



London International Choral Festival

INFORMATION

A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT BONE



“

Of all of the events with which I have been associated none have given me as much pleasure as the London International Choral Festival, an event which we have now presented here in London over the New Year period since 2008.

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The sheer joy, exhilaration, and pride of achievement that I have seen in all of the young singers who have taken part in this Festival has been immensely uplifting and truly rewarding.

In creating the Festival we have set out with the aim of making performance in the Festival ever more rewarding and accessible for the young singers who participate.

The opportunities that we give for choirs to sing are quite superb with each performance opportunity being tailored to the specific performance capabilities of the singers. We provide delightful venues and enthusiastic audiences for all of the festival's Concerts.

Our superb Choral director is Justin Doyle and he will be introducing himself and talking about his musical philosophy over the following pages. We are tremendously impressed with Justin. His enthusiasm is infectious, his firm belief that every human being is capable of song will inspire you, just as it has us.

We know that if you come and participate in London's International Choral Festival you are going to have the experience of a lifetime. Not only will you have the opportunity of singing in places with a great choral tradition, but you will also be given the opportunity of singing in the great LICF Massed Choir Gala Finale Concert accompanied by the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra.

A week in London enjoying all that London has to offer historically and culturally, singing in the Festival's Concerts in venues now often shared with musicians from the LNYDP and

then joining the Festival's Grand Finale, will give you memories and experiences that will last for the rest of your lives.

If given the opportunity might I urge you to join us in London for the London International Choral Festival.

THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL

The main aim of the London International Choral Festival is that it be inclusive and accessible to all young choirs.



Our Choral Director, Justin Doyle, firmly believes that all of us have the ability to sing and enjoy making vocal music.

Within the Festival you will be offered the opportunity to sing your repertoire as an individual choir on two occasions, in venues that are specifically chosen for a choir of your size, your ability, and your repertoire. Frequently we are able to offer the magnificent stages of Cadogan Hall and St John's Smith Square as choirs embellish the superb LNYDP concert series. Additionally, we will offer you the opportunity of joining the LICF Massed Choir Gala Finalé Concert. This is a wonderful opportunity for all of the singers in the Festival to get together and sing communally to the accompaniment of one of the finest Youth Orchestras in Europe. There is nothing daunting about this experience. Choral Director, Justin Doyle, will ensure that every single singer who participates in this Concert enjoys the experience, and performs to the very best of their abilities.

To prepare you for the Festival, Justin will visit each choir that wishes to participate during the fall to discuss repertoire and performance with the director, and to meet the students and tell them about the performance opportunities and experiences awaiting them in London. Also during the visit Justin will work with the choirs to help prepare the pieces that will be sung in the LICF Massed Choir Gala Finale Concert and to assist the Choir Directors in teaching

the repertoire for the concert to their groups. We fully expect that certain elements of the Gala Finalé repertoire will be pieces drawn from the Choir's regular selected pieces.

Everything that we do as we prepare for each Festival is designed to make the programme attractive, accessible, and easy for you as a Choir Director. We offer you the opportunity to come to London in the summer before the event to see the performance and rehearsal spaces, and to meet all of the London based team with whom you will be working. We support you actively throughout the near year long build up to the festival and your performance tour.

I cannot begin to tell you just how enjoyable the week in London at the London International Choral Festival can be. I urge you to give this experience to your Choir.

PERFORMANCE

A message from Justin Doyle, Choral Director of the London International Choral Festival



Singing is something which brings people together, from all over the world, in the most wonderful shared language.

I was fortunate to be a Chorister at Westminster Cathedral and then a Choral Scholar at King's College, Cambridge, both of which gave me the most wonderful opportunities and gave me the deep love of choral music which I now enjoy sharing as a conductor.

London has the most vibrant, active and diverse choral scene in the world; the standard of professional singing is as good as anywhere, and yet the amateur music-making world provides opportunities for absolutely anyone who wants to perform, regardless of their experience or confidence.

My hope for this Festival is that some of my own enthusiasm for choral singing will brush off on the young people participating; through sheer enthusiasm and willpower, I enable about 400- 500 singers every week to achieve far more than they'd ever expect. Today I'll be conducting the BBC Singers, tomorrow a school choir in Yorkshire - no matter who the singers are, it remains vital to me that the process is thoroughly enjoyable, as well as providing an appropriate sense of challenge.

