

Midwest Young Artists



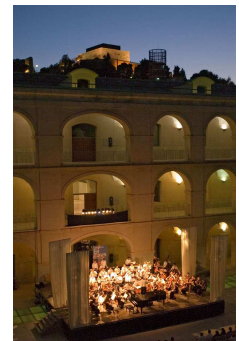
MYA International Concert Tour: 20 Days, 15 Concerts, 2 Embassies Everything Else...Priceless

FORT SHERIDAN, IL - On Saturday, July 23, 2005, 100 young musicians from **Midwest Young Artists** (MYA 878 Lyster Road, Highwood, IL 847-926-9898) embarked on a 20-day concert tour to the historical countries of **Spain and Portugal**. MYA's ambassadors performed more than 15 concerts for standing ovations at venues including the **US Embassies** in Spain and in Portugal, the Palace of La Granja in Segovia and the International Piano Festival in Lucena. Students also had the rare opportunity to meet the Ambassador to Spain from the U.S., Eduardo Aguirre Jr., and the Iraqi Ambassador to Spain, Talal Al-Khudairi. Michael Fatum, a trumpeter and sophomore at New Trier High School, comments. "At the end of our third concert, the crowd gave us an overwhelming **standing ovation** and



when we played the last part of Carmen (the opera) as an encore they clapped along. To be able to stand up in front of more than 350 people who don't even speak your language and get a **bone chilling** applause is an experience that I will treasure forever. Since that concert, we tended to receive the same warm welcome everywhere else. It is because music is a **universal language** that everyone can understand and enjoy."

Dr. Allan Dennis, Director of Midwest Young Artists, reflects on his experience overseas. "As a **family**" traveling together, everyone has grown to appreciate and **celebrate** each other. New friendships have been established and old **friendships** have been enriched. Even more importantly, we have had positive interactions with the people of Spain and, in all I have seen, these interactions have put a **positive** "face" on the U.S."



Proudly representing 27 communities and **three states**, students visited the culturally rich cities of Barcelona, Valencia, Lisbon, Granada, Segovia, and Salamanca. Tour stops included the captivating Alhambra in Granada, Salamanca's Plaza Mayor and Madrid's famous art gallery, The Prado.

MORE

Midwest Young Artists (878 Lyster Road, Highwood, IL, 847-926-9898), is the leading youth-music ensemble program in the Midwest. Founded in 1993 by Dr. Allan Dennis with one orchestra, MYA has grown into a full-curriculum music school with a distinguished faculty of 22. Presently, MYA has five youth orchestras, more than 50 chamber music ensembles, three vocal ensembles, an all-inclusive jazz program, as well as classes in music theory and history. The program is for serious young musicians and dedicated amateurs. MYA is housed in its own state-of-the-art facility in the town of Fort Sheridan, which provides its students with large rehearsal halls, classrooms, a recording studio, and music library. MYA graduates are accepted at the most selective conservatories in the country.

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Midwest Young Artists 878 Lyster Road Highwood, IL 60040 www.mya.org 847.926.9898

Tour Participants

Barrington High School

Alyssa Schardt

Deerfield High School

Hannah Andreasen

Tessa Andreasen

Erica Charous

Christopher Gatto

Charles Lane (Alum)

Greg Lindgren (Alum)

Stacy Morton

Caroline Rothstein

Andrea Sterenstein

Elgin High School

Scot Moore

Evanston High School

Alex Banzhaf

Drew Banzhaf

David Cohen

Ken Fuller

Nicholas Hersh

Martin Nosedal

Elizabeth Peters

Hillary Rowley-Weiss

Glenbrook North High School

Antonio Cevallos

Zachary Robertson

Glenbrook South High School

Christine Kim

Gerry Wawrzynek

Grayslake High School

Genevieve Salazar

Nastasia Salazar (Alum)

Highland Park High School

Daniel Dranove

Michael Dranove

Peter Kupfer (Alum)

Aliza Tunkl (Alum)

Hoffman Estates High School

Sean Park

Illinois Math & Science Academy

Samuel Cormier-Iijima (Alum)

Lake Forest High School

Nathan Bleier (Alum)

Lake Zurich High School

Clare Stolarski

Maine South High School

Eric Bauer

Katy Bratko

Alison Derifield (Alum)

Cara Deverman

Kiersten Hoiland

Mickey Mangan (Alum)

New Trier High School

Moira Bette

John Fatum

Michael Fatum

Mike Gililan

David Kromelow

Eric Martin

Lisa Philip (Alum)

Madeline Sharp

Ben Steinhorn

Rachel Steinhorn (Alum)

Prospect High School

Evelyn O'Connell

Samantha O'Connell

Schaumburg High School

Alice Kwon

Stevenson High School

Michael DeWitt

David Nutt

Elisabeth Owens

James Rein (Alum)

Brian Rose (Alum)

St. Joseph High School

Billy Thoms

Vernon Hills High School

Kevin Kunkel

Dmitriy Rapoport

Warren Township High School

Jenny Matias

Wauconda High School

Annette Hansen

Waukegan High School

Mollie Linn

West Oak School

Emily Lutter

