



Building Bridges *and* Transforming Lives *through the* Power of Music

Florence, Italy | July 2025

Festival Orchestre Giovanili - Florence Youth Festival

Join with youth orchestras from across the globe in this unique opportunity to perform in the heart of Italy's Tuscany region. Florence is the birthplace of the Renaissance and some of the world's most famous composers, musicians and artists left their mark on this enchanting city by the Arno river.

The Setting



The Artistic Experience

The Florence Youth Festival (FOG) was founded in 1999 to give young musicians from all over the world the opportunity to be part of a unique musical experience in the beautiful regions of Tuscany and Umbria, Italy. The festival's main venue is the Loggia dei Lanzi located on the Piazza della Signoria, one of the main squares in the city center of Florence. Additional performances take place in Lucca, San Gimignano, Montecatini-Terme, Prato, Perugia and Assisi. FOG is held during the month of July and consists of a total of 50-75 concerts performed by 15-20 orchestras. Each orchestra usually performs three to four concerts. Over 300 ensembles from all over the world have participated in the Florence Youth Festival. In addition to the concerts, educational activities such as workshops and master classes can also be added to the program.

Florence, Italy

Florence's museums, palaces, and churches house some of the greatest artistic treasures in the world. The most popular and important sites in Florence include the Cathedral, the Baptistery, the Uffizi, the Bargello, and the Accademia. The churches of Santa Maria Novella and Santa Croce are veritable art galleries, and the library of San Lorenzo is a magnificent exhibition of Michelangelo's architectural genius. Wander some of the oldest streets in the city until you reach the Arno River, cross the Ponte Vecchio, and experience the "newest" area of Florence, the Oltrarno. When you grow weary of museums and monuments, head outdoors. Spend a day at the Boboli Gardens or climb the hill to the church of San Miniato al Monte to experience an enchanting view of Florence.



The Organizers: Perform International

"Building Bridges and Transforming Lives through the Power of Music"

Music and travel are a powerful combination. That is why Perform International has curated a team with a passion and expertise in both. We desire to bring the transformative power of international travel and performance to your program and your ensemble.

We see every trip and festival as an opportunity to celebrate the unique character of each musician while building a sense of unity and belonging through the universal language of music.

Your passion is our priority. Whether you've begun planning or are still dreaming, **our expertise will make your ideal performance and travel experience a reality.** From our first call until you return home, we will be your proactive partner, allowing you to focus on what matters most—your people and your program.

We look forward to working alongside you to create a memorable, meaningful, and cost effective tour for your choir, band, or orchestra.

Perform International's Artistic Team



Jeffrey Grogan

*Artistic Director of
Orchestras, Perform
International*

Jeffrey Grogan is an internationally acclaimed conductor and teacher, dedicating more than 25 years to nurturing musical excellence among young musicians. Mr. Grogan has served as adjudicator, conductor, and clinician for many prestigious national and international events. In 2018 he was invited by the LA Philharmonic to conduct with Gustavo Dudamel and Michael Morgan at Disney Hall, a part of the National Take A Stand Festival. Other conducting engagements include: the Honor Orchestra of America sponsored by Music for All, the National Orchestra Cup at Lincoln Center; and the Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall. Recent international work includes conducting festivals at the Sydney Opera House in Australia, the Harpa Concert Hall in Iceland, and venues in Bangkok, Thailand and Singapore. Mr. Grogan has also conducted numerous all-state orchestras and bands throughout the US, and in 2018, was named Master Educator by the Yamaha Corporation of America.

Grogan is currently Director of Orchestral Activities and Professor of Music at the Wanda L. Bass School of Music at Oklahoma City University and Artistic Director of the Oklahoma Youth Orchestras. Previously, Grogan served eleven seasons as Education and Community Engagement Conductor of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, and as Conductor and Artistic Director of the NJSO Youth Orchestras, the InterSchool Orchestras of New York and the New Jersey Youth Symphony. His youth orchestras have performed to capacity crowds at some of the greatest concert halls in the world, including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Smetana Hall, Bartok Hall, Musikverein, and Konzerthaus. He has appeared as a guest conductor at many universities throughout the US from Indiana University to the Manhattan School of Music and the Mannes School of Music Pre-College Division. His work with professional orchestras includes the New Jersey Symphony, Oklahoma City Philharmonic, Little Orchestra Society of New York, Reno Philharmonic, Adelphi Chamber Orchestra, Ridgefield Symphony and the New York Concerti Sinfonietta.



