

Chicago Festival of Gold



WorldStrides OnStage
presents:
**Festival of Gold at
Orchestra Hall
Chicago, IL**

March 23-27, 2018

Itinerary Overview

Day 1

- Arrive in Chicago
- Keynote Address
- Combined Singing Rehearsal
- First Honor Ensemble Rehearsal

Day 2

- Honor Ensemble Rehearsals
- Individual Ensemble Clinics
- Sightseeing during off-time

Day 3

- Honor Ensemble Rehearsals
- Individual Ensemble Clinics
- Sightseeing during off-time

Day 4

- Festival Performances (all day)
- Encore Concert at 8:00 p.m.

Day 5

- Depart for home, or add-on additional days to spend in Chicago!

What is the Festival of Gold?

Celebrating, recognizing, and encouraging musical excellence, Festival of Gold is really four fabulous experiences in one: a festival performance; in-depth, hour-long clinics with our clinicians; an encore concert in an elite venue; and Honor Choir, Honor Band, and Honor Orchestra distinctions. The Festival of Gold offers exceptional choirs, bands and orchestras the finest festival experience to be found anywhere by providing the most prestigious performance venues, the best quality adjudication, the most incisive clinics, and the most memorable musical experiences. The Festival of Gold celebrates, recognizes, and encourages musical excellence and artistry. We engage the nation's finest conductors and teachers to adjudicate, clinic, conduct, and mentor all festival participants. Two of these esteemed professionals will serve as your festival clinicians, but every group will be adjudicated by the full panel of three.

worldstrides.com/onstage
800-223-4367

OnStage

Performing arts journeys for students

Chicago Festival of Gold

Past Chicago Clinicians & Adjudicators

Choral Clinicians & Adjudicators:

Dr. Cristian Grases is an award winning conductor and composer. He currently serves as the assistant professor of choral music and conductor of the University of Southern California Thornton Concert Choir.



Sigrid Johnson holds degrees from St. Cloud State University and the University of Michigan. She has recently retired from an Artist in Residence in Voice and Conductor of the Manitou Singers at St. Olaf College.



Instrumental Clinicians & Adjudicators:

Dr. Robert Gillespie is responsible for string teacher training at The Ohio State University, which has one of the largest and most extensive string pedagogy degree programs in the nation.



Dr. Peter Boonshaft has been invited to speak or conduct in every state in the nation and around the world. He holds Bachelor of Music (Summa Cum Laude), Master of Music Education in Conducting, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees. He is currently the director of bands at Hofstra University.





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What can I expect at the Festival of Gold?

Festival of Gold is *not* a competition. All ensembles receive identical trophies, and all ensembles receive ratings from a panel of three adjudicators.

Each festival is capacity-controlled to assure quality and integrity. Those ensembles invited to Festival of Gold have received a Gold Rating (composite score=90+) at a previous Heritage Festival, a Superior Rating at their most recent state contest, or by audition. Every Festival of Gold event is made up of three essential elements:

- Festival Performances
- In-depth individual ensemble clinics, 60 minutes in length, during the two days prior to Festival Performances
- Encore Concert, which features the performances from all groups, and the Festival Honor Choir, Honor Band, and Honor Orchestra

Festival Performances

All Festival of Gold participating ensembles will be scheduled to perform on festival day (Monday). Ensembles are grouped according to ensemble type (orchestra, band, choir). Festival ensembles are scheduled to perform at 30-minute intervals (band and orchestra) or 20-minute intervals (choir) throughout Festival Day. Three adjudicators will evaluate the performance of each Festival of Gold ensemble during individual festival performances, giving recorded and written comments.

In-depth Individual Ensemble Clinics

Ensembles are scheduled to attend a 60-minute clinic session. This unique clinic session gives you and your group direct and extensive access to one of our esteemed adjudicators. The clinician will not have the ensemble make drastic adjustments, but rather will assist directors in refining their performance as to better prepare to do their best at the festival, and to inspire their ensemble in every possible way.

Encore Concert

The Festival of Gold concludes with the Encore Concert! The Encore Concert will feature short performances by top-scoring festival ensembles, and separate performances by Festival Honors Ensembles. All the Festival of Gold performers will sing together to open the concert, and for a Grand Finale to conclude the concert. The combined voices will create a sound not soon to be forgotten. Two selections will be mailed to each ensemble in advance of the festival. It is expected that all festival participants will know these two pieces by heart prior to their arrival. The pieces are not difficult.

Honor Ensembles

The Honor Choir is made up of director-nominated vocalists and performs during the Encore Concert. Each choir director is asked to put forward their finest singers, a few from each section (SATB, SSAA or TTBB). Depending on the number of participating groups at the festival, we ask for four (4) to eight (8) singers. The Artistic Director will make known the actual number of singers needed.

The Honor Band and Orchestra will perform at the Encore Concert. Any festival Ensemble director may submit students who are active in their music program. An audition is required for each nomination.

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Orchestra Hall

Named a National Historic Landmark in 1994, Orchestra Hall has been home to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for nearly 110 years. Built in 1904, the main auditorium seats 2,522. Carefully inscribed above the ballroom windows on the building façade, you'll see names like Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Wagner.



