

A Once-in-a-Lifetime International Music Experience

TRAVEL TO EUROPE WITH



2 Weeks of Performances and Sightseeing

June 14-16, 2026 Pre-Tour Rehearsal Camp 🎵 June 17-30, 2026 International Performance Tour

FRANCE 🎵 SWITZERLAND 🎵 GERMANY 🎵 AUSTRIA 🎵 OPTIONAL PRAGUE EXTENSION

BAND 🎵 CHOIR 🎵 ORCHESTRA



TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:

Visit European Countries
Iconic Performance Sites
Unforgettable Experiences
Matchless Opportunities
and More

Find out more:

www.musiciansabroad.com



PRESENTED BY:



Tour HIGHLIGHTS

Here is your chance for the experience of a lifetime as a member of **Heartland Musicians Abroad**.

1. Experienced leaders who have traveled and performed in Europe on many occasions.
2. A traveling staff of outstanding Music Advisors and chaperones drawn from music educators across the Heartland.
3. A tour backed by the expertise of the professionals at Music Travel Consultants, based in Indianapolis.
4. Carefully arranged concert sites for the countries we visit.
5. Comfortable accommodations with excellent hotels in each country.
6. An itinerary that features a careful selection of large cities with their iconic landmarks, picturesque mountains and landscapes and smaller towns with their charm.
7. A tour that brings history and culture together for all participants.
8. An opportunity to meet other talented Heartland musicians at our rehearsal camp preceding the tour. Often the bonds made at our camp last many years.
9. An opportunity to share our music with European audiences. Their warm embrace won't be forgotten.
10. A chance to broaden one's horizons, to be a richer person, to appreciate the similarities and differences among cultures and to return to the United States as a more thoughtful, appreciative citizen. You will come to understand that we are much more alike than we are different.

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

WHAT DOES THE LAND PACKAGE COST INCLUDE?

All concert arrangements, tourist class hotels with bath/shower, two meals per day, all sightseeing per itinerary, necessary entrance fees per itinerary, tips, motor coach transportation throughout the tour, driver's expenses, music advisors and administration.

WHEN WILL PRICING BE AVAILABLE?

Pricing will be set before the Spring 2025 informational meetings held throughout the state.

WHERE WILL THE REHEARSAL CAMP BE HELD?

Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

CAN ADULTS ENROLL?

Yes. We encourage adults to join our exciting side-by-side Family and Friends Tour.

CAN CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 15 TRAVEL?

Yes. We make provisions for travelers under age 15 when traveling with an adult parent or guardian.

WHY A CONCERT TOUR?

The music directors are firmly committed to providing an opportunity for young adults to experience the joy of international travel combined with music-making. In our many years travel abroad we have witnessed how participants can be transformed through these experiences.

REHEARSAL CAMP: June 14-16, 2026 – Kansas State University

DATES OF THE EUROPEAN TOUR: June 17 - June 30, 2026

Spring 2025 Meeting SCHEDULE

In general, you should plan to attend the meeting nearest your home. If you can't make that meeting, you may attend any other meeting that fits your schedule. We encourage students and parents to take advantage of the earliest meeting dates possible. Meetings will last approximately one hour. During the meeting, you will receive all the details regarding the tour from the music directors, local staff and representatives from Musicians Abroad.

Please bring your personalized invitation card with you to the meeting. It contains a unique code you will use at check in.

Monday, April 28, 2025

6:30 PM

Chanute HS - Auditorium

1501 W 36th St. Chanute, KS 66720

Park in the WEST lot, enter NW door to Commons.

HOST: AJ Beu

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

6:30 PM

Dodge City HS - Band Room

2201 W. Ross Blvd.

Dodge City, KS 67801

HOST: Tyler Lee

Sunday, May 18, 2025

3:00 PM

Oakley HS - Auditorium

118 W 7th St, Oakley, KS 67748

Park in lot out front and enter through the main entrance.

