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# TEXAS YOUTH ORCHESTRA & WIND ENSEMBLE

## Off we go!

SUMMER EUROPEAN MUSIC STUDY 2009

### Welcome Aboard!

*Welcome! New Friends! Trip prep! Questions about \$! Save your allowance! Find more travelers!*

On behalf of the TEXAS YOUTH ORCHESTRA & WIND ENSEMBLE, Music Celebrations International, and your Directors, we extend a great big Texas welcome to all of you that have decided to journey with us on this incredible adventure of a lifetime!

We are so excited that all of you have decided to spend your summer rehearsing and preparing for this inspiring trip. You will begin to appreciate other cultures, savor European cuisine, become a better musician, and make many new friends along the way. We encourage you to call or write us should you have any questions about the trip. Billing

questions should be directed to Carol Navarro at MCI 800-395-2036 or write Carol Navarro at [carol@musiccelebrations.com](mailto:carol@musiccelebrations.com).

*Currently, we have 51 travelers registered; Invite your musician friends or teachers.*

**Students-** start saving for your spending money on the trip. Instead of having a latte, pocket that money for souvenirs.



*Dear Fellow Musicians, Travelers and Citizens of the World -*

*Welcome to TYO/WE! Every time I visit Europe, my life is brightened, my soul is enriched, and my heart becomes full. I wish this for you as we begin our musical journey together...to Vienna, Prague and Budapest, three of Europe's crown jewels.*

*Lynne Jackson, Wind Ensemble*



### SPOTLIGHT ON

## Fisherman's Bastion

Fisherman's Bastion is the terrace in the Buda bank of the Danube on the castle hill in **Budapest, Hungary**. It was designed and built between 1895 and 1902. The seven towers represent the seven tribes that inhabited the Carpathian region. Its name is taken from the legions of fishermen that once defended this stretch of the City Walls during the Middle Ages.

## Things To Do

Carol from MCI needs:

1. Signed insurance waiver (regardless of whether or not Part II Insurance is purchased).

2. Copy of the photo page of each travelers' passport  
Send those docs to:

CAROL NAVARRO  
c/o TYO & WE  
Music Celebrations International,  
L.L.C.  
1440 S. Priest Dr., Suite 102  
Tempe, AZ 85281-6905  
or email either to  
[carol@musiccelebrations.com](mailto:carol@musiccelebrations.com)

3. Make sure your on line registration is complete- especially the recently played music section.

4. Download the TYO & WE Recommendation Form, ask your Director to fill it out and send it to Dr. Perkins:

DR. DEBORAH PERKINS  
4825 N. Meadow Ridge Cr.  
McKinney, TX 75070 or  
[2009tyo@gmail.com](mailto:2009tyo@gmail.com)

# Instrument Rentals

*Large Instrument Rental Information, Rental Companies, Insurance*



If you play cello, bass or tuba, you will want to pay careful attention to the following information. Cellists are welcome to bring their own instrument in a hard-shell case (wheels are recommended); however, they have the option of renting a cello from MCI for the duration of trip. The rental price for a cello is \$275. If cellists are fearful of bringing their own instruments on the trip, then consider renting a quality instrument from a local music store



such as **Lisle Violin Shop** (Houston) <http://www.violins.com>, **Dallas Strings** at <http://www.dallasstrings.com>, or **Williamson's** (Dallas) at <http://www.williamsonmusicco.com>.

They offer a variety of levels of instruments, in addition to hard-shell cases. Additionally, instrument insurance is often included in the rental price.

String bass and tuba players will not be allowed to check their instruments so you will have to rent one from MCI. Bass rental is \$450 and tuba rental rates are available on request, depending on the type needed. Please note that the rental fees for stringed instruments do not include bows.

All travelers are strongly suggested to carry some kind of instrument insurance, no matter the value of your instrument. Many homeowners insurance will extend a Rider Policy onto non-professional instruments: check with your insurance agent to see if this coverage can be extended for the duration of the trip. If this is not an option, there are two insurance companies that deal expressly with instrument insurance. **Clarion Associates Inc.**, <http://www.clarionins.com/> and **Music Agency Inc.**, <http://www.musicagencyinc.com/> can supply a quote for the duration of the trip.

