



# The Friendship Ambassador

A tradition of service to the field

Volume 32, Issue 3 - Fall, 2004

## PEACE THRU CULTURAL EXCHANGE CONCERT TOURS ARE CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

### This year ... *an FAF Tour*

- Our tours are crafted here and made abroad, just the way it ought to be!

FAF's nonprofit staff has your interests in mind - ONLY. FAF's partners abroad know how important the cultural immersion and exchange are to those we serve.



- Customized tours ... *on a mission.*

Who else offers good concert tours, homestays, interchanges - as part of its own mission to promote peace through cultural exchange?

- A staff with global experience.

FAF' staff include IATA travel agents, tour operators, destination managers worldwide, affiliates of the United Nations, faculty & scholars worldwide.



The famed **World Children's Choir** of Washington D.C. at an FAF produced event in the United Nations, August 2004

### FAF MOVES ITS U.S. HEADQUARTERS

**Friendship Ambassadors Foundation: now at historic Wainwright House • Milton Point in Rye, New York**

Wainwright House is a replica of an actual French Chateau named Raincheval in Doullen, France. Dag Hammarskjold, the first Secretary General of the United Nations, Joseph Campbell (whose work inspired the epic Star Wars movies) J. C. Penney, and Dr. Norman Vincent Peale have all used Wainwright House as an educational and retreat center in their work.

The property is on five waterfront acres with three separate buildings in an exclusive area of Westchester, 30 minutes from midtown Manhattan.

**Why not stop by for a visit?** We sleep about thirty five on site – and are offering familiarization trips here for group leaders starting in the fall – *we look forward to seeing you here!* (See page 6!)

### The Wainwright House property has:

History

Beauty

Charm



*Your Group's New Home while on tour or visiting New York City*

### Highlights in This Issue

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# Italy: You Decide ...

**Familiarization Trip  
Rome and Vatican City - November 13 - 16, 2004**

## **Preliminary Program**

### **1 Day / Saturday, November 13**

Individual arrival at Fiumicino airport and transfer to Rome

Arrival at the hotel and check in at **Hotel Residenza Paolo VI** (4 star)

Via Paolo VI, 29 - Tel. +39-06-68134108 - [www.residenzapaolovi.com](http://www.residenzapaolovi.com)

At 6:30 pm welcome cocktail on the terrace of the hotel

Afterwards, transfer by bus to the restaurant "Sabatino alle Cave di S. Ignazio - Piazza Sant' Ignazio and dinner

At 9:00 pm **concert of the Choir – Stockinger Mainz** from Germany in the Church of St. Ignatius

At the end of the concert, return to the hotel and overnight.



### **2 Day / Sunday, November 14**

After breakfast, **participation in the Solemn 10:30 mass in St. Peter's Basilica** with a local choir (short concert)

After the mass, **private meeting with Msgr. Pablo Colino - Chapel Master of St. Peter's Basilica and Artistic Director of our Association Friends of Sacred Music**

In the afternoon: **Orientation and inspection** of the 2 hotels **Residenza Paolo VI** and **Palazzo Cardinal Cesi**

In the evening, dinner in the Bernini room of the Residenza Paolo VI

### **3 Day / Monday, November 15**

In the morning and afternoon: individual meetings in our offices

At 3:00 pm, private guided tour of the **Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel**. A unique event: the gates of these marvellous museums will be opened only for our guests after the official opening hours

Farewell dinner at the restaurant of Palazzo Cardinal Cesi

### **4 Day / Tuesday, November 16**

Transfer to Fiumicino airport for the return flight and departure

#### **Special familiarization price includes:**

- **3 nights at the Hotel Palazzo Cardinal Cesi or at Residenza Paolo VI**
- **3 dinners**
- **Private visit of the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel with English speaking guide**
- **Meetings and receptions as mentioned**
- **Professional Tour escort in Rome**
- **Transfer from/to the airport**

**Optional: Flights are not included but can be arranged by FAF; extensions are also available for this familiarization tour, either within Italy, or elsewhere in Europe, by request.**



## *... Use these 'shell tours', FAF's expert staff and partners to craft the PERFECT Italy tour in 2005!*

### **Itinerary**

**Rome – Roman Castles – Florence – Ponsacco – Bologna – Cento – Stresa**

1st Day arrive at Rome airport. Clear Immigration and Customs and meet your couriers. Transfer by coach to your accommodations at a your reserved Hotel and check in. Evening dinner and overnight.