HOST: Mikayla Bauer

Tuesday, April 29, 2025

6:30 PM

KC North MO - Liberty North HS

1000 NE 104th St. Liberty, MO 64068

Band doors are located on the NE corner of the building and face the baseball fields.

HOST: Shane Fuller

Thursday, May 8, 2025

6:30 PM

Beloit HS - Commons Area

1711 N. Walnut St. Beloit, KS 67420

Park on South side of building, enter through South doors with Trojan Head over entryway

HOST: Kristy Vetter

Monday, May 19, 2025

6:30 PM

Seaman HS - Auditorium

4850 Rochester Rd,

Topeka, KS 66617

Park in North lot and enter through front doors.

HOST: Anna Kennedy

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

6:00 PM

Olathe South HS - Auditorium

1640 E 151st St, Olathe, KS 66062

Enter using front doors or back northwest corner Event Entrance Doors.

HOST: Elise Peterson

Saturday, May 10, 2025

3:00 PM

Maize HS - Auditorium

11600 W. 45th St.

N. Maize, KS 67101

Park in main lot, enter front doors, Auditorium is through the cafeteria behind the glass trophy case.

HOST: Shelby Goss

Sunday, May 4, 2025

7:00 PM

Wichita South East HS - Auditorium

2641 S. 127th St.

East Wichita, KS 67210

Enter South side of building (Main Entrance) and enter door #1

HOST: Joel Naegele

Sunday, May 18, 2025

3:00 PM

K-State - Manhattan - Tracz Family

Band Hall

704 Denison, Manhattan, KS 66506

Park in lot directly across for the TFBH, enter doors by the TFBH stone sign.

HOST: Frank Tracz

The meeting schedule is subject to change.

Please visit the website for a complete and updated list of meeting dates, times and locations.

Please direct all questions to heartland@musiciansabroad.com or 800.616.1112

International Performance Tour ITINERARY

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Check In, Meet and Greet – Kansas State University

Get checked in to the dorms, meet your roommate and move into your room. The afternoon and evening will include rehearsal, dinner and time with newfound friends.

Monday, June 15, 2026

Rehearsal Day

After breakfast, you'll spend a full day in sectionals and rehearsals working on the performance literature.

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Rehearsal, Bon Voyage Concert

Your final rehearsals occur throughout the day and culminate with a concert for your family, friends and supporters. Pack up tonight so you are ready to depart early tomorrow morning.

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Travel Day

It's up early as we load the coaches and transfer from KSU to an International airport for your flight to Europe!



Thursday, June 18, 2026

Arrive Paris, Versailles Palace, Normandy

Welcome to France! Pass through customs and grab your luggage. After your overnight flight, you'll have a chance to visit Versailles Palace and get your bearings as you start to explore everything France has to offer! We will continue to Normandy for the night.

Friday, June 19, 2026

Normandy, Omaha Beach, American Cemetery, Bayeux Tapestry Museum

We're up early as we make our way to Point-du-Hoc and Omaha Beach. Pay your respects at the American Cemetery and visit the Bayeux Tapestry Museum.

Saturday, June 20, 2026

Paris Sights, Concerts, Montmartre

It's time to head back to Paris for lunch and concerts by all ensembles. We'll then climb the steps to the charming hilltop Montmartre district, a former artists' village once inhabited by Picasso and Dalí, and home to the domed Sacré-Cœur basilica. Dinner tonight will be in Montmartre.

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Paris Sights, Seine River Cruise Dinner

Paris is the city of love and offers many sights including the Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame Cathedral, Arc de Triomphe and The Louvre Museum. Shopping and the excitement of the city abound. Enjoy dinner tonight on a Seine River cruise.

Monday, June 22, 2026

Travel Day, Switzerland, Swiss Folklore Dinner

Up early and load the coaches for our travel to Switzerland for a traditional Swiss dinner at the Stadtkeller, a unique combination of good food, music and fun.



Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Lucerne, Andermatt Concerts

We start the day with a guided tour of Lucerne, a gateway to exploring the Swiss Alps before making our way to Germany. All ensembles will perform and have dinner in Andermatt.

