



*Roger Tabler, Music Director  
Carol Slopek, Executive Director*

Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra  
P.O. Box 15675  
Pittsburgh, PA 15244  
412-403-0002

staff@pypo.org

www.pypo.org

November 19, 2009

Dear Music Director:

Maestro Roger Tabler and I would like to extend this exceptional opportunity to a select group of student musicians, 15 and older, to accompany the Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra on their 9-day, 3-concert, international performance tour of Prague, Czech Republic; Bratislava, Slovakia and Budapest, Hungary on July 16 - 24, 2010. Tour itinerary and related documents can be found on the homepage of our website ([www.pypo.org](http://www.pypo.org)).

We are accepting DVD or VCR auditions, accompanied by a completed audition application, which must be received no later than Saturday, December 19, 2009. In addition to the musical portion of the audition requirements that are available on our website ([www.pypo.org](http://www.pypo.org), then navigate to the Audition page) applicants are required to provide a 1 minute commentary on why they would like to participate on the tour. Our normal \$15 application fee has been waived, and the scale portion of the audition requirements should be disregarded. All candidates will be notified via email by December 23, 2009.

There are a very limited number of seats remaining for this amazing opportunity as outlined below:

Violin: 4	Bassoon: 2
Viola: 1	French Horn: 2
Cello: 3	Trumpet: 2
String Bass: 1 (instrument will be rented during tour)	Trombone: 3
Flutes: 2	Tuba: 1
Oboe: 1	Piano: 1

The tour company we've selected to take us abroad is American Classic Tours. Founded in 1989, they carry a \$2,000,000 insurance policy to cover the cost of tour reimbursements should the company cease operation. They are a member of the Student Youth Travel Association (SYTA) who is acknowledged as the authority on student and youth travel and its members are recognized for providing the highest quality experiences for student and youth travelers. Their background and references have been checked, and all arrangements are of superior quality beginning with our flight departing from Pittsburgh International to the 3+ and 4 star accommodations, all breakfasts and dinners, sightseeing excursions and luxury coach.

The cost of the tour is \$2,999.00 which includes everything but lunches, beverages and tour guide gratuity. An initial deposit of \$500 will be required by December 31, 2009 and the balance, due by May 24, may be paid in monthly installments. Fundraising events will be available to help offset tour expenses. Reasonably priced Trip Insurance is also available.

A pre-tour meeting and several rehearsals are mandatory. The meeting and rehearsal schedule will be emailed to all tour participants well in advance.

This is a one of a kind travel opportunity to bridge cultures through music; a unique and inspirational experience that will last forever.

I am available by phone 412-403-0002 or via email at staff@pypo.org to answer any questions you or your students may have.

Kind regards,

Carol Slopek  
Executive Director  
Pittsburgh Youth Philharmonic Orchestra