Some singers might feel most at home singing a simple folksong (which is music at its most pure) while others might revel in singing the big oratorios with orchestra. There is so much good music that is worth performing, we don't need to limit ourselves to any one style, and it is always exciting to

experience something new.

This Choral Festival provides unique opportunities for singers to come to London and sing in a wonderful variety of occasions; whether singing your own concert, with your own director, or combining with others to participate in a glorious Gala concert with orchestra, the Festival is carefully designed in such a way as to allow each choir to play to its strengths. Each choir has the opportunity to perform its own concerts and to collaborate with the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra (on repertoire that is achievable by all!) at the end of the week, in a stunning concert hosted by the Lord Mayor of Westminster.

I shall be in the U.S. in the Fall giving workshops across the country, so I hope very much to be able to come and work with you to help reinforce what you are doubtless already doing - sharing our love of choral music with the next generation! We can discuss repertoire, performance opportunities and logistics and tailor them appropriately.

I will never forget the first time I came to the States - on tour with the Choir of Westminster Cathedral, aged 10; likewise, your young singers will never forget their first concerts in London, in one of the beautiful venues in which the Festival operates (Westminster Cathedral is one of them!). I would strongly urge you to find a way to give them this wonderful opportunity.

JUSTIN DOYLE

Born in Lancaster, Justin Doyle was a chorister at Westminster Cathedral and studied at King's College, Cambridge. He won second prize in the prestigious Cadaqués Orchestra Conducting Competition and was awarded the first Conductor Fellowship with the BBC Singers.



Recent engagements have included concerts with the Orchestra of Opera North, Northern Sinfonia, Hallé Orchestra, King's Camerata, Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra, New London Orchestra, Manchester Camerata, Sinfonia of Leeds, Haffner Orchestra, Essex Symphony Orchestra, Jersey Chamber Orchestra, regular broadcasts for BBC Radio and a cover CD for BBC Music Magazine.

As well as Choral Director of the LICF, Justin is Principal Conductor of Manchester Chamber Choir and of Manchester University Chorus and Musical Director of Opera North Children's Chorus, and has been Artistic Director of Ryedale Festival and Swaledale Festival. His broad musical tastes have also led him to work with period instrument ensembles such as Da Chiesa baroque ensemble and the Harmony of Nations, collaborate with African musicians and arrange folk music from all over the world, conduct live orchestral film scores (such as Ole Schmidt *Jeanne d'Arc* and Prokofiev *Peter and the Wolf* with the Orchestra of Opera North) and undertake research on Haydn and the music of Hungary.

Justin is particularly known for his conducting of opera; productions include Bizet *Carmen*, Donizetti *The Elixir of Love*, Humperdinck *Hansel and Gretel*, Mozart *The Marriage of Figaro*, Purcell *Dido and Aeneas*, Johann Strauss *Die Fledermaus* (Eastern Opera), Haydn *L'infedeltà delusa* (English Touring Opera), Gluck *Orpheus and Eurydice*, Handel *Orlando*, Mozart *Die Zauberflöte*, Haydn *Philemon und Baucis*, Kodály *Háry János*, (Ryedale Festival Opera), Mozart *Così fan tutte*, *The Abduction from the Seraglio* and *La Clemenza di Tito* (Opera North). Recent engagements include Albert Herring

for Opera North, which met with critical acclaim: '*Justin Doyle and the Opera North Orchestra work wonders to dispatch Britten's mischievous and miraculous chamber score with pungency and precision*' (Richard Morrison, *The Times*).

PERFORMANCE VENUES

The London International Choral Festival will be produced in a selection of carefully selected venues in central London. During the week in London there will be the opportunity to perform three times.



For up to two of these occasions small, intimate venues have been selected for you to perform your choral repertoire in one of our Choral Concert Evenings. On one of these occasions, if you are travelling with your schools orchestra or concert ensemble or even if you are alone but are a sufficiently numbered choir you will be invited to perform in one of our LNYDP Gala Concert Evenings.

The final performance will be a massed choir performance alongside the other choirs taking part in the programme accompanied by the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra. This evening will be a fun, enjoyable evening where you will sing your repertoire alongside a few new numbers, and have the chance to meet other young students from other music programmes and choirs from across the USA, as well as meet and perform with the young musicians from London in an informal and friendly environment.

