

Music Celebrations International presents the

# WINDY CITY *Choral Festival*

March 16-18, 2023

Z. Randall Stroope | *Artistic Director*  
Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center



Music Celebrations International  
Concert Tours With Integrity

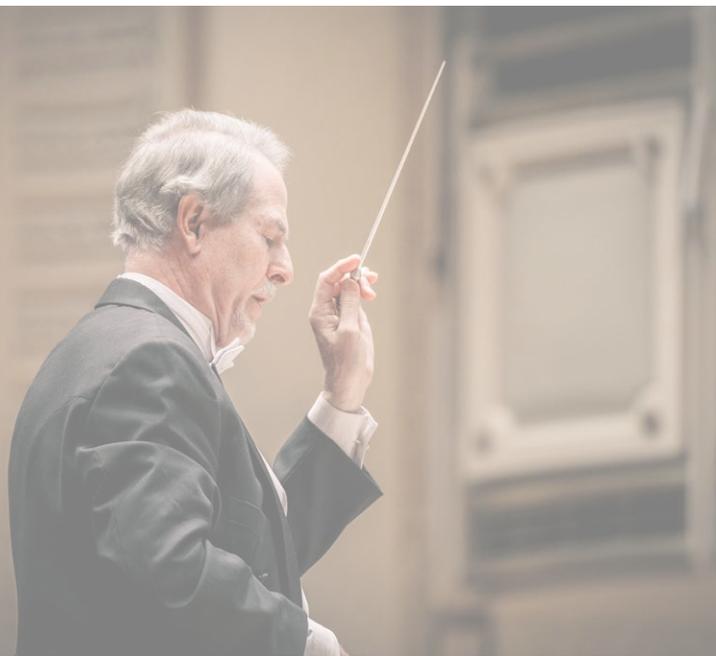
# ABOUT *the Festival*

Music Celebrations International is pleased to present the 9th-annual Windy City Choral Festival, March 16-18, 2023, in Chicago, Illinois. Mixed (SATB) choirs will join together to sing in one of the world's great concert halls – Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center, home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. In addition to being part of the Windy City Festival Chorus, four choirs will be selected by audition to conduct a stand-alone performance on stage during the finale concert.

World-renowned choral conductor, composer, and Director of Choral Activities at Oklahoma State University, Dr. Z. Randall Stroope, will serve as Artistic Director, and will lead the rehearsals and finale performance. Randall was a Professor of Music at three different universities (an Endowed Professor at two of them) – Rowan University (New Jersey), Oklahoma State University and the University of Nebraska. He now guest conducts and composes full time from his studio in Florida and in New Mexico.

Chicago proudly offers some of the world's best museums, the highest buildings, the most renowned orchestras and choirs, the world-class Brookfield Zoo, a beautiful lakefront skyline, and of course, Chicago dogs and pizza! With its wonderful musical heritage, Chicago will be the ideal host city to choirs around the country for this magnificent festival experience.

All concert and tour production will be professionally provided by Music Celebrations International.



# SUGGESTED Itinerary

## DAY ONE: THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

- Arrive in Chicago and meet your Tour Manager
- Enjoy a panoramic city tour of Historic Downtown and the Loop
- Hotel check-in
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- *Evening Festival Chorus Rehearsal*
- Return to the hotel for overnight
- Director's Reception with the other directors and Z. Randall Stroope

## DAY TWO: FRIDAY, MARCH 17

- Breakfast
- Visit a museum (choose one: Museum of Science and Industry, Art Institute of Chicago, Adler Planetarium, Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum of Natural History)
- "Spirit of Chicago" Lunch Cruise, with dancing and time to mingle with the other choirs and have fun!
- Afternoon free for sightseeing and shopping
- Dinner, on own
- *Evening Festival Chorus Rehearsal*
- Return to the hotel for overnight

## DAY THREE: SATURDAY, MARCH 18

- Breakfast
- *Morning Dress Rehearsal at Orchestra Hall*
- Lunch, on own
- ***Windy City Choral Festival Finale Concert at Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center***
- Following the performance, dinner at a local restaurant
- Return to the hotel for overnight

## DAY FOUR: SUNDAY, MARCH 19

- Breakfast
- Check-out of hotel
- As time permits, visit the Navy Pier and Magnificent Mile for free time and shopping
- Depart for home

***This is a very flexible itinerary.*** Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.



# ORCHESTRA HALL *at Symphony Center*

For nearly the first fourteen years of its history, the Chicago Orchestra performed at the Auditorium Theatre (completed in 1889). Orchestra Hall – the long-standing dream of Theodore Thomas – was designed by CSO trustee and Chicago architect Daniel H. Burnham and completed in 1904, at a cost of \$750,000. The dedicatory concert, led by Thomas, was held on December 14 of that year.

Orchestra Hall has been host for a variety of performances and presentations since its dedication in 1904. During its first fifty years, Orchestra Hall was the regular home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as well as the Apollo Musical Club, the Mendelssohn Club of Chicago, the Chicago Business Men's Symphony, the Commonwealth Edison Orchestra, and the Marshall Field Choral Society. Mayors Richard M. Daley, Jr. and Harold Washington both were inaugurated during ceremonies held at Orchestra Hall. In addition, the Hall has hosted countless lectures (including Amelia Earhart, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Martin Luther King, Jr.); movies; commencement ceremonies; billiards tournaments; religious services; suffrage and other political rallies; and visiting orchestras, choruses, and dance companies from all over the world.



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