Jerry F. Junkin

*Artistic Director
of Bands, Perform
International*

Jerry F. Junkin serves as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Dallas Wind Symphony, as well as Director of Bands and the Frank C. Erwin, Jr. Centennial Professor of Music at the University of Texas at Austin, where he also holds the title of University Distinguished Teaching Professor. In 2003 he was appointed Music Director and Conductor of the Hong Kong Wind Philharmonia. The New York Times named the recent release on the Reference Recordings label with Jerry Junkin and The University of Texas Wind Ensemble, Bells for Stokowski, one of the best classical CDs of 2004.

Professor Junkin became conductor of The University of Texas Wind Ensemble in the fall of 1988, following an appointment as Director of Bands at the University of South Florida. In addition to his responsibilities as Professor of Music and Conductor and Music Director of the UT Wind Ensemble, he serves as Head of the Conducting Division and teaches courses in conducting and wind band literature. He is a recipient of the Texas Excellence in Teaching awards, presented annually by the Ex-Student's Association.

Jerry Junkin became the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Dallas Wind Symphony in the fall of 1993. Performances under the direction of Mr. Junkin have won the praise of such notable musicians as John Corigliano, David Del Tredici, Gunther Schuller, Karel Husa, William Kraft, Jacob Druckman and Michael Colgrass, among many others. In February of 2005 he led The University of Texas Wind Ensemble in the world premiere performance of Corigliano's Circus Maximus: Symphony No. 3, in both Austin and New York's Carnegie Hall. Maintaining an active schedule as a guest conductor, clinician and lecturer, Mr. Junkin has appeared in those capacities in forty-eight states and on five continents. In 2005 he was presented the Grainger Medallion by the International Percy Grainger Society.



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Festival Tour Itinerary

Day 1 - Departure USA

Overnight flight from the USA to Rome, Italy.

Day 2 - Arrival Rome / Florence

Arrival in Rome and transfer to Florence. Time permitting, visit the Orvieto Cathedral en-route to Florence. Welcome Dinner and overnight in Florence.

Day 3 - Florence & First Concert Performance

Morning guided sightseeing tour of Florence including a visit to the Academia and the Duomo. This afternoon you'll have your first concert performance at the Loggia dei Lanzi on Piazza della Signoria in the heart of Florence. Dinner and overnight in Florence.

Day 4 - Pisa, Lucca & Second Concert Performance

Drive west to Pisa to view the famous Leaning Tower. Continue to the walled city of Lucca, birthplace of Giacomo Puccini. Enjoy a walking tour of the city. Tonight perform your second concert at the Chiesa di San Michele in Foro. Overnight in Florence.

Day 5 - Tuscany Countryside & Third Concert Performance

Enjoy a full day excursion through the Tuscan countryside with visits to Siena and San Gimignano. The town of San Gimignano is one of the best preserved medieval towns of Italy and recognized as a UNESCO cultural heritage site. Perform your third concert tonight on the Piazza del Duomo in San Gimignano. Overnight in Florence.

Day 6 - Assisi & Rome

Depart Florence this morning for Rome. En-route stop in Assisi for a guided tour including a visit to the St. Francis Basilica. Dinner and overnight in Rome.

Day 7 - Ancient Rome

Start the day with a guided tour of ancient Rome including visits to the Coliseum, the Roman Forum and the Trevi Fountain. Orchestras wishing to perform in Rome have the opportunity to select from a diverse range of concert venues. Dinner and overnight in Rome.

Day 8 - Vatican City

This morning visit the Vatican Museum and St. Peter's Basilica with a licensed guide. Enjoy the afternoon to explore Rome on your own followed by a festive farewell dinner. Overnight in Rome.

Day 9 - Depart Rome

Transfer to the Rome Airport.

Pre/Post Festival Tour Programs

No two ensembles are the same, so we take special delight in providing the best-fit tour for your orchestra. All of Perform International's programs are fully customized and we are glad to discuss any adjustments to the above itinerary with you.