Venues for LICF concerts currently include:

St Augustines, Kilburn

S. Augustine's magnificent Grade I listed building is one of the finest examples of Victorian Gothic Revival architecture. With its soaring vaults allowing for excellent acoustics and elaborate decoration, it is the ultimate architectural expression of the Catholic Revival of the Church of England. It is a building which, in the words of its architect John Loughborough Pearson, truly 'draws people to their knees', and an incredibly place to perform in.

St Andrews, Fulham

St Andrew's Church, Fulham Fields was designed by Newman and Billing in 1873-4. St Andrews is known for its music, having an exceptional choir featuring singers from such musical backgrounds as King's College, Cambridge, York Minster or the Choir of the Chapel Royal. In addition St Andrew's is the residence of the famous Villiers String Quartet who have performed across the world and perform a classical repertoire alongside promoting the music of contemporary and emerging composers.

Southwark Cathedral

There has been a church on the site that Southwark Cathedral now stands on since AD 606. Southwark Cathedral is the oldest cathedral church building in London. The Cathedral has a strong choral programme with male and female choirs as well as the Merbeck Choir formed in 2004. Music has been a large part of the Cathedrals history with documents indicating that singling lessons were being taught in the Cathedral from as early as 1365.

St Mary's, Bourne Street, Pimlico

St Mary's Bourne Street carries out a unique mission, both as a parish church on the borders of the City of Westminster and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and as a continuing witness to the Catholic tradition within the Church of England. St Mary's is home to an eight-strong professional choir, often supplemented with instruments,



and supported by the fine Lewis organ built in 1913 and retaining some pipework from the Walker organ of 1875.

Cadogan Hall

In 11 years Cadogan Hall has been transformed from a neglected church into one of the most vibrant concert venues in London. Now home to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, it also regularly hosts many top musicians from around the world, including Sir John Eliot Gardner, John Rutter CBE, Joshua Bell and Julian Lloyd Webber, as well as operatic concerts and pop concerts. In 2000 Cadogan Hall was restored and in the process modernised to make it of optimum quality for the concerts taking place there.

St John's, Smith Square

St. John's, Smith Square, in Westminster, is one of London's major concert venues and favourite historic buildings. Valued for its superb acoustics, it presents an extremely varied programme of classical music throughout the concert season, ranging from choirs and symphony orchestras to solo instrumental recitals. Designed by Thomas Archer and built in 1728, St. John's is one of the finest examples of English Baroque architecture and is considered a masterpiece of this style.

Westminster Central Hall

Westminster Central Hall built in 1912 is a Grade II listed building in a prime location opposite Westminster Abbey and adjacent to the Houses of Parliament

and Big Ben. This unique, historic venue has Europe's largest domed ceiling and is an impressive landmark with an elegant theatre entrance, marble flooring, spacious foyer areas and grand staircase. Westminster Central Hall is well known as a film location and is home to numerous concerts every year.

SERVICE

Our service is very special. The performance travel programme offered and provided by Youth Music of the World with their European agents Destination Events is carefully monitored and checked by the Festival Patrons and Supporters. Youth Music of the World has been granted the right to be the exclusive organizer of the tour programme because they fulfil stringent requirements.

Youth Music's team is comprised of the very best in the field. Attention to detail is their mantra. Youth Music provides a service that is second to none, but it does not end there. In the summer before the event we provide a Site Inspection Tour for all group leaders. Every facet of the performance tour programme is discussed and demonstrated. Youth Music with Destination Events produces a customized and comprehensive Group Organiser's Guide for each group. The guide is a step by step guide to participation.

Youth Music with their London partners Destination Events have pioneered the concept of each of our performing groups having a dedicated member of our team stay with them and 'live' each programme with their group as a permanent, ever present, resource. We do not believe that Youth Music's quality of care is matched by any other organisations.

AIRLINES

Youth Music uses only the world's best airlines, each a major scheduled carrier, and each operating to the highest safety criteria in the aviation industry.



For travelling American groups they use a mixture of British and American Airlines. The British Carriers used are Virgin Atlantic Airways and British Airways. The American Carriers used include United airlines, Delta Airlines and American Airlines.

All passengers will travel in Coach Class. On International trans-Atlantic flights this always includes at least one main meal, and one snack meal in each direction, complimentary soft drinks, and a full range of in-flight entertainment including movies, TV programmes, and audio channels. On some airlines it is necessary to pay a small amount for a headset.

