

# ♪♪♪ PSSO TOUR 2017 – THE BALTICS – JUN 18 - 27 ♪♪♪

## NEWSLETTER #1 – May 13, 2016

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► Website: [www.preucil.org](http://www.preucil.org) (click *Tour* tab) – updated frequently ◀

### TOUR DESTINATION: THE BALTICS

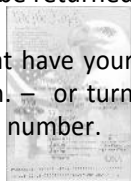
TOUR DATES: JUNE 18-27, 2017

#### SUBJECT TO A BALANCED ORCHESTRA AFTER FIRM COMMITMENTS

Thanks to all of you who returned the tour survey. The Baltics was the overwhelming choice. We are now ready to ask for firm commitments to see if the tour is still viable.

#### RESERVATION DUE JUNE 3 – EITHER OFFICE

1. Read the “Conditions for Receiving the Grant” on the reverse side of this newsletter.
2. Read the “Student Responsibilities” on the reverse side of the Reservation Form and **sign** (both parents and student).
3. Read MCI’s inclusions and exclusions.
4. **Completely fill out and sign** one Reservation Form for each person traveling. If you don’t have a passport or need to renew yours, leave the passport lines blank and turn in that info as soon as you get your passport.
5. Submit your Reservation Form with **\$200 per person (cash or check) by June 3**. This deposit will be returned if we do not sign a contract with MCI.
6. Two color copies of your passport pages that have your picture and signature will be required in Jan. – or turn them in now when you look for your passport number.



#### PACKAGE COST: \$3,849

The cost of the tour is \$3,849. The price includes Music Celebrations International’s (MCI) arrangements from Chicago, all gratuities and bus to and from Chicago. (Although we expect this price to hold, additions to the itinerary or airline increases could affect the cost.)

#### COSTS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE PACKAGE PRICE

##### PASSPORT:

- New Under-16: \$105
- New Adult (16 & up): \$135
- Renew Adult Passport \$110
- (Passport must be good for **6 mo. after the trip ends**)



##### OTHER EXPENSES

- Required T-shirt: ~\$12
- 8 lunches: ~\$80 - \$160, depending on your appetite
- Drinks at included meals: ~\$50
- Optional spending/snack money: ~\$250
- Visa for non-US citizen
- Optional trip cancellation insurance: \$104 to \$232

#### JOHN DEERE CLASSIC FUNDRAISER

See info on another page. Email Sharon if you want to collect pledges for this fundraiser so we can get you the materials. All money goes to **your** tour account.

### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

\$200 per person at Reservation ..... Jun 3  
\$300 per person ..... Aug 15  
\$963 per person ..... Oct 15  
\$963 per person ..... Jan 15  
\$963 per person ..... Mar 15  
\$460 (balance) per person ..... Apr 15

**GRANT & FUNDRAISING APPLY TO YOUR LAST PAYMENTS**

### CANCELLATION PENALTY SCHEDULE

If you cancel before airline tickets are issued (about 6 weeks before departure) and someone takes your place, you will receive a full refund. Otherwise, depending on the date you cancel, you will lose the following:

\$300 per person ..... Sep 1  
\$365 per person ..... Dec 1  
\$913 per person ..... Mar 1  
\$1825 per person ..... Apr 1  
\$3774 per person ..... May 5  
\$75 per person ..... fully refundable before departure

### “FULL” GRANT

#### EXPECTED TO BE FROM \$1,600-\$1,800

The fixed amount of available grant money will be divided among the student travelers. We expect the per-student “full” grant to be between \$1,600 and \$1,800 for students who have been in Preucil School and in a Preucil orchestra since Fall 2015. The exact amount will be determined when we know the number of student travelers and is subject to Board approval in June, usually a formality.

### “PARTIAL” GRANT - 2/3 of “FULL” GRANT

Students who are new to the School or orchestra will receive a partial grant, which is 2/3 of the Full Grant and is expected to be from \$1,067 to \$1,200.

### SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR

#### “CONDITONS FOR RECEIVING THE GRANT”

### REHEARSAL FEE & LARGE INSTRUMENT RENT

Additionally, the fee for rehearsals after the end of the regular PSSO season (\$50/student) will be covered with grant money. The grant will also cover the rental and transport of cello/bass.

