival?

The Virginia Arts Festival is a non-profit organization that was established in 1997. Each spring, internationally acclaimed artists from around the globe team up with the best of the region's own professional arts organizations to present a dazzling lineup of music, theatre and dance.

What is the Virginia International Tattoo?

Presented annually in Norfolk, Virginia, the Virginia International Tattoo is an exhibition of marching bands, massed pipes and drums, drill teams, gymnasts, Scottish dancers, choirs and more. Each year, a cast of over 800 artists from several countries creates an unforgettable spectacle under one roof for four breathtaking performances. The Virginia International Tattoo is the largest show of its kind in the United States.

Tattoo Tour Itinerary



Thursday, April 28th, 2011

Arrive in Norfolk

Time permitting; take a quick orientation tour of Norfolk

Afternoon massed choir rehearsal/workshop in Scope Arena with guest conductor

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Dinner in a local restaurant and return to hotel for overnight

Friday, April 29th, 2011

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning "Student Matinee" performance, which will also serve as the dress rehearsal

Lunch, on own

Touch-up rehearsal

Dinner in a local restaurant

7:30pm Massed choir performance at the Virginia International Tattoo

Saturday, April 30th, 2011

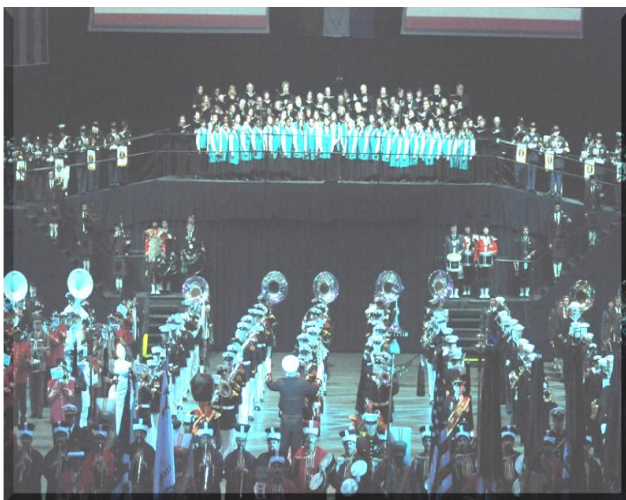
Breakfast at the hotel

Optional activities may include:

- 1) A day at Busch Gardens Williamsburg (cost starting at \$61.95 per person)
- 2) A visit to Colonial Williamsburg (cost starting at \$36.00 per person)
- 3) A day at Virginia Beach (no additional charge)
- 4) Enjoy the Azalea Festival Parade and Festivities in Norfolk (no additional charge)

Dinner in a local restaurant

7:30pm Massed choir performance at the Virginia International Tattoo



Sunday, May 1st, 2011

Breakfast at the hotel and hotel check-out

Morning at leisure. Possible visit to the MacArthur Center Mall, offering upscale shopping and dining. Or, make a visit to the Norfolk Botanical Gardens to relax in the 155 acres of beauty surrounded by Lake Whitehurst

Lunch, on own

2:30pm Massed choir performances at the Virginia International Tattoo

Depart for home

"...I was swept away by this awe-inspiring performance. It was, in a word, magnificent!"

— General James Mattis, USMC, NATO Supreme Allied Commander Transformation



"The tribute to our nation's veterans deeply moved me...beautiful voices reached out and touched our souls."

— *Hugh D. Cox, WWII Veteran*



"Thank you so much for providing such an educational experience that was so much fun, the kids didn't even realize that they were learning!"

— *Marie Dewar, Director of Bands and Choirs, Ambridge Area High School, PA*



"I was amazed! It was my first time attending the show and it turned out to be an incredible experience. Fun...Entertaining...Quite moving!"

— *Daniel Hall*



"The absolute best show I have ever attended".

— *Nevada Jones*



"Upon leaving the 2008 Tattoo everyone in my party agreed this is the most important and meaningful event we attend each year." — *John Saunders*