The main criteria in our selection of airlines is safety, security, on time performance, back up provision in case of problems, and a proven ability to fulfil the travelling needs of musical performance groups.

All airline contracts are carefully managed and overseen by our wholly owned, fully licensed and bonded subsidiary, Performance Travel Limited, which is based in Richmond, Virginia.

It is not compulsory to secure air travel arrangements through Youth Music/Performance Travel. However, most groups find it advantageous to do. If air travel is not provided by Youth Music Performance Travel then approval for the independently arranged travel must be secured from Youth Music. This is to ensure that the alternate provider is sound financially and reliable operationally, and that the Youth Music Programme will not be compromised in any way by the selected independent supplier.

HOTELS

The selection of accommodations is crucially important to the success of the Performance Tour programme. All of our hotels are carefully selected and rigorously checked, at least twice a year, to ensure that they meet the standards and requirements of our performance groups.



Each of these hotels is in the Superior First Class category. All of the hotels that we use have standards higher than the normal levels provided to student groups. In our hotels students are generally accommodated two to a room although in hotels where the rooms are larger we will offer rooms for three and occasionally four people. We never offer rooms for any more than four people.

All accompanying staff members, chaperones, parents and supporters, are accommodated two per room. In some hotels we have a number of family rooms available that can sleep up to four people.

All bedrooms in our Superior First Class hotels have the sort of facilities that you would expect including en suite bathrooms, television, radio, direct dial telephone, hair dryer, and much, much more.

The standard of decor is high. The standard of hotel services including restaurants, bars and banqueting is equally high. We ensure that every hotel that we use has sufficient banqueting space for the group meals that are included in the programme, for rehearsal space should rehearsal be required, for full group meetings, for orientation and other purposes. We also ensure that each hotel has a specially designated full time hotel staff member to satisfy the needs of Youth Music clients.

The hotels that we will use over the New Year period for choirs, marching bands, concert bands, orchestras and other musical performing ensemble from America can be seen on the right hand side.

From the Hilton Group

www.hilton.co.uk/
Hilton London Metropole
Hilton Kensington
Hilton Olympia
The Doubletree Westminster

From Park Plaza Hotels

www.parkplaza.com
Park Plaza Westminster Bridge
Park Plaza Riverbank
Park Plaza Victoria

From The Thistle Hotel Group

www.thistle.com
Thistle Marble Arch
Thistle Euston

From the Guoman Hotel Group

www.guoman.com
The Tower
The Cumberland
The Charing Cross

From the Doubletree Hotel Group

www.doubletree3.hilton.com
The Doubletree Westminster

From the Holiday Inn Group

www.ihg.com
Holiday Inn Kensington

MEALS



Breakfast is provided every day in the group's hotel. It is offered in a buffet style and includes the following items. A selection of fresh fruit juices. A selection of cereals. A selection of pastries and breads such as croissant, pain au raisin, pain au chocolat, brioche, bread rolls, baguette, and bread for toasting. Butter, low fat spread, and an assortment of preserves - jams (jellies), and marmalades. There will be a selection of fresh and preserved fruit, as well as yogurts of various types. In addition there will be a selection of cheeses and hams to complete an enhanced and substantial Continental Breakfast. Hot beverages of tea, coffee, and hot chocolate will be available, as will hot and cold milk. Bakery items are varied on a regular basis.

The programme includes three dinners to be taken in the hotel, one of which we recommend should always be taken on the day of arrival in London. The meals in the hotel will generally be served buffet style and will consist of two courses, an entrée and a dessert, with a salad available as a side dish. A considerable range of menu choice will be given to allow group leaders to select the most suitable menus for their groups.

For the other three dinners during the programme we are able to offer a range of flexible options. These can include:

Food vouchers, which can be used at a vast range of restaurants in London, offering each student the opportunity

to have exactly what they would like from the large amount of choice available, rather than being limited by 'set' menus. We guarantee that there will be a considerable number of restaurants that take the vouchers within a few minutes walk of your hotel, and the hotels themselves also take the vouchers. In addition our staff are happy to give guidance as to restaurants that would be most suitable and accept the vouchers.