International Performance Tour **ITINERARY**

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein Castle

Off we go to Oberammergau for lunch and a tour of the Neuschwanstein Castle, which inspired the Disneyland Sleeping Beauty Castle. Catch a glimpse of the Bavarian Alps before heading to Oberammergau, a village of noted wood carvers.

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Oberammergau, Zugspitze Mountaintop, Concerts

Today, you'll have a chance to ride by cable car and cogwheel train up Germany's highest mountain, Zugspitze. We return to Oberammergau for some free time and prepare for evening concerts at the Ammergauerhaus.

Friday, June 26, 2026

Munich, Dachau Concentration Camp, Salzburg

Just northwest of Munich lies KZ gedenkstaette Dachau, the infamous concentration camp that became the model for all other camps established by the Nazi regime across Europe. You'll have a chance to spend some free time for lunch and sightseeing in the Munich city center before we travel to Salzburg, Austria.



Saturday, June 27, 2026

Guided Tour of Salzburg, Concerts

Enjoy a walking tour of the historic center of Salzburg. After the tour you'll have free time for lunch on your own before concerts by all ensembles and dinner.

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Melk Abbey, Vienna, Final Concerts

Off we go to Vienna with a stop at Melk Abbey for a guided visit. Tonight will be our final concerts of the tour.

Monday, June 29, 2026

Vienna Guided Tour, Farewell Dinner

Morning sightseeing begins with a drive along Ring Boulevard, Hofburg Palace and the State Opera. You'll have leisure time to purchase your last souvenirs before our Farewell Dinner.



Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Flights to USA

It's the last morning of a magnificent tour filled with experiences that will stay with you forever. We're off to Vienna International Airport for departure. Today you will gain back the six hours you lost on your flight to Paris many days ago! We return to the U.S. excited, enthused and exhausted yet enriched.

OPTIONAL: Prague Extension

Choose to stay for an extra two days and visit Prague, the capital city of the Czech Republic.

Meet Your MUSIC DIRECTORS



DR. FRANK TRACZ is Professor of Music and Director of Bands at Kansas State University. He earned his B.M.E. from The Ohio State University, M.M. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and Ph.D. from the Ohio State University. He has public school teaching experience in Wisconsin and Ohio and has also served as Assistant Director of bands at Syracuse University and Director of bands at Morehead State University. Dr. Tracz has served as an adjudicator, clinician, speaker in various schools and conferences and has conducted All-State and Honor bands across the United States as well as in Canada, Singapore, South Africa, Fiji, Australia, and New Zealand.

At Kansas State, he directs the Wind Ensemble and the Marching Band, teaches graduate conducting, acts as an advisor to the Band Ambassadors, and administers and guides all aspects of a large BIG XII comprehensive band program. Ensembles under his direction have been invited to perform at numerous State conferences, MENC, two CBDNA regional conferences, The Larry Sutherland Wind band Festival at Fresno State, Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, and the American Bandmasters Association Conference. The marching band was awarded the prestigious Sudler Trophy in 2015. The Wind Ensemble has also performed at the International Convention of the American Bandmasters Association in 2019 in Loveland, CO.

Dr. Tracz is married to GERALYN, and has three daughters, Jessica Tracz Kelly, Kelley Tracz, and Carly Tracz Morris, and one grandson, Caden Tracz Kelly!



DR. BLAIR A. WILLIAMS is the Director of Professional Development for the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). Prior to her position at ASTA, she was Associate Professor of String Music Education at Texas Tech University and Director of the national award winning TTU String Project. She was also Director of Orchestras for Midway ISD (TX). She has served the string teaching community in public schools, higher education, civic and youth symphonies and in the string studio for over 25 years.