## SYF Grants & Scholarships

Music Celebrations Inc. is a member of SYTA (School/Youth Travel Association). SYTA offers several grants and scholarships to youth that are traveling. If you are interested in applying for these scholarships, visit <http://www.sytayouthfoundation.org/> and apply soon. Deadlines are quickly approaching!

# Passport Information

*Applications and Renewals*

If you haven't yet obtained your US passport, now is a great time to take care of this task. You must have a current passport (valid through August 2009) in order to travel with us. For first-timers, you must apply in person. If you are renewing, check out the following link for specific information. You can even renew by the mail these days!

[http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/renew/renew\\_833.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/renew/renew_833.html)





# Research Time

*Click, read, click, read, click, read, click, read!!!*

So you're trying to round out the school year by not thinking about where you'll actually be next summer. RIGHT! How can you not be excited that in about seven months you will be in Prague, Vienna, and Budapest! Whether it's your first time visiting Europe, or your 21<sup>st</sup> time, it's time to start some research about the major cities that we will be visiting.

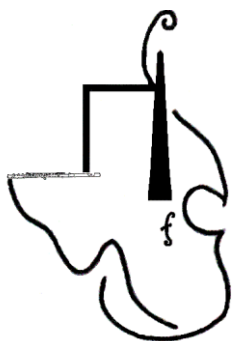
From population, temperature, and specific monuments and cathedrals, these guidebooks are a great wealth of information. Check them out from your local library and if you want, purchase a copy for yourself! Or, simply click on websites such as:

- <http://www.aboutaustria.org/> ,
- <http://www.lonelyplanet.com>,
- and
- <http://www.travelnotes.org/Europe/austria.htm>

Start preparing yourself by studying up on German, Czech, and Hungarian. Although you will get basic language lessons at Home

Camp in Dallas, they are no substitute for a bit of independent study. Practice saying, "When do we eat?" in both languages! You really can't go wrong!

Your favorite movie store has a great selection of movies that were filmed in our destinations. Some suggestions for the Czech Republic include "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and The Wardrobe" (2005), or "The Bourne Identity" (2002). For Austria, check out "Marie Antoinette" (2006), "Amadeus" (1984), "Quantum of Solace (2008) and our all-time favorite, "The Sound of Music (1965)." Movies filmed in Hungary include "Evita" (1999), "Munich" (2005), and "Hellboy II" (2008).



Here are a few ideas to get you started along your way: Guidebooks published by Fodor's, National Geographic, and DK contain amazing details about each of the cities and countries that we will be visiting.

## Sponsorship

*When raising money for a trip of the lifetime, you are only limited by your imagination!*



*Pictured are TYO Students Audrey Allen, Jordan Johnson and Sam Anich who recently performed on several Saturday mornings to earn money for their upcoming trip with TYO. So far, each member of the trio has earned several hundred dollars toward their TYO adventure.*

The directors of the Texas Youth Orchestra & Wind Ensemble were each profoundly influenced by experiencing international travel at a young age. We feel strongly that if a family has a desire to participate, then they will figure out a way to make it happen.

Music Celebrations International has a section on fundraising at: <http://musiccelebrations.blogspot.com/fundraising/> that you should check out.

### Coming Soon

As you know, all travelers will be responsible for keeping track of their luggage while on tour. We encourage all participants, players and non-players alike to pack intelligently. A more detailed article guiding you with what to pack will be included in next month's issue.

## PLEASE JOIN US!

We're looking for more enthusiastic, dedicated, and proficient players to join TYO & WE. We'd love to have more players from your school and community bands and orchestras.

Talk to your friends about traveling with us to Europe next summer! Prague, Vienna and Budapest are more fun to see with your friends and teachers!

# facebook

*We're even on facebook! Catch quick updates by Being a "Fan" of ours!*

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