2nd Day Morning breakfast. Guided sightseeing tour of Rome including Ancient Rome : Roman forum, the fora of Caesar Augustus and Trajan, the Capitol, Colosseum and Palatine hill and let the magic of ancient Rome archaeological marvels cast its spell. Marcanthony on the rostra, the stones of Caesar's cremation site, assembled senators in the Curia, vestal virgins meditating in the romantic surroundings of their home and the eternal fire burning in Vesta's temple, Rome most cherished shrine, Cicero's flaming oratory in the Rome's basilicas, generals and their legions triumphal processions under the solemn arcs of the Via Sacra, emperors in their majestic Palatine hill palace, the wild atmosphere of gladiators games in the Colosseum, will all seem to materialize. Easy to let imagination carry you through an exciting archaeological journey to history. Independent Lunch. Afternoon at leisure. Evening dinner and overnight.

3rd Day Morning breakfast. Morning at leisure. Independent Lunch. Afternoon transfer by coach to Albano Laziale (1.5 hrs) for a rehearsal. Evening dinner in a restaurant. Open-air concert in a nice Square in Albano as part of the Albano Laziale Summer Music Festival. Return by coach to Rome.

4th Day Morning breakfast. Depart by coach for Florence (c. 4 hrs). Arrival in Florence in the late morning. Check in to the reserved Hotel. In the afternoon Guided sightseeing tour of Florence:

This tour takes you to the most famous monuments in the city. We start from the Florence eternal masterpiece: Michelangelo's David, the Cathedral with the famous Dome by Brunelleschi and the gold Paradise door of the Baptistry. From there we continue to Piazza Signoria, the political heart of Florence since the 1300's when Florence was considered the richest city in Europe. We are beckoned to Ponte Vecchio, the bridge which attracts so much curiosity not only to its unique charming appearance but also to the fabulous jewelry shops lining the bridge. We finish at Santa Croce Church, one of the most important in Florence containing the tombs of the most famous Florentine citizens. We will also go to Piazzale Michelangelo Panoramic Square which gives a breathtaking view of our whole city. Evening dinner and overnight.

5th Day Morning breakfast. Morning at leisure. Lunch independent. Afternoon transfer by coach to Ponsacco. Rehearsal this afternoon. Evening Dinner in a restaurant. Concert in the central square of San Francesco. Return by coach to Florence.

6th Day Morning breakfast. Depart by coach for Bologna (c. 2 hrs). Arrive in Bologna. Meeting with the guide to visit the historical centre and the Palazzo Sanguinetti which houses the Music Museum, officially opened on the occasion of the Bologna 2000 celebrations, and where the Council collection of ancient European musical instruments (roughly 70 items) is housed. As an alternative, it is possible to visit the Philharmonic Academy (1666), where the fourteen year old Mozart took the examination to become maestro composer, and was admitted. Lunch in restaurant. In the afternoon, transfer to Lugo to visit the Rossini Theatre and the Rossini House (the family of the musician from Pesaro actually came from Lugo). Accommodation in Hotel. Dinner and overnight stay.

7th Day Morning breakfast in the hotel. Morning at leisure. Lunch independent Afternoon transfer by coach to Cento. Rehearsal this afternoon. Evening dinner in a restaurant. Open-air concert in the piazza La Rocca as part of the Cent Summer Music Series. Return by coach to Bologna.

## *TOUR OF SICILY*

### **1st day**

Arrival at Palermo airport. Transfer to Palermo city. Hotel check-in, welcome drink and dinner. After dinner you will have the **Palermo By Night Tour**.

### **2nd day**

Breakfast in hotel. Visits to Arab-Norman Palermo and to Baroque Palermo: Norman Palace, Palatine Chapel, Cathedral, Piazza Vigliena, "San Giovanni degli Eremiti", etc. Lunch in hotel. In the afternoon, transfer to Monreale to visit the Cathedral (architectural masterpiece of William II, Norman King of Sicily, 1172 A.D.), and the adjoining cloister. Transfer to Palermo and dinner in hotel. **Performance in Palermo – Chiesa Santa Maria della Catena.**

### **3rd day**

Breakfast in hotel. Departure to **Segesta** and visit to its Greek temple and theatre. Proceed to **Erice**: ancient little town founded by the Elymians and conquered by the Punic, the Romans, the Arabs and the Normans. You can still admire its medieval architecture. Lunch in a fine restaurant of Erice. In the afternoon excursion to **Mozia**, ancient Greek colony in the little San Pantalco island, close to the coast. Proceed to **Marsala** to visit to a wine-cellar where you can taste the famous and typical "Marsala wine." Transfer to the hotel in Valderice, check-in and dinner.

