



Off We Go!



January 2006 – The MOZART Issue!
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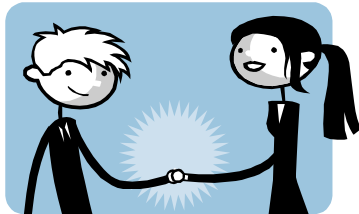
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Welcome Aboard!

Our numbers continue to grow! We are at 44 travelers and are looking for a few more violists to balance our instrumentation. If you know or any students who are interested in attending, we have just 5 more places to fill our bus!

Traveling is easier when you know exactly who you're traveling with, so the TYO Staff decided to hold a couple of "Meet and Greets" in each satellite city. Icebreakers, snacks, and a brief presentation were held in Dallas on January 15th and Houston-area students met in Katy on the 29th. Check out our spotlight students from Houston on page five to meet them vicariously through our newsletter!



"The real meaning of travel, like that of a conversation by the fireside, is the discovery of oneself through contact with other people, and its condition is self-commitment in the dialogue."

Paul Tournier

Mozart's Birthday!

As you know, a highlight of our tour is participating in the Salzburg 2006 Festival, the 250th Anniversary of Mozart's Birth! Well, start blowing out the candles, for Friday, January 27, 2006 was his birth date!

For those of you that are crazy about Mozart, check out oodles of information and exciting news about everything Mozart at:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5164428>



© ACCOUTREMENTS

While you're at it, own your very own Mozart action figure!

<http://www.accoutrements.com/products/11453.html>

Euro Wondering What to Do About Money?



In January 2002, Euro banknotes and coins first entered circulation. Gone are the days of the German Deutschmark, English Pound Sterling, Italian Lira and French Franc. Eleven (now twelve) European Union countries discontinued their individual currencies and adopted the Euro, now the official currency of the European Union. To familiarize yourself with their system, check out the Euro coins (1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 cent, 1 and 2-Euro denominations) and banknotes, which are issued in 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500 denominations.

The exchange rates of Euro fluctuate daily, so check out exchange rates closer to our departure date.

Traveler's Checks

Traveling with cash, even in within the United States is something that many voyagers are leery about. Are traveler's checks right for you? Check out one of my favorite websites for a little bit of insight from a seasoned traveler.

http://europeforvisitors.com/europe/articles/travelers_checks.htm

**"For I protest that
without travel man
is but a poor
creature."**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

VisaBuxx

Perhaps neither travelers checks nor cash is something that fits in your comfort zone. If this is the case, Visa has launched an innovative program for families that may be right up your alley. VisaBuxx is a prepaid credit card that works just like a normal debit card. Accepted at thousands of worldwide locations, parents at home can monitor their child's credit card purchases and manage this account online.

For more information about this program, visit the website below:

<https://usbank.visabuxx.com/index.cfm?s=vbusbkw11>



Scientists May Have Found Mozart's Skull

By WILLIAM J. KOLE, Associated Press Writer *Tue Jan 3, 4:30 PM ET*

VIENNA, Austria - Have scientists found Mozart's skull? Researchers said Tuesday they'll reveal the results of DNA tests in a documentary film airing this weekend on Austrian television as part of a year of celebratory events marking the composer's 250th birthday. The tests were conducted last year by experts at the Institute for Forensic Medicine in the alpine city of Innsbruck, and the long-awaited results will be publicized in "Mozart: The Search for Evidence," to be screened Sunday by state broadcaster ORF.



Past tests were inconclusive, but this time, "we succeeded in getting a clear result," lead researcher Dr. Walther Parson, a renowned forensic pathologist, told ORF. He said the results were "100 percent verified" by a U.S. Army laboratory, but refused to elaborate. Anthropologist Pierre-Francois Puech of the University of Provence based his belief on a fracture he found on the skull's left temple. Mozart, he theorized, may have sustained it in a fall, and that would help explain the severe headaches the composer was said to have suffered more than a year before his death.

Austria has designated 2006 a Mozart jubilee year, with dozens of events in Salzburg, Vienna and elsewhere to commemorate his 250 birthday.

The skull in question is one that for more than a century has been in the possession of the International Mozarteum Foundation in Salzburg, the elegant Austrian city where Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born on Jan. 27, 1756.

Parson said genetic material from scrapings from the skull was analyzed and compared to DNA samples gathered in 2004 from the thigh bones of Mozart's maternal grandmother and a niece. The bones were recovered when a Mozart family grave was opened in 2004 at Salzburg's Sebastian Cemetery.

Mozart died in 1791 and was buried in a pauper's grave at Vienna's St. Mark's Cemetery. The location of the grave was initially unknown, but its likely location was determined in 1855.

The grave on that spot is adorned by a column and a sad-looking angel.

Legend has it that a gravedigger who knew which body was Mozart's at some point sneaked the skull out of the grave. Through different channels, the skull — which is missing its lower jaw — came to the Mozarteum in Salzburg in 1902, according to Dr. Stephan Pauly, the foundation's director.

The foundation, a private nonprofit organization that works to preserve Mozart's legacy, was founded in 1880 by Salzburg residents and made the skull available for the DNA tests.

The skull long has fascinated experts: In 1991, a French scholar who examined it made the startling — though unconfirmed — conclusion that Mozart may have died of complications of a head injury rather than rheumatic fever as most historians believe.

TECH LINKS – “These are a Few of My Favorite Links”

As we’ve mentioned, we self-named “Tech Babes” want to fill your heads with knowledge by not only traveling the world but by traveling through the World Wide Web. Check out the following sites for some way cool ways to check out where we’re going and what we’re seeing...



Currency Converter

<http://europeforvisitors.com/currency-converter.htm>

Mozart 2006 (The Birthday Party of Birthday Parties!)

<http://www.linie3.com/m2k6/e/>



Travel 101 - A Guide for First-Timers

http://goeurope.about.com/cs/travelbasics/l/bl_europe_101.htm

And last but not least...The Pantheon Webcam!!

<http://81.208.34.15/dynamicindex/camera.html>



SUMMER REHEARSAL SCHEDULE*

Saturday, June 3 - 9a to 5p

Friday, June 16 - 5 to 7p

Saturday, June 17 - 1 to 5p

June 30 - 5 to 7p

Saturday, July 1 - 1 to 5p

HOME CAMP: July 5-7: ALL DAY; “FAREWELL CONCERT”:

July 7th at 7p

Dallas location - Southern Methodist University

Houston location - Seven Lakes HS

**Schedule is tentative and subject to change*



Houston-area travelers at their recent “Meet and Greet” at Seven Lakes HS in Katy.

Attention Dallas Area TYO Families:

Please let us know if you are willing and or able to host one, two or three of the Houston TYO members during home camp on July 5-7. Duties would include room, board and transportation to and from SMU on those days. Contact Deb at dlperkins@sbcglobal.net

Questions about the Trip?

TEXAS YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Deb: 972-839-8879

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Questions about Billing?

Music Celebrations International

Carol Navarro

carol@musiccelebrations.com