A large amount of other options can also be made available for one of your dinners. Perhaps you may like to sample a traditional British pub meal of fish and chips or bangers and mash, followed up by sticky toffee pudding or apple crumble and custard. Alternatively the ethnic diversity of London means that we have an excellent range of Indian, Thai, Vietnamese and Chinese restaurants for if you are feeling adventurous. With the Indian dish chicken tikka masala now being our national dish it is well worth a try!



ITINERARY

Over many years we have developed a week long programme that gives a near perfect balance of performance and rehearsal time, educational sightseeing, unstructured time in which to plan educational and cultural visits of specific personal interest and some pure fun time.



All of our itineraries are individually constructed by our Operations Director after consultation with each group leader to ensure that every group has exactly the itinerary that fulfils all of their specific needs and aspirations. A sample itinerary from a performance tour programme created for one of our previous groups can be seen at the end of this pack.

On the following pages we describe each of the structured components in our programme, but first a word about our motor coaches and guides.

Whenever motor coach transportation is included in our programme it is provided on luxury motor coaches, fully certified to the highest levels of industry safety and security and with experienced, safe and qualified drivers. Our motor coach

providers have to submit proof of insurance cover to the equivalent of sixteen million dollars. Modern British motor coaches have large panoramic windows, state of the art sound systems, passenger seat belts and have effective heating and ventilation. All motor coaches provide a smoke free environment. From July 1st 2007 smoking has been illegal in the workplace in England and is also banned in all restaurants, bars and places of public gathering.

Our guides are all fully qualified members of the Guild of Guide Lecturers and proudly display their qualification by wearing the famous 'Blue Badge'. We have carefully selected all of the guides that we use from this elite Guild. We choose guides who are able to provide stimulating and interesting commentary and who can relate well to young Americans.

TOURS

The following tours are included in the programme. In each case you will be taken on the tour by motor coach and have the services of a professional Blue Badge Guide.

- a half day tour of London
- a full day tour to the Tower of London and Greenwich
- a full day tour to Windsor and either Oxford or Hampton Court

The **London tour** takes you around London's historic West End and the city passing many famous and historic landmarks and well known areas including St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster abbey, Buckingham Palace, the Houses of Parliament, the London Eye, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus, theatre land, Soho, Oxford Street and much more. Although there are no guided interior visits, the guide will arrange stops at the most popular locations for photographs. The tour serves to give historical perspective, to orientate and to whet the appetite for further personal exploration later in the week.

The Tower of London is considered to be the foremost 'must do' activity in London. Despite its primary role as a fortress, a Royal Palace and a prison, particularly for high status and royal prisoners, such as the Princes in the tower and the future Queen Elizabeth I, it has also served as a place of execution and torture, an armoury, a treasury, a zoo, the royal mint, a public records office, an observatory, and since 1303, the home of the Crown Jewels. You will be taken on a guided tour around all of the tower including a visit to the Crown Jewels. Don't forget to have your photo taken with one of the Beefeaters at the Tower!

TOURS *(continued)*



Greenwich and the 2012 Olympic Village. On the 3rd February 2012 Greenwich became the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Its new status was made official with a royal charter signed by the Queen, in recognition of the close links between Greenwich and royalty since the middle ages. Greenwich is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and home of Greenwich mean time and the meridian Line. Other famous landmarks include the National Maritime Museum, the Royal Observatory, and Sir Christopher Wren's old Royal Naval College and the Cutty Sark.

Greenwich was also the home of the Olympic Village for the 2012 London Olympic Games. This tour to Greenwich and the 2012 Olympic Park includes a Thames river cruise from the Tower of London to Greenwich, and entrances to the Royal Observatory including the 'Prime meridian' and the Maritime Museum.

Windsor is located in the royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, approximately 20 miles outside of London, with the river Thames running through the heart of the town. The historic town is home to the world famous Windsor Castle. The castle is almost 1000 years old and since the time of William the Conqueror has served as the residence and fortress for the British monarch. As home to the British Royal Family the castle brings with it all the pomp and ceremony of the Royal Household. The regular changing of the guard ceremony, state visits of foreign dignitaries and even the occasional Royal Wedding. The visit to Windsor

includes a guided tour of the castle and the royal apartments and a walk through the cobbled streets and shops of the market town.