### **4th day**

Breakfast in hotel. Departure to **Agrigento** and visit to the "Valle dei Templi," one of the most important Greek archaeological area of Sicily. Lunch in a fine Agrigento restaurant. In the afternoon transfer to **Piazza Armerina** and visit the "Villa Romana del Casale:" an Imperial Roman residence famous for its beautiful mosaics. Hotel check-in and dinner. **Performance in Piazza Armerina – Basilica Cattedrale**

### **5th day**

Breakfast in hotel. Departure to **Syracuse**: visits to the island of Ortigia (the ancient city), the Cathedral (built on the remains of the Greek temple dedicated to Athena) and the **Maniace Castle**. Lunch in a fine restaurant. In the afternoon continuation of the visit to the archaeological area: Roman amphitheatre, the Greek theatre, the "Latomie". Transfer to **Acireale**, hotel check-in and dinner. **Performance in Acireale - Basilica Pontificia di san Sebastiano**

### **6th day**

Breakfast in hotel. Excursion to Etna that is the highest volcano of Europe. Lunch in ancient farm house on the foothills of **Etna**. The cuisine is based on ancient Sicilian tradition by using of vegetables, citrus fruits, essence and spices of the garden to give dishes an original pleasing taste. In the afternoon transfer to Taormina: visit to its ancient centre and to the Greek theatre that was built during the Hellenistic period and rebuilt under the Romans. Transfer to **Acireale** and dinner in hotel. **Performance in Catania. Chiesa di S. Michele Arcangelo ai Minoriti**

### **7th day**

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer to **Cefalù** along the coastal route. During transfer, visit to **Santo Stefano di Camastra** famous for its ceramics production. At your arrival in Cefalu lunch in a fine restaurant. In the afternoon visit to Norman Cathedral, famous for its Byzantine mosaics, "Osterio Magno", a fortified building of the Norman period and medieval washing-troughs, carved into the bedrock of the central city. Transfer to Palermo, hotel check-in and Farewell dinner.

### **8th day**

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer to Palermo airport.

These are just a few ideas from some of our closest friends abroad. Have another idea or desire for us to investigate Italy or elsewhere on the globe? Please call our travel professionals during your decision-making process!

**1-800-526-2908 • friendlyam@faf.org • www.faf.org**

## Notes from the Executive Director – Concert Tours Are Cultural Diplomacy

Selling concert tours is different than providing once-in-a-lifetime experiences that include concert opportunities. FAF creates tours that include excellent concerts because our musical partners abroad believe in the mission of the foundation and that we embody the best of what America has to offer. In the past decade, FAF has defined its role as a provider of the best and most exclusive opportunities for its many participant groups nationwide. Through our relationships at the United Nations, the Wainwright House and Hungarian Culture Foundation sites, as well as with hundreds of universities, music and dance companies, social NGOs, and other international stakeholders throughout the world, FAF provides experiences that matter and tours that are incomparable.



*Mr. Sciaratta is a keynote speaker at the World Culture Open in Seoul, Korea in September.*

# GROUP LEADERS:

Need Ideas, Tips, Travel Advice of any kind? Looking for a good itinerary or destination upon which to base a customized tour idea you have had for sometime ...? Why not visit our site:

[www.faf.org/travel/travelindex.htm](http://www.faf.org/travel/travelindex.htm)

*The Friendship Ambassadors site has an entire area dedicated just for your explorations!*

Build a tour around one of our suggested itineraries, create a fund development tour, or a companion tour to help support your main programme, link to sites where you can learn about the weather, how to get good travel insurance, travel warnings, and opportunities for better phone coverage while on tour, how hotels rate in the 'star' system – and, take time to learn about all the other work FAF does (for many, FAF's mission is *WHY* they choose us for their concert and other educational tours).