### 2017 TOUR ORCHESTRA REHEARSALS FOLLOWING THE END OF 2017 PSSO SEASON

- Mondays March 20 through May 22 at regular orchestra time.
- Morning Rehearsals Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 2 weeks: June 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16.
- A bon voyage concert, to be scheduled the evening of June 16.

# CONDITIONS FOR RECEIVING GRANT MONEY

The total available grant money is a fixed number, to be divided among the student travelers.

The per-student grant is projected to be **between \$1,600 and \$1,800**

The exact amount will be determined when we know the number of student travelers.

## ORCHESTRA MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

**“FULL” GRANT:** to be eligible to receive a “full” grant (the designated grant amount) a student must:

1. Have been a student of Preucil School or in a program outside of Preucil School affiliated with the School, (i.e., students taught by a Preucil faculty member in an out-of-town program) since Fall 2015.
2. Have been enrolled in a Preucil School orchestra since Fall 2015.
3. Meet the rehearsal-attendance and fundraising requirements as established by the administration during 2016-17.
4. Plan to continue membership in PSSO the year following the tour, excluding graduates and those who move.

**PARTIAL GRANT:** **STUDENTS WHO DO NOT MEET #1 AND #2 ABOVE:**

Students new to the school or orchestra program may receive 2/3 of the “full” grant, subject to #3 and #4 above.

## FUNDRAISING POLICY & REQUIREMENTS

**PURPOSE:** To provide an opportunity to raise money for those who might otherwise be unable to go on the tour **and** to encourage a spirit of working together to raise funds for the benefit of all.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING GRANT MONEY:**

Some fundraisers will be designated for the general trip fund, some will be opportunities for individuals to raise money for their own trip accounts, and some will be a combination.

- **TO RECEIVE GRANT MONEY**, a student (or his/her parent/representative) must supply goods or labor for at least one fundraiser designated for the general trip fund OR chair a fundraiser that benefits individual accounts.

## REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS (2016-2017)

Before the first overseas tour in 1991, an anonymous benefactor donated a generous investment gift that enables PSSO to travel every four years with a portion of students' costs covered by grant. The donor wishes to reward the students' efforts and enrich their experience while at Preucil School. Therefore, each student going on the tour can consider he/she will be earning a portion of the tour cost for each rehearsal. Parents and Students, please review the following rehearsal attendance requirements together so everyone understands our expectations.

**ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL REHEARSALS, SECTIONALS AND CONCERTS.**

**STUDENTS WILL FORFEIT A PORTION OF THEIR GRANT FOR EXCESSIVE ABSENCES.**

1. Only the Conductor or the Director of the School can grant an excused absence. Excused absences are:
  - a. Confining illness – (i.e., running a temp, contagious)
  - b. School **music** events or performances.
  - c. Family emergencies.
2. Only 2 excused absences will be allowed per season. **(See #5)**
3. All foreseen absences must be reported to the Conductor no later than one week prior to the absence on a signed Excused Absence Form or by a parent submitting the Excused Absence Form on the Preucil School website.
4. Absences due to illness or emergencies are to be called in to the North Campus Office, 319-248-1248, followed with submitting a signed Excused Absence Form at the next rehearsal or on the Preucil School website.
5. ***Abuse of the attendance policy or lack of musical preparation may require the Conductor and the Director of the School to re-evaluate the player's seating or continued membership in the orchestra.***

### **2017 TOUR ORCHESTRA REHEARSALS FOLLOWING END OF PSSO SEASON – BEGIN MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017**

Attendance is expected at all rehearsals and the concert:

- Mondays **March 20 through May 22** at regular orchestra time.
- Morning Rehearsals Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 2 weeks: **June 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16.**
- A bon voyage concert will be scheduled for the **evening of June 16.**



# PREUCIL SCHOOL STRING ORCHESTRA-CONCERT TOUR OF THE BALTICS 2017

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Since participation in this tour is a privilege, participants will be expected to conduct themselves in a mature, considerate manner, reflecting highly on themselves, Preucil School, their community and their country. Success of the tour for all requires that each person abide by a set of common behavior guidelines for the benefit and safety of all. ***Be aware of the burden of the responsibility the administration and each chaperone bears and of the dedication shown in providing you this experience. Remember that chaperones pay full price for the tour. Read these guidelines with your parents, sign below and return to Preucil School.***

1. I will abide by the decisions of the tour administration, chaperones and Music Celebrations International staff. I accept their word as final.
2. I understand **no obscene language** will be tolerated.
3. I will not participate in the handling or use of **tobacco, alcohol, and/or illegal drugs** on any portion of this tour.
4. I will wear modest casual clothing without holes or suggestive writing or pictures (pertaining to sex, alcohol, tobacco, etc.). I understand tank tops without a cover, bare midriiffs and short shorts are not appropriate.
5. I will travel with the spirit of a world citizen, open to new experiences, cultures and people.