Oxford is the county town of Oxfordshire. The city is renowned worldwide as a university town and home of the University of Oxford, the oldest university in the country and even in the English-speaking world. The architecture of the city demonstrates examples of every period since the Saxons, and Oxford is also known as the city of Dreaming Spires referring to the architecture of the University College buildings. Your visit to Oxford will involve a guided tour around the town and include entrance to one of the famous University colleges.

Hampton Court Palace is a royal Palace in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, in the historic county of Middlesex. The Palace is most famously known as having been the residence of King Henry VIII. Highlights of the Palace include the great hall, the kitchens, the chapel royal and the 'real tennis' royal courts. Your visit to Hampton court will include entrance and a full tour of the interior of the Palace as well as entrance to the gardens and the famous maze.

EDUCATIONAL GUIDED AUDIO WALKS



The best of London can be seen on foot. In light of this we have partnered with the market leader in audio guided walking tours, audiotraveler Ltd, to exclusively create special tours for participants on Youth Music programmes in London, Madrid, Paris and Rome. Only participants on our programmes have access to the fantastic tours which are updated and made even better each year.



Each of the walks has been carefully prepared by a knowledgeable team of historians and qualified London guides whose material has then been developed by professional script writers and finally performed by the acclaimed radio actor Tyler Butterworth. Each of the walks has a duration in total of approximately two hours from start to finish, and the walks are delivered on a specially branded 'London International Choral Festival' MP3 Player complete with headphones and charger, and with all the instructions that you need to complete the walks successfully. Every participant get to take home their MP3 player as a souvenir and superb educational resource.

Every group member will receive an MP3 Player loaded with a total of FOUR educational walks. Two of the walks will be selected by the group leader and set into the itinerary. The remaining two walks will be optional.

Walk 1 'Princes, Palaces and Power', Walk shoulder to shoulder with over 1000 years of Royalty. Sites include: Palace of Westminster, Prince William's London house and the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace.

Walk 2 'Art-rageous London!' Starting in glittering Covent Garden, we take in the world's most haunted theatres and talk to the stars as we explore the very heart of London's world famous theatre-land and much, much more.

Walk 3 'The Guide and Seek Treasure Trail', Our specially commissioned interactive audio



Treasure Trail. All you need is a pen, and the map sheet (provided) to unravel the secret trail and find the hidden clues.

Walk 4 'UK-USA-250' This walk celebrates over 250 remarkable years of an unbreakable Transatlantic friendship. Sites include: Jimi Hendrix House, the famous Christmas Windows of Selfridges Store and the beautiful 9/11 Memorial.

SPECIALITY GUIDED AUDIO WALKS

Three fabulous speciality audio guided walking tours are featured.

Two of the three speciality walks will be set into the itinerary, with the remaining walk being optional.

- **Murder, Mystery and Mayhem in Old London** – Jack the Ripper and other spooky stories of London.
- **London, Rock and Roll Capital of the World** – The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Swinging Sixties, Glam Rock, Punk Rock, Brit Pop and more.
- **Harry Potter's London** – The London sights and sounds of the world's most famous fictional boy Wizard! *

* If Harry Potter is not your cup of tea we do have one alternative walk that we can offer to your group:

London and the Magic of the Silver Screen – discover where in London many scenes of some of your favourite movies and TV shows were filmed.



OYSTER CARDS

By far and away the best way to see London and travel around the capital is on foot aided by London's superb public transport network of tube (underground) trains and buses operated by Transport for London (TfL).



To help you get around London and get the most out of London all programme participants are provided with their own 'Oyster Card'. These can be used all over London on tube trains, buses and some overground trains to take you towards the shops in Knightsbridge, the cafes and street performers in Covent Garden, the museums in South Kensington, or to get you to and from the start and finish points of your fabulous audio walks.

Oyster cards offer cost effective travel around London enabling the city to be travelled around freely and easily. Every programme participant will be provided with an oyster card for the duration of their programme in London thus making London's buses, trams, tube, Dockland Light Railway, London Overground, (some) National Rail and (some) boats available to them.

The Oyster is an electronic smartcard ticket. It will have a starter value for a number of central zone journeys put on it for your programme, but can be 'topped up' (money added to the oyster card) at any time using the self service machine or the ticket counter at stations with cash, credit or debit cards for additional journeys you may wish to take. The Oyster card is easy to use just simply touch your card on the yellow reader on the ticket barrier at the start of your journey and then again on the yellow reader on the ticket barrier at the end of your journey. The Oyster cleverly calculates the cheapest fare for all your journeys so you'll never pay more per day than the price of a day travel card overall!