*FAF - one stop for all your group travel needs!*

*Customizing global concert and other educational and peace tours since 1973*

**NGO/FYI:** FAF is the leader in cultural and concert group travel, but it is also a leader in developing and defining a new 'cultural diplomacy'. This is a simple recognition of what we all know: that the arts and cultural exchange promote peace. Our funded programmes involve active exchange among artists, students, families affected by terror, and youth in regions emerging from conflict. FAF also acts as a fiscal and developmental agent for like-minded nonprofits who need assistance with their administrative and fund raising needs. *We welcome your interest in partaking in any of these programmes.*

## FAF STAFF NEWS



**Leila Rachidi**, FAF's Logistics Coordinator is all smiles as she announces her wedding this Spring. The Croatian-Bosnian union was celebrated with friends and family in New York, Texas, and Eastern Europe throughout the Spring and Summer! ..... **Szilvia Agoston** recently returned home to Budapest for some relaxation after successfully directing our staff and colleagues in FAF's third annual arts camp for the children of victims of 9/11, through a generous grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation.... **Maria Mandova**, Program Associate for FAF in Atlanta, and FAF consultant **Bryan Stewart**, recently returned from an arts based workshop series Maria developed to aid Venezuelan street orphans in Caracas.

From a recent email to FAF's Leila Rachidi: "**Dear Leila, The trip was fabulous. (The guides) ... were wonderful. Thanks for everything.**" *Mimi Daitz, Riverdale Choral Society, July 2004*

## A Fund Raising Idea Like No Other

**Friendship Ambassadors Foundation has created an easy, fun, no-cost, low- to no-overhead way to raise considerable funds – without having to buy candy, wash cars, rent expensive benefit halls, or risk uncertain grants. Most importantly, it is an approach that builds lasting positive public relations in the community ... and might even be an aid to peace-building worldwide.**

*What could be so important, fun and easy as all that?*

### **FAF's nonprofit, fund raising, cultural group tours.**

- **No cost whatsoever to the organizations we serve,**
- **Fully tax deductible as allowed by law, and a**
- **Great way to extend an already-planned trip & make it a stellar fund raising success.**

Visit our web site to discover how to make *any* tour into a fund development tool through 'companion tours'. While in our group tour section, you'll see a fascinating food, wine and culture fund raising tour for those times when you are not traveling. Donated funds to your organization are built into our culture tours.

**The companion tour can accompany any established concert or educational tour.** Beyond those, FAF's special food, wine and culture tour (Go to: [www.faf.org/travel/travelindex.htm](http://www.faf.org/travel/travelindex.htm)) is a very special, eleven-day, upscale experience that will retail for \$3,400 (pp/land only). \$400 from each traveler on this tour is refunded directly back to your organization with absolutely no fees or UBIT (IRS: Unrelated Business Income Tax) to your organization. Even a small group of ten couples nets your organization \$8000 with no rentals, fees, purchases or financial obligations of any kind.

Further, these fund-raising package tours increase your public image at home while they help a good cause at the same time. A \$100 donation is also included for Friendship Ambassadors Foundation; this is also fully tax deductible to each and every traveler and goes to support our work with youth reconciliation, peace building cultural exchanges abroad, and to aid young people who lost parents on 9/11, among other related projects (for a full listing of our work, please visit our website: [www.faf.org](http://www.faf.org)).

## *Visit New York: Stay at Historic Wainwright House*

1) Familiarization Trips for conductors, choreographers, group leaders ... Considering New York as a destination in '05 or beyond; traveling to a destination where New York could be added on as a fun extra on the schedule; looking for a good development tour that will attract a broad range of your constituency?

Visit Wainwright House and let FAF put together a tour with YOUR group's needs in mind.

2) The New York City Tour or the STOP ENROUTE ... Imagine an inexpensive and impressive New York City tour and FAF has it! Stop over for a minimum of three nights and perform at the United Nations, Ground Zero, and a third location in beautiful, cultural Westchester County. Stay minutes from New York City in historic and secluded Wainwright House. The best of the *City that Never Sleeps* and the restful repose of a retreat that never stirs - all in the same tour! We hope to see your ensemble at Wainwright House this season in New York or enroute to a season abroad!

