

The **TEXAS YOUTH ORCHESTRA**  
in collaboration with Music Celebrations International  
invite you to journey with us



European Summer Music Study 2006

*July 8<sup>th</sup> through July 21<sup>st</sup>*

A Taste of Italy

A Journey through Austria

*A Lifetime of Memories*

**OUR VISION**

Music is the universal language. It crosses international borders, unifies cultures, uplifts the spirit, and conveys so much, with so little. The discovery of new countries, new cultures, new languages, and new friends broadens our knowledge and furthers our understanding of our world.

The **Texas Youth Orchestra** endeavors to provide a quality education from top string educators from across our state. We enable Texas students to reach across international borders to further their own study of music and learn about the cultures of Europe.

Our 2006 tour features the two amazing countries of Italy and Austria. We hope that by studying the former music centers of Europe that we can gain insight into our own art form and allow our minds and souls to stretch beyond our imagination. Your ability to convey music across cultures makes our global voyage within your reach.

## TYO DIRECTORS

**Deborah Perkins** currently teaches at Southern Methodist University and does free-lance work in the area of string education. Most recently she has become the founding director for CTYO "Cross Timbers Youth Orchestra's" Elementary Strings Program- an after school string program for more than 300 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students in north Texas. She earned a bachelor of music degree from the State University College at Potsdam, New York (Crane School of Music), a master's degree from the University of South Carolina, and a Ph. D. from the University of North Texas. Before moving to Texas in 1989, Dr. Perkins built and rebuilt public school orchestra programs in Florida and South Carolina. She also taught string methods at UNT, Florida Atlantic University and was the first master teacher for the University of South Carolina String Project. Throughout her career, her groups received consistent "sweepstakes" ratings and invitations to perform for special occasions. During the summers, Dr. Perkins often travels with youth groups- and has taken various orchestras to Mexico, Europe and China.

Deborah Perkins has served in leadership positions in professional organizations. In addition to ASTA with NSOA, TMEA and TODA, she is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda Honor Fraternity and was selected to be in "Who's Who Among Americas' Teachers." Dr. Perkins has guest conducted numerous honor orchestras, adjudicated festivals and presented clinics locally and throughout the United States. She is married to Steve Perkins and they have one daughter, Kayla.

"The music we play is not only fun but challenging as well and it made for an enjoyable experience that will stay in my mind forever."

**Marcus Pyle** North Garland HS (*Garland*)

## With Deb and Dez at the helm, this trip will be a momentous, life-changing experience!!

Like the students she teaches, **Desiree Overree** began her music instruction in the public schools in Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD, a northern suburb of Dallas. During high school, she had the opportunity to play with the SMU Conservatory Chamber Orchestras, with whom she toured extensively throughout Europe. She attained her Bachelor of Music Education with Highest Honors at Sam Houston State University.



Ms. Overree taught for Humble ISD, Spring Branch ISD, and Cy-Fair ISD. Under her baton, she led the Memorial Philharmonia Orchestras and placed First Runner-Up in the Texas Honor Orchestra Competition. She has conducted at the MidWest Convention in Chicago with the Memorial Orchestras, and has conducted twice at Carnegie Hall, once with the Stratford HS Orchestras and the Memorial Orchestras. In 2003, 2004, and 2005, the GRAMMY Foundation honored Langham Creek HS for its exceptional public high school music programs, as designating it as a GRAMMY Signature School. In 2004, Miss Overree was a Co-Conductor with Dr. Deborah Perkins with the Texas "Lone Star" Ambassadors, who toured throughout Western Europe. Ms. Overree looks forward to opening her new campus, Seven Lakes High School in Katy, Texas.

"The trip we took to Europe was one of the most amazing trips I've ever been on!! The fun we had was indescribable, but at the same time we performed well and were a very professional group!! Along with being able to play in 5 different countries, I was able to make many new friends and we became an orchestra together!! We had many exciting fun, and amazing times which will never be forgotten!!"

**Jamie Seyler**, Bowie HS (*Arlington*)

She has been recognized in "Who's Who Among American High School Teachers." She is frequently invited as an adjudicator and clinician, private violin teacher, and an active freelancer. During the summer, she is a Faculty member of the Sam Houston State University Summer Camps. She holds professional memberships and leadership positions in Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Music Adjudicators Association, Texas Orchestra Directors Association, American String Teachers Association, and Sigma Alpha Iota. In her spare time, she travels, reads voraciously, and is a raving baseball fan.

2



Got questions? [2006tyo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:2006tyo@sbcglobal.net)  
*Music Celebrations International, L.L.C.*  
1440 S. Priest Drive, Suite 102  
Tempe, AZ 85281

972.839.8879 Deb 713.294.9315 Dez  
Phone: (800) 395-2036  
Fax: (480) 894-5137  
<http://www.musiccelebrations.com/tyo/>

## WHAT'S THE TOUR LIKE?

### Days ONE through THREE - *A ROMAN FESTIVAL*

After getting off that plane, we jump onto a waiting charter bus, we waste no time and take a wonderful tour of the illustrious **TREVI FOUNTAIN** and **THE COLISEUM**. Another day takes us into religious Rome: **VATICAN CITY**. **St. PETER'S BASILICA**, the **SISTINE CHAPEL**, and the **PANTHEON** are all on our list of things to do. Did we mention a performance? Well, we are playing in Rome!

### Days FOUR and FIVE – *SCENIC SIENA* and *FANTASTIC FLORENCE*

On the way to Florence, we'll take a brief detour to Tuscany's medieval city of Siena, to see the **DUOMO** and **PALAZZO PUBBLICO**. Once inside the cultural center of Florence we will begin to gain insight on where we came from. This city is the birthplace of the true artists and thinkers of the Renaissance. We will visit the famous **ACADEMY of FINE ARTS**. A concert in this beautiful city marks another beautiful memory.

