

# Maryland Youth Symphony Orchestra

## Montréal, Quebec

June 25 – July 1, 2012

### June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Montréal (D)

Upon arrival into Montréal, meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will stay with the group through to the last day. Your tour manager will assist you with check in at the hotel, attractions, restaurants, keep the group on schedule, answer any inquiries and give commentary on tour. Check in to your full service hotel, in suburban Montréal. Dinner included at the hotel.

*Founded three and a half centuries ago, Montréal is the second largest French speaking city in the world. For visitors, Montréal's greatest attraction is its cosmopolitan, almost European atmosphere. The meeting of French and English cultures and the addition of other ethnic influences have created a unique blend. Its varied and vibrant neighborhoods, such as Old Montréal with its picturesque cobbled streets and historic grey limestone buildings, or the "Latin Quarter" of St. Denis Street with its lively outdoor cafes, provide a refreshing, every-changing urban panorama.*

### June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Montréal (B,D)

Breakfast included at the hotel. Guided tour of Montréal including Old Montréal, Mont Royal, St. Joseph's Oratory (no admission), Notre Dame Basilica (with admission) and McGill University. You will also visit Jean-Drapeau Park (Saint Hélène and Notre-Dame Islands), site of 1967 World Fair, Expo 67. There you will see the beautiful floral park, the Gilles-Villeneuve Racetrack for the Formula 1 Canada Grand Prix, the Montréal Casino and La Ronde Amusement Park

Lunch on your own

*Possible performance or clinic as part of the American Celebration of Music in Canada*

Afternoon on your own for shopping

Dinner included at Cabaret du Roy. Enjoy traditional Quebecois meal and musical entertainers dressed in colonial period costumes. Immerse yourself in the lost era of New France and its native culture.

### June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Montréal (B,D)

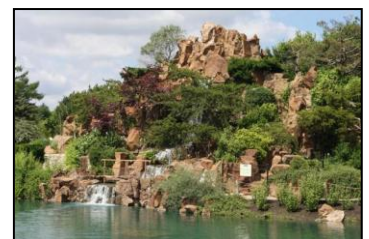
Breakfast included at the hotel. Meet your coach and tour manager and depart for a visit to the Montréal Tower Observatory for a unique view of the city. Next, visit the Botanical Gardens and Insectarium. The Botanical Gardens rank as one of the world's largest and most spectacular, and has a collection of 22,000 plant species, 10 greenhouses, and over 30 gardens. The Montréal Insectarium offers you a fascinating world, buzzing with life. Beetles as bright as precious stones, giant stick insects, multicoloured butterflies and impressive spiders will thrill visitors young and old.

Lunch on your own here

*Possible performance in Montréal as part of the American Celebration of Music in Canada*

An oasis in the heart of the city, the Montréal Biodôme recreates some of the most beautiful ecosystems of the Americas: the lush and humid Tropical Forest, warm even in the depths of a Montréal winter, the Laurentian Forest, changing with the seasons, the St. Lawrence Marine ecosystem, replicating the Estuary and the Gulf, and the Polar Worlds of the Arctic and Antarctic.

Dinner included in Montréal at the Hard Rock Cafe or Spaghetti House or similar



**June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Montréal / Quebec City**

**(B,D)**

Breakfast included at the hotel. Check out of hotel and board motorcoach for departure for Quebec City this morning (150 miles, 3 hours). Drive along the mighty St. Lawrence River to Québec City, the only walled city in North America

Lunch, on own in Quebec City.

Take a guided tour of Québec City's La Citadelle. This national historic site is a walled fortress of the city. The one-hour guided tour will highlight the American attacks, the construction of the fortress and its buildings. The visit of the Royal 22e Régiment Museum located in an old French powder magazine (1750) and a former military prison (1842) is included in the tour. Then wander Dufferin Terrace and view le Chateau Frontenac on own

Check in to your hotel in Quebec

Dinner included at a local restaurant

*Québec City is the capital of the Canadian province of Québec. It is the second largest city in the province, after Montréal. Québec's Old Town (Vieux-Québec), the only North American fortified city north of Mexico whose walls still exist, was declared a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1985 as the "Historic District of Old Quebec". It is also one of the oldest cities in North America.*



**June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Quebec City**

**(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Guided tour at the Capital Observatory from the 31st floor. You will receive a full tour with a guide who will provide historical, architectural, military heritage, and geographical information on the landscape below, including the St. Lawrence River, Ile d'Orleans, Laurentian Mountains and more.

*Possible performance or clinic as part of the American Celebration of Music in Canada*

Depart with coach and guide for a journey along the St. Lawrence River to the village of Sainte-Anne and tour one of the country's most beautiful cathedrals, Basilica St. Anne de Beaupre. Stop at a 150 year old bread oven and enjoy fresh baked bread with maple butter. Visit the Montmorency Falls and ride the cable car here to get different views of the falls, twice as high as Niagara Falls. Dinner will be on Ile d'Orleans at a typical French Sugar Shack. Your menu here includes French Canadian Pea Soup, pickles and bread, baked beans, meat pie, warm maple ham, boiled potatoes, sausages, sugar pie and fruit punch and of course, taffy on snow (shaved ice in summer). Enjoy live folklorique music during your meal. Return to your hotel for the evening.



**June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Quebec City**

**(B,D)**

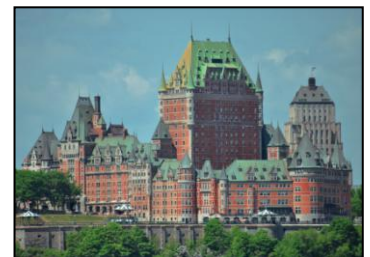
Breakfast at the hotel. Meet a local English speaking guide for a tour within the walls of the Old City, visit Lower Town, Battlefields Park, Place Royale, see the Museum of Civilization, Chateau Frontenac, Dufferin Terrace, the waterfront and the ornate city gates of Upper Town.

Lunch on your own and free time to explore the lower city

*Possible performance a part of the American Celebration of Music in Canada*

The rest of the afternoon is free for last minute souvenir shopping

Dinner is included tonight



**June 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012**

**Depart for home**

**(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel, followed by hotel check out. Depart for home or transfer to Montréal for return flight home.