Her middle and high school ensembles consistently achieved superior marks at contests and festivals. Conducting and clinician engagements have included youth, regional and all-city ensembles in Alaska, Hawaii, Kansas, Ohio, Oregon, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Utah and Texas: including an invited performance at The Midwest Clinic in 2010 with the Gold Orchestra from Manhattan, Kansas under the direction of Dr. David Littrell. She is on the conducting staff with the Manhattan (KS) Youth Symphony and frequently performs as a freelance musician. A frequent guest conductor, clinician, lecturer and adjudicator, Dr. Williams enjoys working with and learning from teachers, musicians and students across the country.

Originally from Newton, Kansas, she earned a PhD from The Ohio State University, a Master of Music from Kansas State University and a Bachelor of Music Education from Baylor University.



ELISE PETERSON is in her tenth year as Director of Choirs for Olathe South HS and has worked in the choral music field for over 30 years. Before South, Elise taught at Shawnee Mission South, Pioneer Trail MS, Hays HS and Anderson County Junior-Senior HS in Garnett. She has directed festival choirs, show choirs and more than 40 major musical productions. Her groups consistently have earned "1" ratings at Kansas Regional Solo and Ensemble Festivals as well as State Large Group Festivals. In 2018 and again in 2024, the Olathe South HS Southside Singers were selected to perform for the Kansas Music Educators Association (KMEA) Annual Convention. In 2021, Elise was recognized by KMEA as the State's Outstanding Music Educator of the Year. In 2024, Elise was awarded the Educator Excellence Award by the Olathe School District Foundation.

In her spare time, she loves performing, whether appearing in musical theater, leading music at church, soloing at weddings or singing with professional groups. She sang for two seasons with the Grammy-winning Kansas City Chorale.

Elise is an Olathe native and a graduate of Olathe North HS. She holds an Associate of Arts Degree from Johnson County Community College, as well as both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music Education from Emporia State University.

Meet Your STAFF



Abi Swain
Washington County HS



Andrew Beu
Chanute HS



Anna Kennedy
Seaman HS



Brayden Smith
Hays HS



Catherine Boone
St. Thomas Aquinas



Chris Johnson
Friends University



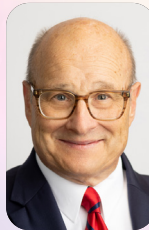
Christopher Kurt
Independence HS



Connor Syler
Maize Jr-Sr HS



Cory Klacker
South Gray Schools



Jay Gilbert
Doane University, Ret.



Joel Naegele
Wichita Southeast HS



Julinne Samuelson
Quinter HS



Kathleen Mans
Andover Central HS



Kristi Vetter
Beloit HS



Mikayla Bauer
Oakley HS



Olivia Bazanos
Derby HS



Rachel Villereale
Derby HS



Rebeccas Davis
Chanute HS



Ryan Masotto
Shawnee Heights HS



Shelby Goss
Maize Jr-Sr HS



Tyler Lee
Dodge City Schools

This HEARTLAND MUSICIANS ABROAD Tour Includes:

FRANCE ▶ Paris, Versailles, Normandy

Versailles Palace, Pointe du Hoc, Omaha Beach,
Normandy American Cemetery, Sacré-Cœur Basilica,
Montmartre



SWITZERLAND ▶ Andermatt, Lucerne

Chapel Bridge, Lion Monument



GERMANY ▶ Munich, Oberammergau

Zugspitze, Dachau Concentration Camp,
Neuschwanstein Castle, Ammergauerhaus

AUSTRIA ▶ Vienna, Salzburg

Ring Boulevard, Hofburg Palace, State Opera, Anker
Clock, Melk Abbey, Salzburg Walking Tour, Mozart's
Birth Home, Schonbrunn Palace



OPTIONAL EXTENSION

Czech Republic ▶ Prague

Astronomical Clock, Jewish Quarter, Charles
Bridge, St. Vitus Cathedral, Old Royal Palace,
St. George's Basilica, Golden Lane, Daliborka
Tower, Cesky Krumlov

State Coordinator and Band Director: Dr. Frank Tracz

Choir Director: Elise Peterson

Orchestra Director: Dr. Blair A. Williams