The hall's is the main concert hall for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, but this great stage has also hosted extraordinary speakers like Harry Houdini, Richard E. Byrd, Amelia Earhart, and Orson Welles.



Chicago Festival of Gold

Itinerary

Chicago's important role as the Midwest capital of the United States is reflected in its museums, theatres, shopping, dining, and dazzling skyline. Become a part of this flourishing cultural hub as a choral, band, or orchestral performer at this unique celebration of musical excellence. Students selected for this Festival of Gold will perform at the renowned Orchestra Hall at the Chicago Symphony Center. Don't miss this opportunity to visit the "Windy City" and enjoy the many experiences it has to offer!



DAY 1 – Friday, March 23, 2018

Arrive in Chicago and check in to hotel.

At 7pm, join our adjudicators and staff for the Keynote Address, followed by a combined singing rehearsal.

At 8pm, Honor Ensembles will break out into separate rehearsals.

DAY 2 – Saturday, March 24, 2018

Enjoy an optional breakfast served at the hotel.

Honor Ensembles will have morning rehearsals at your host hotel.

Throughout the day, adjudicators will hold 60-75 minute clinics for each group. Clinics will run on a set schedule (provided to you prior to the event).

Spend your evening free in Chicago. Our expert Destination Specialist can book a group dinner, a show, and more for you and your ensemble at your request.

Chicago Festival of Gold Itinerary (Continued)



DAY 3 – Sunday, March 25, 2018

Enjoy an optional breakfast served at the hotel.

Rehearsals and individual ensemble clinics will run on a set schedule (provided to you prior to the event) throughout the day.

Spend your evening free in Chicago. Our expert Destination Specialist can book a group dinner, a show, and more for you and your ensemble at your request.

DAY 4 – Monday, March 26, 2018

Enjoy an optional breakfast served at the hotel.

Each group will take the stage for their festival performances in Orchestra Hall. A schedule of these performances will be provided to you prior to travel.

A short Honor Ensemble rehearsal will take place prior to the Encore Concert.

From 8-10pm, our groups host the Encore Concert at Orchestra Hall. This culminating concert gives all ensembles center-stage for the performance of a lifetime.

DAY 5 – Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Depart for home, or choose to stay in Chicago for as long as you like. Our Destination Specialist can book sightseeing tours, meals, and extra arrangements as needed.

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Package Inclusions

Festival of Gold inclusions:

- Performance in an elite national festival
- Encore Concert at Orchestra Hall
- Intensive individual ensemble clinic
- Digital recorded and hand-written adjudicator comments
- Audio recording of individual ensemble performances
- Commemorative program

Benefits of traveling with us:

- One free package for every 25 full-paying participants
- Outstanding, internationally known adjudicators and clinicians
- Medical, accident, and dental insurance for all participants
- The industry's most extensive liability coverage
- Free professional development for directors
- Free academic credit for students
- Meaningful awards and trophies
- WorldStrides approved, student friendly hotels
- Gift for the Director

Optional group activities:*

- Willis Tower
- Museum of Science and Industry
- Shop the Magnificent Mile
- Art Institute of Chicago
- John Hancock Observatory
- Shedd Aquarium
- Hard Rock Café
- Field Museum
- Navy Pier

*Optional activities may require additional fees. Contact your Festival Selection Advisor for details.

	Price per person in US dollars*			
	Quad room	Triple room	Double room	Single room
4 nights	\$579	\$661	\$828	\$1,322
5 nights	\$640	\$743	\$949	\$1,571

*Pricing subject to change. Updated 7.6.17.

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Optional Activities

Our Chicago Destination Specialist can work with you to add in any of these exciting option activities and meals for you and your ensemble. Pricing listed is per person.

Entertainment

Blue Man Group

Performances feature three enigmatic bald and blue characters who take the audience through a multi-sensory experience. Matinees and evenings.

\$60.00-\$74.00

Chicago Theater

Broadway in Chicago, Drury Lane Dinner Theater, Lyric Opera, Chicago Symphony, & more. A wide range of shows & prices.

Call for shows & pricing

ComedySportz

The ComedySportz offers a unique blend of fast, funny and smart improv comedy that is appropriate for all ages. It's not stand-up comedy about sports...it's improv comedy played as a sport!

\$27.00-\$29.00

Private Shows - \$36.00 - \$46.00

Spirit Cruise

Head to Navy Pier and enjoy Chicago's most entertaining cruise ship. Includes DJ and dinner buffet while cruising Lake Michigan. Other options available.

Lunch- \$51.00

Dinner- \$89.00

Tommy Gun's Garage Dinner Theatre

Get transported back to the 1920's to a speakeasy with roarin' 20's musical revue and dinner. Non-stop comedy and audience participation required! Delicious dinner served by the cast.

\$60.00-\$66.00

Andy's Jazz Club

Enjoy live Jazz music while dining at one of Chicago's hot spots.

\$43.00

Sightseeing

Skydeck at Willis Tower

Access the view from one of the world's tallest buildings via a high-speed elevator. Stand on "The Ledge," a glass balcony extending 4 feet outside the 103rd floor.