### GENERAL DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES ARE AS FOLLOWS, DEPENDING ON THE OFFENSE:

1. **Student will meet with tour administration and head chaperone** to discuss the offense.
2. **Staff will make a collect call to home** with student present before pursuing any of the following (#3):
3. **If deemed necessary, Student will be removed from the tour**; i.e., confined to a designated chaperone and/or removed from the orchestra, either for a designated time or the duration of the tour.

**In case of serious infractions, Sonja and the head chaperones have the right to determine which step of the discipline procedure applies. Serious infractions are those that compromise the integrity or safety of an individual or the group.**

I understand, respect and accept fully the behavior guidelines listed above and promise to abide by them all, for my benefit as well as that of all participants-students and adults.

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Signature of participant

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Date

By our signatures below, we, the parents or guardians of the above-named participant, understand, respect and accept the tour guidelines listed above. We will encourage our son/daughter to abide by these guidelines and to prepare well for the program, realizing these preparations are essential towards making the experience safe, meaningful, and successful.

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Signature of parent/guardian

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Date

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Signature of parent/guardian

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Date

***Two parent signatures are required only if parents live separately but share custody.***

**AMERICAN CELEBRATION OF MUSIC IN THE BALTICS**  
**MUSIC CELEBRATIONS INTERNATIONAL (MCI)**  
**PREUCIL SCHOOL OF MUSIC STRING ORCHESTRA**

**June 18-27, 2017 (8 nights / 10 days)**

**VILNIUS, RIGA, TALLINN**

**Cost: \$3,849, based on double occupancy. Add \$268 for a single room.**

**(This cost reflects MCI's quote plus Preucil School additions for bus to Chicago and tips not covered by MCI)**

All tour prices quoted for transportation and land arrangements herein are based on rates (including foreign exchange rates) in effect at the date of this offer and are subject to change. Adjustments may be made if the exchange rate varies more than 5%.

### COST INCLUSIONS

- **AIRLINE TRANSPORTATION:** Round-trip transportation by scheduled airline carrier from **Chicago, IL**. Air fares are subject to change pending space availability at the time of group booking.
  - Includes up to \$700 for U.S. Government airline taxes, fees, and estimated fuel surcharge.
- **COACH TRANSPORTATION:** Local modern deluxe motorcoach transportation within Europe upon arrival and available for the entire tour.
- **CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS:** All performance and workshops are professionally provided in superior venues with attention to technical details and effective publicity. All venues mentioned in this quote are used as reference only and are subject to confirmation.
- **ACCOMMODATIONS:** Hotel accommodations in superior tourist-class (3-star) hotels chosen for location, reputation, cleanliness, and service. The price is based on double occupancy, all rooms with private facilities. All hotels mentioned in this quote are used as reference only and are subject to availability at group rates at the time of booking. This offer is based on staying at the following accommodations, or similar:  
**3-Star Quality: Riga:** [\*Albert Hotel\*](#) **Tallinn:** [\*Park Inn\*](#) **Vilnius:** [\*Comfort Hotel LT\*](#)
- **MEALS:** All breakfasts, all dinners and 2 lunches (as noted in the itinerary). Please note that breakfast is not included on day of arrival (*will be on flight at breakfast –SS*) and dinner is not included on day of departure (*also on flight or home –SS*).
- **ENTRANCE FEES:** The following Entrance fees are included:
  - Vilnius University, Trakai Castle, Rundale Palace, Turaida Castle, Palmse Manor House
- **TOUR ITINERARIES:** Electronic versions of the tour itinerary are available listing hotel addresses, telephone and fax numbers.
- **TOUR MANAGEMENT:** One full-time, multi-lingual Tour Manager will be on each motorcoach through the entire tour. MCI's European office staff is easily available 24 hours daily (even on weekends) to render assistance whenever needed.
- **EXCURSIONS:** Conducted by licensed, professional guides as outlined in the day-by-day Tour itinerary.
- **GRATUITIES:** All Tips: hotel personnel (including meals), tour manager(s), licensed guides, and motorcoach driver(s).
- **EACH PARTICIPANT RECEIVES:**
  - 1 Flight bag
  - 2 Luggage tags
  - 1 Souvenir Photo Video
  - 1 Souvenir T-shirt
- **TRAVEL NOTES:** Pre-departure Travel Notes are available to each participant containing useful information about travel preparation, destination information, useful packing and cultural conditioning suggestions.
- **LIABILITY INSURANCE:** \$2M MCI Tour Liability Insurance coverage.
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Individual insurance coverage is included in all MCI programs. Summary of coverage:
  - \$10,000 – Travel Accident
  - \$1,000 – Medical Expense
  - \$300 – Baggage Coverage
  - \$600 – Trip Cancellation/Interruption/Delay

