



**PERCY
WIND**

**GRAINGER
BAND
FESTIVAL**

March 11 - 12, 2016
April 1 - 2, 2016





...in the folk-song there is to be found the complete history of a people, recorded by the race itself, through the heart outbursts of its healthiest output. It is a history compiled with deeper feeling and more understanding than can be found among the dates and data of the greatest historian...

-PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The 7th annual Percy Grainger Wind Band Festival will feature four outstanding wind ensembles conducting standalone performances of Percy Grainger literature in an afternoon matinee performance in Chicago's Historic Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center. Each participating ensemble will also take part in a clinic with Col. Arnald D. Gabriel.

All band selections are made through Music Celebrations, and every effort will be made to ensure that each ensemble's program will not overlap onto one another.

Ensembles will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve, rolling basis. Early applicants are given preference and priority.



CHICAGO'S ORCHESTRA HALL



For nearly the first fourteen years of its history, the Chicago Orchestra performed at the Auditorium Theatre (completed in 1889). Orchestra Hall—the long-standing dream of Theodore Thomas—was designed by CSO trustee and Chicago architect Daniel H. Burnham and completed in 1904, at a cost of \$750,000. The dedicatory concert, led by Thomas, was held on December 14 of that year.

Orchestra Hall has been host for a variety of performances and presentations since its dedication in 1904. During its first fifty years, Orchestra Hall was the regular home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as well as the Apollo Musical Club, the Mendelssohn Club of Chicago, the Chicago Business Men's Symphony, the Commonwealth Edison Orchestra, and the Marshall Field Choral Society. Mayors Richard M. Daley, Jr. and Harold Washington both were inaugurated during ceremonies held at Orchestra Hall. In addition, the Hall has hosted countless lectures (including Amelia Earhart, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Martin Luther King, Jr.); movies; commencement ceremonies; billiards tournaments, religious services; suffrage and other political rallies; and visiting orchestras, choruses, and dance companies from all over the world.

Thursday, March 10, 2016 | March 31, 2016

- Arrive in Chicago, where you will meet your tour manager who will be with you each day during your tour
- Take a motorcoach city tour of Historic Downtown and the Loop
- Check-in to the hotel
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Return to the hotel for overnight

Friday, March 11 | April 1

- Breakfast at Corner Bakery
- Visit the Field Museum of Natural History
- Lunch, on own
- **Participate in a clinic with the festival clinician**
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Evening tour of Willis (Sears) Tower, including a visit to its SkyDeck, or the John Hancock Building, including a visit to 360 Chicago
- Return to the hotel for overnight



PERCY GRAINGER WIND BAND FESTIVAL

Saturday, March 12 | April 2

- Breakfast at Corner Bakery
- Participate in a sound check and rehearsal in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center
- Visit the Museum of Science and Industry or the Art Institute of Chicago
- Lunch, on own
- **Percy Grainger Wind Band Festival Performance in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center**
- Dinner at a local restaurant
- Free time to spend at the Navy Pier attractions
- Return to the hotel for overnight

Sunday, March 13 | April 3

- Breakfast at Corner Bakery
- Hotel check-out
- Time for sightseeing and shopping, as time permits
- Afternoon departure for home



OTHER THINGS TO DO IN CHICAGO



A 30-minute Boat Cruise on Lake Michigan and the Chicago River

A day at Six Flags Amusement Park



OTHER THINGS TO DO IN CHICAGO



Attend a Blue Man Group Show

See a Chicago Symphony Orchestra performance



OTHER THINGS TO DO IN CHICAGO



Attend “Tony & Tina’s Wedding” show with dinner buffet, music & dancing

Live it up on a Spirit Student DJ Dance Cruise with snacks



ABOUT PERCY GRAINGER



Percy Aldridge Grainger was born in Brighton, Australia, and is best remembered as a pianist of great skill and a composer of many memorable tunes for piano.

The arrangement and compositional skills shown in his settings of many folk songs collected by him, as well as his original works for wind ensembles, are still considered pinnacles of achievement.

Grainger composed literature for winds - especially with an emphasis on the saxophone. He wrote a series of “Hillsongs,” arranged many Scottish folk songs, and perhaps is best known for his wind band masterpiece, Lincolnshire Posy – which is based on a collection of folksongs Grainger collected in Lincolnshire, England.

Grainger would often compose his music purposely out of tune or time in order to recreate the effect of the inaccurate and imprecise folksongs.