NEW YEAR'S EVE

To celebrate the seeing in of the New Year, Destination Events will arrange for your group to attend a special New Year's Eve celebration in your hotel or in a hotel close by with other groups taking part in the programme.



New Year's Eve parties have always been successful and enjoyed by the many young performers in the Parade and Festival. The parties generally start around 9.00pm and last until half an hour into the New Year giving you just enough time to do the countdown to the New Year and sing Auld Lang Syne before heading off to bed to get enough sleep to give fabulous performances in the Parade the following day.

A professional disco with a light show will be set up for the party with a DJ playing a mix of new and classic music. Students will have the chance to request songs and even play tracks from

their own iPod if they wish. Party favours, of hats, party poppers, balloons, and more will also be provided.

To keep up the energy levels there will be plenty of complimentary pizza provided and a number of sodas. Additional soft drinks and sodas will be available throughout the evening from a cash bar that the hotel will have set up for the party's duration. Transport, where necessary, will also be included.

PERFORMANCE, SUPPORTERS, MEMENTOS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY



For Performers

Each student participating in the London International Choral Festival Programme will receive from the organisers:

- a specially struck London International Choral Festival medal.
- a 10x8 print of the Group Photograph taken at one of the choral concert performances during the week. The photograph is presented in a London International Choral Festival card mount.

For Non-Performers

All supporters, parents and chaperones in the group will receive from the organisers:

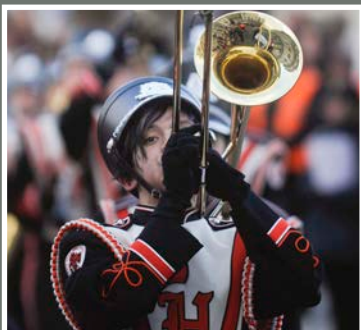
- tickets to attend both of the choral concert performances, as well as a ticket to attend the massed choir performance evening.

New Year's Day

The LICF is a division of the LNYDP Festival and the centre-piece of that festival takes place on New year's Day with perhaps the world's most famous and greatest Parade – London's New Year's Day Parade. Performers in the LICF have a special invitation to join in the fun of the Parade fulfilling a whole range of vital performance roles. Participation is strictly optional but highly recommended as it will provide another unforgettable memory for the students.

IMPORTANT NOTES

This information pack tells you about the London International Choral Festival. To be in receipt of the pack does not constitute an invitation to perform in the event.



If you are selected for possible invitation by the Steering Committee of patrons and organisers you will be contacted by one of the Youth Music team of senior representatives and consultants who will be able to answer any questions you may have about the event and the performance tour. The first official correspondence you will receive will be from the festival organisers in London in the form of a letter telling you that you have been recommended for participation and asking if you would be able to accept an invitation to participate should one be offered.

If you want to move forward from this stage you will then work with our Senior Representatives and Consultants to decide on the criteria of a performance tour offer that will be made to you. Decisions will need to be made on the following:

- number of places available
- dates of travel and departure airport
- exact performance programme features
- costs and payment schedules

Once you have agreed the above information you will be asked to complete a confirmation of approvals form. This form confirms that there is no known impediment to your acceptance of an invitation – i.e. that permissions from Principals, Superintendents, School Boards and Parents have been granted. You will then need to return the completed form, along with details of the agreed performance travel programme offer, to your Youth Music representative or consultant. Once we receive the above items from your representative or consultant, we will create and send to you a formal contract based upon the agreed parameters. At this stage you will be deemed to have been officially invited. You will be expected to sign and remit the contract by return.

We reserve the right to make alterations to the materials contained in this information pack. We are always seeking to improve our offers and our performance and to ensure that our programmes are the very best available to performance groups of young people from all over the world.



 **LONDON
INTERNATIONAL
CHORAL
FESTIVAL**

Destination Events
1 Turnham Green Terrace Mews
Chiswick, London W4 1QU
Tel: +44 (0)20 3275 0190

e-mail: info@lnydp.com
www.lnydp.com



[www.twitter.com/lnydp](https://twitter.com/lnydp)
www.facebook.com/lnydp

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Performance Travel Ltd