3) Playwright's Residency Project: In the Spirit of America. Through a generous grant from the legacy of Barbara Barondess MacLean, FAF is hosting a playwright's residency programme at Wainwright in the Spring. Please contact the foundation for dates and application details: [friendlyam@faf.org](mailto:friendlyam@faf.org).

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### *For-profit tour operators may advertise ...*

that they are '... not just another concert tour abroad.' However choral directors, dance choreographers, artists, and those interested in promoting peace through the arts and cultural exchange know the difference:

"Friendship Ambassadors Foundation ... its mission is so important, and ... you are accomplishing remarkable things. Best wishes to you and everyone at the foundation!"



FAF youth counselors  
with the former  
President during a 9/11  
summer get-a-way.

William Jefferson Clinton, January 26, 2004

# Ways You Can Help Us Help Others

We need your help *now* to continue to meet the needs of the communities we serve:

**1) Introduce FAF to Groups Traveling Abroad.** Groups have returned to touring after all that has occurred over the past two years. FAF provides the 'capacity building' and confidence they need now in order to begin exchanging and concertizing in this new environment. Our low-cost nonprofit travel services provide tax deductions and peace of mind - because we know the embassies and cultural counterparts on the ground in virtually every destination.

**2) Invite FAF to be a part of your community's international development goals.** We regularly address a wide variety of clubs, institutions, and schools concerning the need for all people to learn more about peace through tourism. Invite us to speak to audiences regarding the importance of meeting and exchanging with exotic cultures.



## DID YOU KNOW ...?

Your group can now rest safely at an FAF location in *BOTH New York and Budapest?* (Pictured above is the Hungarian Culture Foundation, our European headquarters; The Wainwright House in Rye, NY is pictured on pages 2 and 8)

Finally, both FAF destinations accept small groups and individual group leaders seeking familiarization tours in either or both cities. *Please bring your group to our homes soon!*

**3) Introduce FAF to other nonprofits whose interests are similar.** FAF acts as a fiscal agent or development partner for the groups we serve. We look forward to further cooperative efforts in the future.

*Cultures that know each other, tend to live more peacefully together; cultures ignorant of each other tend to breed the most distrust and fear.* We're not 'just another tour operator,' FAF is a community of shared interests, and we invite you to meet our cultural counterparts throughout the world before you decide on your next group travel experience!

*Next Spring, bring your high school orchestra or band to the ...*

## **BEIJING INTERNATIONAL ORCHESTRAL and SYMPHONIC BAND FESTIVAL**

**24<sup>th</sup> March 2005 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005 – Preliminary Itinerary – Contact FAF for official invitation**

<b>Day 1 Thu</b> 24/03/05	Assemble in Beijing, China Evening Cocktail Party and Festival briefing for Group Managers, Musical Directors, FAF representatives, Festival Patrons, Festival agents, and VIPs at the Central Hotel in Beijing
<b>Day 2 Fri</b> 25/03/05	<b>Cultural Exchange Day</b> – groups will be hosted for a half day (am or pm) by the students and staff at the 101 Middle School. Visitors will meet peers, tour classrooms and interact in activities. During the alternative am or pm provision can be made for the orchestra/band practice. <b>Official Opening Ceremony</b> at the Beijing Gymnasium. Chinese youth to welcome guests with performances of traditional instrument ensembles, singing, dancing, acrobats and drama. At the conclusion of the performance the Festival will be declared officially open.
<b>Day 3 Sat</b> 26/03/05	Morning Tour the Hutongs and visit Gongwang Palace. P.M. <b>1<sup>st</sup> Performance Session</b> • Eve. <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Session</b>
<b>Day 4 Sun</b> 27/03/05	Tour to Tiannamen Square, Forbidden City. Enjoy performance of Beijing Acrobats. Eve. Festival Orchestra and Festival Symphonic Band to practice
<b>Day 5 Mon</b> 28/03/05	A.M. Touring to Summer Palace and visits to craft centers. P.M. <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Performance Session</b> • Eve. <b>4<sup>th</sup> Performance Session</b>
<b>Day 6 Tue</b> 29/03/05	Day tour to Great Wall, Ming Tombs and Peking Duck Festival Banquet. Eve. Festival Orchestra and Festival Symphonic Band to practice
<b>Day 7 Wed</b> 30/03/05	A.M. Touring to Temple of Heaven and shopping at free markets. P.M. <b>Master Class for visiting musical directors and Beijing musical directors to enable presentation of papers and working groups to discuss topics related to School Orchestras and Symphonic Bands.</b> <b>Closing Ceremony</b> at Beijing Gymnasium
<b>Day 8 Thu</b> 31/03/05	Packing up and departing Beijing to return home or continue with optional tours.