### Days SIX and SEVEN - *HAS ANYONE SEEN MY GONDOLA?*

Venice. The mere whisper of her name conjures visions of Italian gondoliers whisking lovers through the canals...or relaxing in the piazza relishing the incredible gelato, all while keeping an eye on those pesky pigeons. **ST. MARK'S BASILICA** and **PALACE OF THE DOGES** are highlights of our visit. On the way to Venice, we will visit Stradivarius's violin-making center of **CREMONA**.

### Day EIGHT – *INCREDIBLE INNSBRUCK*

One day is all you'll need to capture the sprit of this charming city. Visiting the **GOLDEN ROOF**, strolling through the town square, watching other musicians, and enjoying some wonderful schnitzel and sauerkraut should be a gastronomical delight. Do a little souvenir shopping at **SWAROWSKI CRYSTAL** and enjoy this elegant Austrian city.

### Days NINE and TEN - *MOZART'S SALZBURG*

2006 marks the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration of Mozart's birth, a year-long festival that the city of Salzburg will commemorate. We will happen to be a part of it (!). A concert affiliated with the **SALZBURG 2006 FESTIVAL** will be an amazing high point on our tour. We will also visit the **HOHENSALZBURG FORTRESS** and **MIRABEL CASTLE and GARDENS**. Of course, we can't forget that "The Sound of Music" was based on the famous Von Trapp family. We'll scoot around town and see the sights through their eyes.

"My voyage with Dr. Perkins and Ms. Overree was my first European trip. Playing music while experiencing new cultures was an exciting and rewarding adventure. We walked the streets that Handel, Beethoven, Mozart, and Vivaldi once walked while learning and performing their music. Also, we served as ambassadors by bringing American music to other cultures. While in Paris, we played for a crowd at the Luxembourg Gardens. The response from the French audience was incredibly positive, and I knew that even in times of conflict, music is a common language between France and America. Music is a timeless gift, and sharing it with the world while enjoying an amazing vacation was incredible. Don't pass up such an opportunity!"

Lauren Marshall Denton HS (*Denton*)

### Days TWELVE and THIRTEEN - *VIENNA...NOT JUST SAUSAGES*

A master class with professors from the Music University in Vienna, a visit to the grand **MOZARTHAUS**, **ESTERHAZY PALACE** and **SCHONBRUNN PALACE**, and shopping at the **GETREIDEGASSE**. Then, we will have a final and memorable concert at the same hall where Mozart and Salieri performed, at Vienna's **L'ORANGERIE**.

Finally, **THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!!**



## TOP TEN REASONS FOR COMING WITH US

10) **LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!** Amazing locations such as Rome, Florence, Venice, Innsbruck, Salzburg, and Vienna have been selected by your tour directors. They know the places to go and things to do!

"Our directors were outstanding; they made it a musical experience I will never forget."

Michael Powers Flower Mound HS  
(*Flower Mound*)

9) **MUSIC CELEBRATIONS INTERNATIONAL** is one of the most distinguished travel operators in the United States. Their 25 years of experience into international travel guarantees a stress-free tour!

8) **TOUR DIRECTORS THAT WANT YOU TO LEARN AND LOVE EUROPE** Dr. Perkins and Ms. Overree are seasoned world travelers that just happen to be amazing music educators. Joined by like-minded Texas orchestra directors, they hope that seeing the world through a musical experience will open your eyes and broaden your musical horizons.

7) **LOCAL COLOR** Our tour is incomplete without the getting to know the inhabitants of these cities. We will have a liaison from Music Celebrations and a local city coordinator with us for the duration of the trip! Additionally, visiting the major cities is great fun, but taking in the breath-taking charms of Old World villages is just as important!

6) **HANDY HANDBOOK** will be distributed to all travelers. It contains pertinent city information, such as maps, some foreign language tips and itinerary for the day.

5) **CONSTANT COMMUNICATION** via email and newsletter! The tech babes (Dr. Perkins and Ms. O) are notorious for going over their cell phone minutes and pushing the boundaries of technology with their communication with parents and students. In addition to email reminders, newsletters, and meetings, Music Celebrations will personally handle their informational meetings and display communications ON THEIR WEBSITE <http://www.musiccelebrations.com/tyo/> so parents can travel vicariously with their children.

4) **SALZBURG 2006** Mozart's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash only comes once, period. Drop everything and be a part of this incredible celebration of his life and music!

3) **A CONCERT-ED EFFORT** You'll be playing in some of the most amazing venues in Europe, in what were the premiere musical centers of the world. You will play with outstanding, like-minded musicians who truly want to study in Europe (and still take in the incredible sights)!

2) **CHANGED FOR THE BETTER** Your European musical experience will be something that you continue to think about. From those amazing snapshots that are scrapbooked as soon as you get home, to the lifelong friends and musical memories and experiences, this voyage will make a difference in your life, and will change you forever.

"Going to Europe to do the one thing that I loved most (playing my violin) was the best thing in my high school career. The trip was made so much better with the professionals we were able to work with. From day one, Dr. Perkins was professional, someone who could be trusted, and most of all, an obviously great musician. Rehearsals with the orchestra were made even better when Ms. Overree and her group joined us. Throughout our tour around Europe, this duo was the drive that kept us going through rehearsals on day eleven of the trip after a long bus ride through some European country. Without them, the trip would not mean as much as it meant to me."

Alycia Rajendran Bowie HS (*Arlington*)

1) **IT'S EUROPE** Need we say more? This fantastic opportunity only comes around once in awhile. Invite your fellow string players and make the orchestra even more fantastic!

