

Invite Official



John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Music Celebrations International is pleased to present the Sousa Band Festival, an exclusive music event that will take place on April 3, 2016 at the Concert Hall of Washington, D.C.'s John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Four select concert bands will be featured in performance at this historic concert venue. All participating bands are selected by application process through Music Celebrations.

The program will emphasize the life and influence of John Philip Sousa, "The March King," on the American Band movement. Participating bands will have the opportunity to visit important Sousa sites in Washington, D.C., including Historic Congressional Cemetery, where he was laid to rest.

Each band will also take part in a clinic with Professor Anthony J. Maiello, Associate Director and Professor of Music at George Mason University School of Music.



Sousa began his musical career at age 6, when he first learned the violin. When the young Sousa turned 13, his father, a trombonist in the United States Marine Band, enlisted his son in the Marine Corps as an apprentice. Sousa served his apprenticeship for seven years, until 1875, and learned to play all the wind instruments while honing his mettle with the violin. Several years later, Sousa left his apprenticeship to join a theater orchestra where he learned to conduct.

Founded in 1798, the oldest professional music organization in the United States is the United States Marine Band. For all its rich history and traditions, it is probably best known as being led by Sousa from 1880 to 1892. These years started a very long and prolific period of march composition for Sousa, including legendary marches that are still performed today - The Washington Post, The Gladiator, and of course, Stars and Stripes Forever. Semper Fidelis, in addition to being the motto of the United States Marine Corps, is also the title of the official march of the Corps, composed by Sousa in 1889.



Day 1: Friday, April 1, 2016

- Arrive in Washington, D.C.
- Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will escort you through the duration of your activities
- Take a panoramic motorcoach tour of Historic Washington, D.C.
- Check into the hotel
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Take an evening walking tour of the Jefferson Memorial and the Iwo Jima Marine Memorial
- Return to the hotel for overnight





Sousa Statue

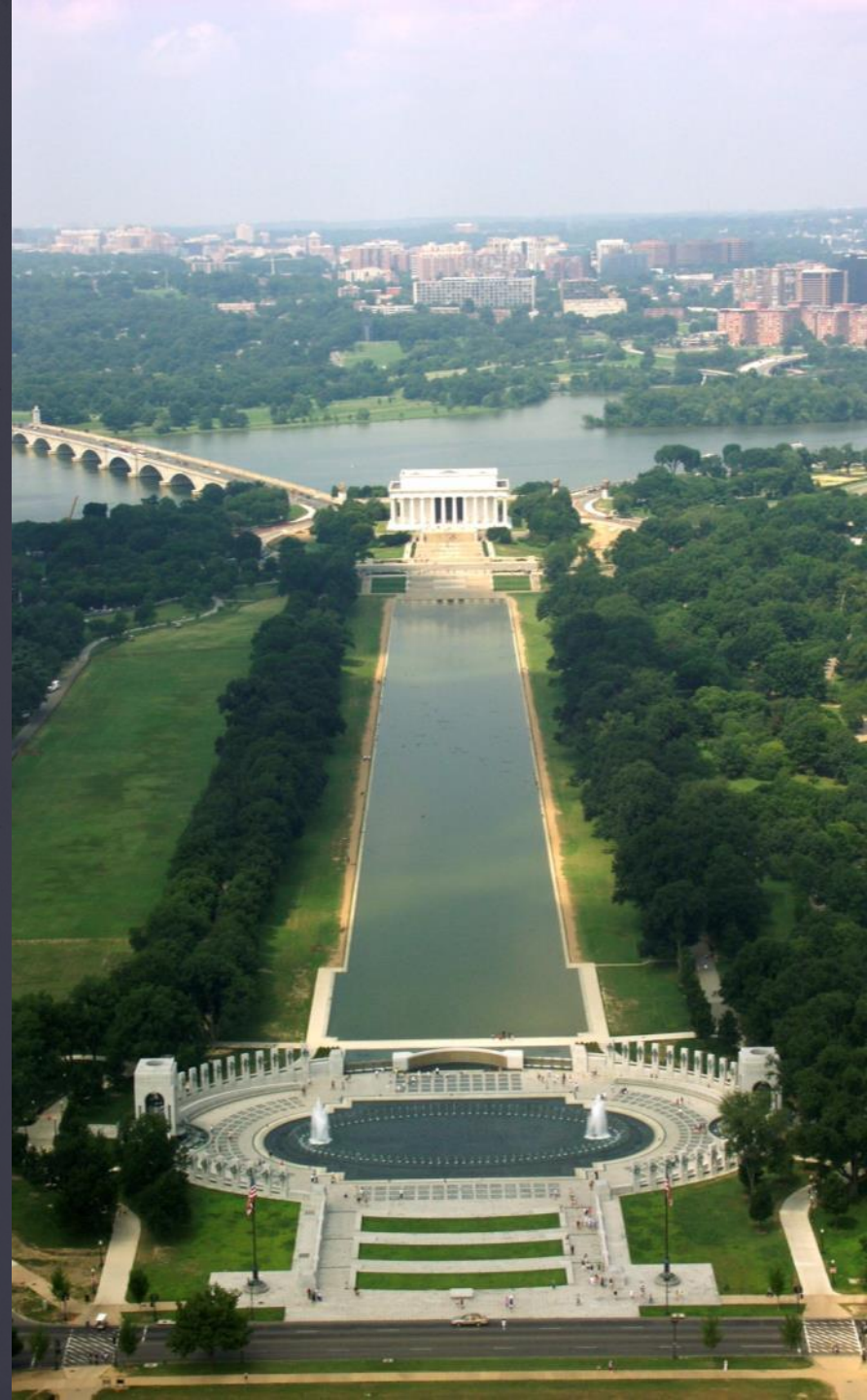


Marine Barracks Parade



Day 2: Saturday, April 2

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Take a walk along Pennsylvania Avenue for a view of the White House
- (White House visits must be requested through a member of Congress)
- Visit Capitol Hill and see the Supreme Court and Capitol buildings
- Lunch, on own
- Visit Historic Congressional Cemetery for a wreath-laying ceremony at the graveside of John Philip Sousa
- *Participate in a clinic with the Festival Clinician*
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Take an evening walking tour of the Lincoln, Vietnam, Korean, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Martin Luther King, and National World War II Memorials, as well as a view of the outside of the Washington Monument
- Return to the hotel for overnight



Sousa Grave



Festival Clinic with Anthony Maiello





Day 3: Sunday, April 3

- Breakfast at the hotel and check-out
- *Morning sound check at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts*
- Lunch at the KC Café
- Take a tour of the Kennedy Center facilities
- *Sousa Band Festival Performance at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts*
- Following the performance, depart for home





John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts



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