On either the afternoon of Day 3 or Day 5 there will be an opportunity for each group to visit the U.S. Embassy for a tour and reception. Each of the hotels can provide a practice room for the band or orchestra. All hotels have recreation centers for the guests to utilize.

### **FAF is promoting the International Festival with the Chinese government:**

- (a) To promote the lead-up to the 2008 Olympic Games.
- (b) To develop good cultural exchange and foster it through an international network.
- (c) Through the universal language of music, encourage global youth to meet with their Chinese peers and participate in a cultural exchange.
- (d) Provide the Chinese musicians with the opportunity to interact with peers from foreign countries: Countries invited to participate include: America(2 groups), Australia(2), Canada(1), China and Hong Kong(4), Europe(2), Japan(2), New Zealand(1), Africa or Russia (1) & Singapore/Korea (1).
- (e) Give the visiting participants the opportunity to develop a greater appreciation and understanding of China, its people, its culture, its customs and its institutions.
- (f) Encourage the visitors to tour China and visit sites that are of historical, geographical, cultural and social importance.
- (g) To advance the personal and social development and the musicianship of the participants.

**Only two U.S. groups are able to receive formal invitations through FAF**

**Contact us today for more details! [friendlyam@faf.org](mailto:friendlyam@faf.org) • 1-800-526-2908**

As the newsletter goes to press ... Executive Director Patrick Sciarratta visits Asia and brings back a wonderful opportunity for our group leaders ...

## A FAMILIARIZATION TOUR TO CHINA

*Group Leaders and their companions, only • Tax deductible to all participants*  
**Fully Refundable if group travels with FAF**



**SUGGESTED ITINERARY • Available November or December, 2004**

**Day 01** Arrive in Beijing\* Check in 4 star hotel for 4 nights

**Day 02** Full day tour: Tian An Men Square, Forbidden City & Temple of Heaven (B, L)

**Day 03** Great Wall & Ming Tombs, Meeting/Reception with local colleagues (B, L, Duck Dinner with local counterparts)

**Day 04** Morning tour: Summer Palace; afternoon inspection of theater, school, etc (B, L)

**Day 05** Beijing/Xian by morning flight Check in 4 star hotel for 2 nights  
 Day tour to Terri Cotta Warriors (B, L)

**Day 06** Morning tour to Wild Goose Pagoda & Great Masque; Afternoon inspection to a school or similar concert or exchange venue (B, L)

**Day 07** Xian/Shanghai by morning flight check in 4 star hotel for 3 nights  
 Inspection of school, community, etc. Rest of day free for shopping and leisure

**Day 08** Full day city tour in Shanghai including Yu Garden, the Bund & Children's Palace (B, L)

**Day 09** Full day excursion to Suzhou by coach

**Day 10** Shanghai/Home\*

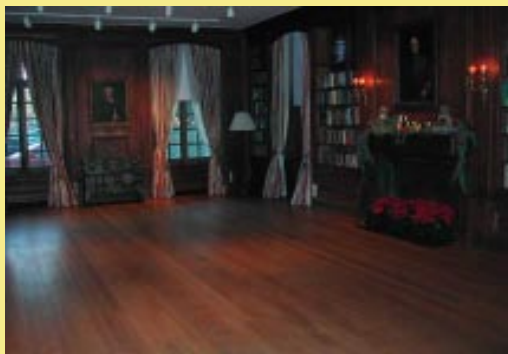
**Special offer: US\$ 568/pax ; Single Supplement: US\$ 265**



\* This is a special, land only cost. Airfare not included and must be arranged by FAF. FAF Complete package includes round trip air from the United States, any assistance with extensions or changes to your schedule enroute, both transfers in China, reception, and orientation. Please contact FAF at 1-800-526-2908 or friendlyam@faf.org for more details on how to arrange air transportation to and from China and ensure that the fam will be a total success and fully refundable (including airfare) when your group returns with FAF at a later date. If available, frequent flier miles drastically reduce air package cost.

