

A letter to our invited groups

Finally!

We are able to open the books for our PAE Paris 2024 Olympics Festival



Who: Our experience with the Sydney 2000 and London 2012 Olympics (plus preliminary work for Rio and Japan, which we did not follow through because of cost and safety concerns), has given us deep insight on what works and what doesn't. Each Olympics are unique. The diverse geography of the games, opportunistic pricing, plus ever-present security issues, all present challenges well beyond a normal tourist vacation.

But we have a decided advantage: Our ground partner is GreatDays of Manchester, UK, <https://www.greatdays.co.uk>

GreatDays has five+ decades of experience working in Europe, in France and especially in the Paris area and even Disneyland Paris, where they have sponsored entire days. GreatDays has been our ground partners and PAE hosts for over a decade and in ten European countries, as well as at Paris Disney.

Our hotels will be well placed, clean and inexpensive ~ especially important in that hyper Olympic environment. Our scheduling will be fun and stress free, just as our shows and concerts are. Here is a new reason why.

When: At the suggestion of GreatDays, we are making one substantial change.

We will be on site and performing the week *before* the Olympics games begin, **July 19th ~ 25th, 2024**. We will avoid much stress and cost this way and forestalls many problems. Hotels and transportation will cost half as much *because we are not competing with news media, officials and the people willing to pay exorbitant Olympic week costs*. As usual, we will be staying in villages outside of central Paris with safe neighborhoods and easy access and will be coming in and

out of a "normal" Paris, before the hordes descend. Early on, the decorations will be up and the locals will not have been burnt out by floods of tourists, but be fresh and expectant, ready to welcome us.

Also, we will be free of the unpredictable transportation disruptions and major throughfare closures as we experienced in London. **Security issues will rule the day** ~ whether or not there are actual threats. The French will err on the side of caution. So, we will sidestep this by arriving the week before. We'll have the excitement without the reality of congestion, traffic jams and long lines.

Remember that we are not performing "in " the Olympics, which are a series of sporting events spread over a wide region. There is entertainment only in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and these feature entertainers from the host country only.

Those wishing to stay and see some Olympic games, previously not possible because of our performing scheduling, can do so with GreatDays' help in finding additional lodging, probably in the hotel where you have been staying.

We will greet you at the airport and take you back. During that week, you will get buffet breakfasts, all admissions, all group transportation, two *special* performance situations with our PAE staff and crew, an evening banquet, lots of touring, plenty of personal attention and extras such as live streaming, included video memories, free time, plus PAE phones and our *PAE Production Assistants* for group leaders.

How Much?: The Covid pandemic has disrupted negotiations and even the logistics of getting around in France to set an itinerary and pricing. When we do get that information (by June 1st, 2022?), GreatDays will set up a payment portal directly for each family and ask for a reasonable deposit. As we see development going along, we'll keep you informed. Directors will not be responsible for collecting money. We'll deal in Euros, saving us \$\$ in conversion costs.

With GreatDays handling the finances directly, we are able to avoid unnecessary conversion charges from \$ (dollars) to £ (pounds) then into € (euros) and back again!

Through the *power of block purchasing* and GreatDays savvy, the costs usually are comparable to standard, featureless, off-the-shelf tours others offer in nonOlympic times. Hopefully, you are familiar with PAE's efforts to keep costs down without cutting corners. Our relationship with GreatDays and their familiarity with France will go a long way toward getting value for money. They always have been fair with us in the past.

Plus, GreatDays' office staff can now handle the financial side, setting up individual accounts with families and dealing directly with them with tailored payment plans. We will keep in touch before hand with newsletters and personal visits.



There are many amazing pre and post opportunities. Paris is at the center of Western Europe.

- London (287 miles)
- Amsterdam (315 miles)
- Zurich (408 miles)
- Milan (560 miles)
- Berlin (660 miles)
- Edinburgh (681 miles)
- Copenhagen (759 miles)
- etc. are within easy reach.

Please feel free to email me at matt@performingartseducators.org or call me at 904 806-1871.

Thanks, Matt

Matt Straub, Producer
Performing Arts Educators



You are among the initial groups we are inviting. We need an *estimate of interest* to present to GreatDays to initiate the costing process. This is not an off-the-shelf tour. It involves airport arrival/dropoff, transportations for the week, hotels, breakfasts and other meals, admissions, possible classes and events, etc.

Please fill in the following information to the best of your knowledge. You will not be “liable” for the information. It is only an estimation.

A formal invitation will follow upon your interest.

Once GreatDays proposal is firmed up, we’ll be ready to send out an itinerary and financial sheet for all to see ~ hopefully by Christmas.

If agreeable , you will be give you a representative from GreatDays, who will work with you for an acceptable payment plan with each family or individual. All financial arrangements will be with GreatDays who will handle collections, refunds, etc. They have travel industry bonding, escrow abilities and most importantly, can avoid unnecessary money exchange fees.

All performance and oversight will be in the hands of Performing Arts Educators.

Thanks, Matt Straub, Producer

904 806-1871 matt@performingartseducators.org

Name of Group

Town and State of Group

Name of Director

Phone Number of Director

Email of Director

Mailing Address of Director

Estimated # of Performers

Estimated # of Nonperformers

Any special circumstances we should be aware of?

Note that European countries do not adhere the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*.

As a current example of what PAE offers, please see the itinerary and financial sheet for our Greece Dance Trip for the summer of 2022.
<https://www.greatdays.co.uk/pae/>
This had been delayed twice because of covid difficulties, but is an example of the groups’ quality and loyalty based on past PAE Olympics and European Dance trips.

This form is a pdf. Please scan, or printout and fill out ~ or even fill out on a separate piece of paper if you wish.
Email to Matt!@performingartseducators.org
or mail to
Matt Straub
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#305
Sammamish, WA 98029

Yes, I’ve moved! :)

Note: Relatives and friends are welcome to join our Paris travel. But all must have some connection with the group.
No strangers.