\$15.00

My Kind of Town City Tour

Spend up to four hours with a local guide and hop on and off the bus at all the high spots of Chicago.

\$425.00/bus

Art Institute of Chicago

One of the world's great art museums with international collections dating from 3,000 BC through the present, including famous Impressionist and American works.

Students- \$13.00, Adults- \$27.00

John G. Shedd Aquarium

On the shores of Lake Michigan lies a gateway to an underwater world unlike anything you've ever seen, heard or touched. Newest special exhibit is "Jellies." Located on the same campus as the Field Museum and Adler Planetarium.

Basic Admission

Students- \$17.00, Adults- \$22.00

With Aquatic Show and 4-D

Students- \$22.00, Adults- \$29.00

Field Museum of Natural History

Discover Sue, the largest and most complete T-Rex ever found. Enter an Egyptian pharaoh's tomb, watch a glowing lava flow or shrink to the size of a bug for an Underground Adventure. Vast animal collection from all over the world. Special exhibits available for an additional cost.

Students- \$18.00, Adults- \$21.00

Meal Voucher \$11.00

All Access:

Students- \$23.00, Adults- \$29.00

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Optional Activities

Sightseeing (continued)

Museum of Science & Industry

“Bringing science to life for the whole family since 1933.” Housed in the only remaining building from the 1893 World’s Fair, the largest science museum in the U.S. fills 400,000 square feet with hands-on exhibits. Museum-only tickets include access to most permanent exhibits, including Science Storms and Numbers in Nature: A Mirror Maze, as well as Extreme Ice. Upgrade tickets that include IMAX and/or guided tours of the U-505 Submarine or Coal Mine also available, ask your Destination Specialist for pricing!

Students- \$11.00, Adults- \$17.00

Dine inside the museum!

Meal Vouchers \$11

Box Lunches \$12

360 Chicago

Located on the 94th floor of the John Hancock Building, TILT is an enclosed, clear rectangular box that holds up to eight people at a time. Once in place, the box tilts to a 30-degree angle, giving brave souls a near bird’s eye view of the Windy City from 1,000 feet off the ground! Audio tour features Chicago’s incredible sights and remarkable history.

General Admission:

Students- \$11.00, Adults - \$16.00

Admission w/ Tilt!

Students - \$15.00, Adults - \$19.00

Untouchables Gangster Tour

Experience Chicago as it was during the roaring ‘20s! Enjoy a journey into the past as you cruise the city with a gangster guide in search of the old hoodlum haunts, brothels, gambling dens and sites of gangland shootouts! Approximately two hours.

\$450.00/bus

Chicago History Museum

Take a self-guided tour of exhibits that explore Chicago’s history and culture as the Crossroads of America. Explore the Great Fire (1871), ride a high wheel bicycle, and visit dioramas to experience the first 100 years of Chicago’s history.

Students- \$12.00

Adults- \$14.00

Chicago Boat Tour

Chicago’s architectural heritage is considered to be among the finest in the world, and the Chicago River provides the ultimate setting to view these magnificent structures.

Students- \$13.00

Adults- \$22.00

Dining

Hard Rock Café

Serving great American cuisine, lit by a glowing guitar chandelier. High energy fun.

Breakfast- \$19.00

Lunch/Dinner- \$25.00

Gino’s East Pizza

Legendary delicious Chicago-style deep-dish pizza served in a great atmosphere. Includes soda and salad.

\$24.00 - \$32.00

Rainforest Café

A wild place to eat. Dine in a tropical rainforest complete with rolling thunder, saltwater fish and animated wildlife.

Breakfast- \$17.00

Lunch/Dinner- \$24.00

Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.

Enjoy some famous fried shrimp and movie trivia at the Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. located at the west end of Navy Pier. After your meal, take some time to shop and enjoy the sights of the Pier.

Lunch- \$21.00

Dinner- \$23.00

House of Blues

This is the place for your Chicago Blues experience. Enjoy a dinner or Sunday Gospel Brunch.

Gospel Brunch- \$49.00

Dinner- \$22.00 - \$35.00

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Optional Activities

Dining (continued)

Giordano's Pizzeria

A Chicago favorite for deep dish pizza with locations all over town!

Locations:

N. Clark Street in Andersonville

W. Belmont Ave near Briar Street Theatre

East Grand Ave on the Navy Pier

N. Rush Street @ Gold Coast/Mag Mile

E. Randolph Street near Millennium Park

Jackson Blvd., downtown near Willis Tower

22nd Street in Oakbrook

\$26.00

Pizano's Pizza

Located within walking distance of Millennium Park, serves deep-dish & thin-crust pies!

\$24.00

Lou Malnati's Pizzeria

Located within walking distance of the Magnificent Mile in the historic Gold Coast neighborhood!

\$22.00

Portillo's Restaurant

Beef, Burgers & Salads!

\$19.00

Extras

Souvenir DVDs

Preserve all the great memories of your trip with a professionally mastered DVD created from pictures you take on your trip! We provide the cameras and each participant receives a customized DVD complete with a message from the director. And we can even add your performance music to the DVD.

<http://createavideo.com/flash/heritage.html>

\$11.00