### COST EXCLUSIONS

- Travel Visa for non-U.S. passport holders.
- Drinks at dinners. (*Water and soft drinks have been included in the past, but they are always listed as excluded - SS*)
- 8 lunches.
- Airline luggage fees, if applicable. (*We don't expect any - SS*)
- Difference between current and actual costs for the airline taxes and the estimated fuel surcharge, if applicable.



**JOHN DEERE CLASSIC BIRDIES FOR CHARITY  
A Fundraising Opportunity For Individuals  
Read Details Below**

This is an “easy” fundraiser in the sense that you only have to contact people one time to ask for their pledge/donation and it can be done by email; they get a chance to win very nice prizes; and it appeals to golfers. John Deere Classic collects all the pledges, does the tracking, and returns 100% plus a bonus, which makes the return at least 105%.

**Notify [Sharon](#) If You Want To Participate by June 3**



**AUGUST 8-14, 2016**

**CONTEST**

The contest portion of the Birdies for Charity program gives any 501(c)(3) organization the opportunity to grow their fundraising efforts, while offering donors a chance to win prizes; something some charities may not be able to do on their own.

The John Deere Classic tournament administers the program, invoices all donors and turns over 100% of all monies collected to each designated organization. This is made possible by the John Deere Foundation's generous promise to pay all administrative costs for the Birdies program.

Best of all, the tournament then takes its annual profits and adds a second “bonus” check of 5-10% to each organization. So, for every \$1.00 pledged and collected, the charity receives between \$1.05 - \$1.10. Tough to find a better deal than that!

### **IF YOU ARE A CHARITY**

It is the charity’s responsibility to solicit pledges for their organization. Beginning in April, charities are able to acquire official pledge forms for the season. Once acquired, the charities must label each pledge form with their organization name and Bird Number (assigned at registration) prior to distributing to donors.

Donors are able to send their pledge/donation directly to the Birdies for Charity office, however, if the charity receives any in their office they are asked to forward onto the BFC office. Any payments received by your office should be stapled directly to the donor’s pledge card and forward onto the BFC office.

**After the tournament, the John Deere Classic invoices each donor up to three times to collect their pledged amount**

Our fulfillment rate has been over 98% for the last five years. Once all the money is collected, the tournament delivers checks and a detailed list of donors to each charity by October 31st. The 5%-10% bonus checks are delivered at the same time.

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR \_\_\_\_\_ BIRD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**I pledge and promise to donate:**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ one-time flat donation. Please attach payment. Checks payable to John Deere Classic Charitable Corporation.

OR

\$\_\_\_\_\_ for every birdie made during the 2016 John Deere Classic.

**GUESS THE BIRDIES & WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2016 LEXUS NX!**

I guess that \_\_\_\_\_ birdies will be made.

Only 1 grand prize will be awarded. Void where prohibited by law.

**BIRDIES SCORED (YEAR)**

1863 (2007)	2010 (2010)	2142 (2013)
1921 (2008)	2160 (2011)	2040 (2014)
1914 (2009)	2113 (2012)	1990 (2015)

**PLEDGE INFORMATION (Please print)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE OR EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_