

National Symphony Orchestra

Iván Fischer, Principal Conductor

AMERICAN RESIDENCIES ACTIVITIES MENU

The National Symphony Orchestra and Kennedy Center American Residencies is a unique national initiative encompassing the elements of education, outreach, chamber, and orchestral performances. Residencies also provide interaction with many of the state's fine artists, sharing elements of classical symphonic music with the region, while at the same time giving the region a musical voice in the nation's center for the performing arts through exchanges, training programs, and commissions. In addition, a major project such as the Residency can help focus statewide and national attention on the excellence of the artists found in areas across the country.

With American Residencies, the NSO helps to ensure the future of orchestras and the arts in education, participating in a national interchange of educational artistic programs and ideas that integrate the lessons of the performing arts into daily life and keep an important part of our cultural heritage vibrant and growing.

Activities comprising a Residency evolve from consultations with numerous performing arts organizations and education institutions about potential sites within the state. Performance and educational activities, depending on the state and region, can include the following:

EDUCATION/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

The following numbers correspond to the enclosed Activity Request Form

- 1. Chamber (small) Music Performances:** A variety of ensembles and repertoire presented by musicians of the NSO. (limited availability)
- 2. "In-School" Ensembles:** Groups of NSO musicians (variety of ensembles and instruments) present musical sessions (performances and demonstrations) in schools. Programs are available for all levels, grades 1-8 (with best availability being for grades 3-6). These presentations include the students as listeners and participants and are available for classroom size groups (30-50) or school assembly programs for larger numbers. [Some groups will present back-to-back performances in one school, if requested.] Ensembles represented are string duos, trios, and quartets; a woodwind trio; a brass quintet and trombone trio; and a flute/harp/oboe trio. Mixed ensembles may be available to present multi-media programs for grades 5-8, such as "*Connections: Math and Music*," and "*Connections: History and Music*," which include a Powerpoint presentation, discussion, and live music. (Each of these *Connections* programs requires a room that can be darkened and large screen.)
- 3. Community Service Performances:** Performances by NSO musicians at various community venues such as churches, senior citizens homes, and places of business.
- 4. Sectionals/Coachings/Conducting:** NSO members coach sections of established groups (youth, community or professional orchestras) working on repertoire that the group is currently playing. Groups could be by section (strings, winds, brass, percussion etc.) or by small ensembles (quartets, quintets, etc.) NSO conductors and/or NSO musicians may be available to conduct college and high school orchestras/bands.
- 5. Clinics:** NSO members coach groups covering various musical topics not related to current repertoire (i.e. intonation, sound production, reed making technique, etc.).
- 6. Master Classes:** NSO members conduct classes for specific instruments. Individual students perform for a NSO clinician who then constructively critiques and coaches the student before an audience. High school, university and professional level. A piano and piano accompanist are suggested.

(more)

7. Pre-concert Events: Lectures and panel discussions with NSO members before NSO concerts. Please note that if a rehearsal is scheduled pre-concert, personnel may not be available to fulfill this request.

a. “Meet the Performers” Panel: Three (3) NSO musicians discuss the music as well as their role in the concert program and play musical excerpts.

b. Lectures: NSO musicians or Conductor discuss the concert repertoire.

8. Workshops for Teachers: Professional development opportunities for teachers by NSO woodwind and string musicians. The sessions explore the unique capabilities of these instruments and are designed for classroom teachers. (limited availability)

9. Method Workshops: Presented by NSO members or Conductors in the following areas of teaching.

a. Suzuki Method

b. Alexander Technique

c. Conducting (advanced level)

d. Sight reading

10. Artistic Exchanges: Projects designed to promote interaction between culturally diverse forms of music, i.e., Native American drummers (Montana), Cajun musicians and dancers (Louisiana), Athabascan fiddlers (Alaska), and Mariachis (Arizona).

11. Music Appreciation Classes: Introduction to classical music for Jr. High, High School, or college students.

12. Arts Education Advocacy: Participation in a national interchange of educational artistic programs and ideas, i.e., a meeting with the state’s Alliance for Arts Education and/or Performing Arts Centers & Schools team with Kennedy Center officials.

13. Speakers Bureau: NSO musicians, staff, or a conductor may be available for public speaking, board meetings, meetings with music teachers and/or principals, and other special gatherings to talk about the importance of the performing arts in education and in daily life.

14. Distance Learning: In order to reach maximum number of students in the state, NSO members will participate in an interactive sessions broadcast by satellite, or on the Internet. This requires orchestra approval and may incur payment to the musicians.

15. Arts Professionals Round Table: NSO staff members may be available to meet with arts professionals in the state to discuss topics of mutual interest and share ideas.

16. Other: Additional proposed events that the community would like if possible. For example: (A) In Maine, a group of NSO musicians sight read university students’ compositions and critiqued them from the performers’ perspective; (B) In Arizona, a progressive Chamber Concert in various art galleries within walking distance of each other; (C) In Arizona, NSO musicians worked with high school band members at a school that lost its band teacher at the beginning of the semester.

ADDITIONAL POST-RESIDENCY INITIATIVES

Kennedy Center/NSO National Trustees’ Summer Music Institute: Gifted young musicians are invited to audition by recording and travel to Washington, DC for the Summer Music Institute at the John F. Kennedy Center, which consists of four weeks of training programs (end of June / late July).

Kennedy Center/NSO Teacher Fellowship: With the first American Residency in 1992, a Teacher Fellowship was created to further the work of National Symphony Orchestra American Residencies. This fellowship for career development will be awarded to one teacher within the state.

Commissioning Project: The Kennedy Center/NSO may commission a chamber work of approximately 15 minutes from a resident composer. The work would be given its premiere by NSO musicians.