# Recent Photos • Recent Successes

Photos from FAF's recent projects and exchanges, here at the U.N. and abroad, Shots from our successful healing camps and retreats for families affected by terror *And, a few new shots from our new home in New York and our longstanding home in Budapest*



**Key:** Lions sponsored arts exchange and healing retreats, upper left; Grosse Pointe in performance, upper right; FAF hosts a cultural tourism conference in Eastern Europe, left; FAF presents at UN conference, right; Wainwright House, above and left; FAF's Hungary home (and wine cellar!), lower right and below.



**International Cultural Exchange**  
**Performance & other specialty tours...where cultural exchange comes first**

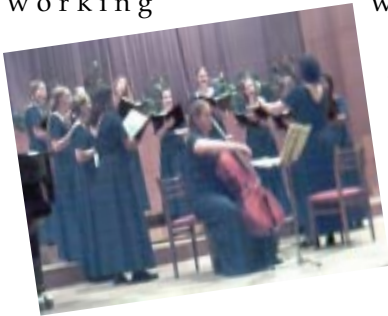
**Friendship Ambassadors Foundation**

**Low-cost, Development/Travel Opportunities • Authentic, Educational/Artistic Peer Exchange**  
**Tax Exemption Available to Most Participants**

"Our concert tour show is entitled, 'A Voice to the World.' Did we accomplish that title on this tour with Friendship? Yes. Did we make a difference? Yes. Were our lives enriched by the experience? Yes. Have we helped bridge cultural gaps and understanding? Yes. Would I want Maria Mandova again as our guide? **ABSOLUTELY!** I would trust her with my life! I don't think I've ever felt so comfortable with a guide. Thank you, Patrick, for all of your hard work and vision." *D. Kim Clayton, Synergy, August 2003 (Synergy traveled to Croatia with FAF this summer. Together we raised \$70K from the Sorenson Foundation to aid the tour: their travel & concert raves to follow in the next issue!)*

"We are writing to express our gratitude and appreciation for the invaluable assistance provided by Friendship Ambassadors Foundation to the 3rd International Festival of Movement and Dance on the Volga, held in Yaroslavl, Russia. FAF offered both professional and high-quality assistance and truly made a difference for all involved." - *Lisa First, U.S. Director, & Nadezhda Proshutinskaya, Russian Director, Link Vostok Company, August 1998 (FAF continues to work with Ms. First as a consultant; L.V.'s next dance gathering in Russia was August, 2004)*

"I must tell you how much we enjoyed our trip. My students and I cannot stop talking about it. This is a trip I would do again and certainly recommend to my choral colleagues. I give all of you glowing reports; it has been a pleasure working with you!" - *Rick Bushey, Kearsley Choir, March, 2001*



"Our wonderful trip to Romania and Bulgaria with Friendship Ambassadors Foundation was a positive, life changing cultural and social experience. I truly believe that the values, goals, and accomplishments of FAF are critical to world peace. We look forward to continuing a long relationship with your organization." - *Dr. Lyn Schenbeck, Director of Choral and Orchestral Activities, Agnes Scott College, Georgia - July 2001 (In 2004, Dr. Schenbeck formally joined FAF as an international tour consultant and advisor)*

"Many thanks for all your help in making our tour a great success. Special thanks to Josephine - she was a great help! Many things have changed over the years at FAF, but your mission is going strong. Keep it up!" - *Dr. David Milburn, Jazz Band Director, West Virginia Wesleyan College - August 2001 (Enroute with us again in 2004!)*



"We are very pro-FAF. In today's 'make a buck at all costs' world, they are more concerned with service and furthering positive cultural exchanges as a means of creating a better world. Sounds kind of corny, but it's the truth." - *Kathy Shannon, West Virginia University, February 2000*

*Travel with FAF –*  
**"Leaders in the field"**  
 914-925-0080; -0019 (fax)  
 Friendlyam@faf.org • www.faf.org

**Visa and Mastercard**



*Accepted for Tours and Donations*



*Our new home ...*

**Friendship Ambassadors Foundation**  
 at Wainwright House,  
 260 Stuyvesant Avenue  
 Milton Point, Rye, New York 10580

**Member: Westchester Council on the Arts**  
 ACDA, IATAN, Chorus America, National  
 Band Association, and affiliated with the  
 United Nations Dept. of Public Information  
 a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization