Oberlin Alumni Association

Symphony on the
Blue Danube

Prague # Passau # Melk # Dürnstein
Vienna # Bratislava # Budapest

aboard the Exclusively Chartered M.S. AMADEUS BRILLIANT

June 22 to July 1, 2017
Dear Oberlin Travelers:

Join Oberlin Professor of Musicology Steven Plank and fellow Oberlinians on this exclusive journey to the resplendent cultural centers that inspired classical music’s Great Masters. Framed by rolling hillsides, lush vineyards and medieval castles, the legendary Danube River Valley has resonated with musicians and artists, poets and travelers throughout the centuries and we invite you to come experience the charm and allure of this captivating region for yourself.

Our comprehensive itinerary showcases five countries in the heartland of central Europe. It has been custom designed and carefully orchestrated to feature private performances encompassing the musical heritage of Europe’s most accomplished composers, including Mozart and Beethoven, and provides opportunities to explore six UNESCO World Heritage sites. Enjoy three nights in the historic, world-class city of Prague, the “City of a Thousand Spires,” in a deluxe, centrally located hotel before traversing the fabled Blue Danube from Passau, Germany, to Budapest, Hungary. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered M.S. AMADEUS BRILLIANT—a traditional river ship plying the waterways of Europe with the ability to dock often right in the heart of the cities we visit.

High notes of your experience will include a distinctive schedule of exclusive and specially arranged expert lectures, private classical music performances, guided excursions in Prague and in each port of call along the Danube River, and an enchanting overnight stay in the fin-de-siècle grandeur of Vienna, Austria’s extraordinary capital city.

Traveling through the heartland of Europe has never been more historically rich and culturally dynamic, especially when enhanced by live musical performances inspired by the great cities, landscapes and waterways that surround you. This journey of a lifetime is an excellent value and is sure to strike a chord with both new and repeat travelers as it taps into the heart and soul of this extraordinary region, its most renowned virtuosos and its rich history, art and architectural masterpieces. I encourage you to book now as this popular program sells out quickly. Early Booking Savings are only available through December 9, 2016.

Warm regards,

M. Danielle Young
Executive Director
Oberlin Alumni Association

Appointed to the Oberlin faculty in 1980, Steven Plank is the Andrew B. Meldrum Professor of Musicology and Director of the Collegium Musicum. He holds degrees from the University of Louisville and Washington University. As a scholar, Plank specializes in the music of England, the study of historical brass instruments, and the relationship of liturgical spirituality and musical style, with articles appearing in various journals, including The Musical Times, Early Music and Music and Letters. He is also the author of two books, The Way to Heavens Doore and Choral Performance: A Guide to Historical Practice, the co-author with Charles McGuire of The Historical Dictionary of English Music, and the editor of the critical edition of John Eccles’s “dramatick opera” Rinaldo and Armida. He loves fountain pens, antiques and Louisville basketball.
U.S./Prague, Czech Republic Thursday and Friday, June 22 and 23

Depart the U.S. for Prague, the “City of a Thousand Spires,” a UNESCO World Heritage site showcasing 600 years of virtually untouched architecture.

Upon arrival, check into the deluxe INTERCONTINENTAL PRAHA HOTEL.

Attend the private Welcome Reception Friday evening in the hotel.

Prague Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25

On the guided walking tour, explore the diverse cultural legacy of Prague, celebrated for its splendid combination of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture.

Walk along the narrow, picturesque lanes of the Staré Město (Old Town) to the Orloj, the ornate, 15th-century astronomical clock of the Old Town Hall.

See the world-famous Charles Bridge, adorned with 17th- and 18th-century Baroque statues. Enjoy a brief private performance of Mozart’s music and a specially arranged private tour of the Estates Theatre, where the prodigy’s opera Don Giovanni premiered in 1787.

In Josefov, the Jewish Quarter of Prague, visit Europe’s oldest extant Jewish house of worship—the Gothic-style Old-New Synagogue—and walk amongst the moss-covered, 15th-century headstones of the Old Jewish Cemetery.

On Sunday, tour the fascinating former residence of Bohemian royalty, the Hradčany complex of castles, churches and museums, whose spires dominate the city skyline. By special arrangement, view original Beethoven manuscripts and enjoy a private string quartet concert in the magnificent, family-owned 16th-century Lobkowicz Palace.

Visit the neo-Gothic St. Vitus Cathedral, the largest and most significant cathedral in Prague, and see the Royal Mausoleum and spectacular St. Wenceslas Chapel. Walk through the “Golden Lane,” a quaint byway lined with small, Mannerist-style houses and workshops once occupied by castle goldsmiths, alchemists, artisans and guards. Author Franz Kafka was said to have lived here between 1916 and 1917.

On the former site of the Bohemian Kingdom’s Royal Court, enjoy a private tour of the spectacular Municipal House, an early 20th-century Art Nouveau masterpiece. Visit the stunning Smetana Hall, where an independent Czechoslovakia was declared in 1918 and where the post-World War II communist government first met with political reformers led by future Czech Republic president Václav Havel in 1989.

Prague/Passau, Germany Monday, June 26

Travel across rolling hills and through the bucolic wooded Czech and German countryside to Passau, where three legendary rivers—the Danube, Ilz and Inn—converge. Enjoy lunch in a historic, traditional German restaurant before the walking tour along the cobblestone streets of Altstadt, Passau’s Old Town.

Visit the Baroque-style St. Stephan’s Cathedral, consecrated in the 12th century, where the largest pipe organ in Europe is housed.

Embark M.S. AMADEUS BRILLIANT, attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception and, following dinner, enjoy a short concert of classical music on board.

Melk, Austria/Dürnstein Tuesday, June 27

In the riverside town of Melk, visit the incredible Benedictine Abbey, a showcase of impressive Austrian Baroque architecture, priceless relics and the highest and lowest organ in Passau’s St. Stephan’s Cathedral, nearly inaudible.
stunning 18th-century ceiling frescoes by Paul Troger. In Melk Abbey’s beautiful kirche (church), admire the perfectly intact multi-panel 16th-century altarpiece by Danube School master Jörg Breu the Elder. A prestigious center of scholarship throughout the Middle Ages, the abbey’s library is today a repository of 100,000 medieval manuscripts.

This afternoon, dock in the charming medieval village of Dürnstein, situated below the hilltop ruins of Castle Kuenringer, where Richard the Lionheart was held prisoner after the Third Crusade. Stroll through the quaint, picturesque village to visit the 15th-century Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Abbey Church and enjoy a short, private organ concert inside the cathedral.

Be on deck this evening as you cruise the Danube’s spectacular and fabled Wachau Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where terraced vineyards blanket hillsides dotted with the haunting ruins of medieval castles.

Vienna
Wednesday, June 28
Former seat of the Habsburg Empire, Vienna’s historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage open-air museum of splendid Baroque architecture. Tour this remarkable city, which owes its present appearance to Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef, who created the famous Ringstrasse that displays its finest landmarks—the impressive Vienna State Opera house and the lavish Hofburg Palace. Visit the iconic, Gothic-style Stephansdom (St. Stephen’s Cathedral). Enjoy a private, specially arranged performance of Mozart and other composers’ music in the extraordinary Sala Terrena, Vienna’s oldest concert hall and where Mozart resided, worked and performed. The afternoon and evening are at leisure to peruse the cultural treasures of Vienna on your own.

Vienna/Bratislava, Slovakia
Thursday, June 29
Enjoy a free morning in Vienna or join the optional excursion to the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Schönbrunn Palace, residence of Habsburg royalty from Marie Antoinette to humans.
Palace and Gardens, the spectacular summer estate of the imperial Habsburgs. It was here, in one of the grand salons decorated in a priceless collection of art and antiques, that a six-year-old Mozart first performed for Empress Maria Theresa and her daughter, the future Queen of France, Marie Antoinette.

This afternoon, en route to Bratislava, cruise through Austria’s scenic Donau-Auen National Park, which preserves the last remaining major wetlands in central Europe. The charming capital of Slovakia, Bratislava is nestled in the foothills of the impressive Carpathian Mountain range overlooking the banks of the Danube River. Beautifully restored since the end of the Cold War, the city depicts 21st-century life amidst its 1000-year-old history. Enjoy a walking tour of the Old Town; its medieval, Renaissance and 19th-century architecture is among the finest in central Europe.

Visit the Romanesque, 14th-century Cathedral of St. Martin and the elaborate Primatial Palace and see St. Michael’s Gate, Bratislava’s oldest preserved medieval fortification, originally built in 1300.

This evening, enjoy a delightful performance of classical music on board the ship.

Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site and summer residence to Emperor Franz Josef.

The original opulence of the 19th-century Vienna State Opera is preserved in its central staircase and foyer.

Budapest, Hungary
Friday, June 30
Austrian-born, nevertheless the “most Hungarian Habsburg,” Archduke Joseph is credited with creating in Budapest an imperial capital that rivaled Vienna. Buda and Pest—the centuries-old twin cities that face each other across the Danube River—the embankments along this storied river and the Buda Castle Quarter together as one are a designated UNESCO World Heritage site. Begin your tour in Pest to see the iconic and imposing neo-Gothic limestone Parliament Building, built between 1884 and 1904 situated on the river’s banks. Pass through Heroes’ Square and admire the monuments honoring the Magyar chiefs who conquered Hungary in A.D. 896. The guided visit through the 19th-century, neo-Renaissance Hungarian State Opera House, one of the most beautiful performing arts venues in the world, highlights its interior, which is decorated with frescoes by eminent painters, including Mór Than and Károly Lotz. Here, enjoy a private, specially arranged aria performance.

The imposing Chain Bridge links river-level Pest to the hills of Buda on the opposite side of the Danube. On Castle Hill, visit the stately, late-19th-century, neo-Romanesque Fisherman’s Bastion, where seven turrets symbolize the seven Magyar tribes that settled in the Carpathian Basin, offering exceptional panoramic views of the city, and explore the Gothic-style St. Matthias Church, where Charles I, the last Habsburgian ruler, was coronated in 1916.

On board the ship this evening, attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception and Dinner followed by a traditional Hungarian folklore performance.

Budapest/U.S.
Saturday, July 1
Continue on the Hungarian Tradition in Budapest Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight to the U.S.

Fortified and rebuilt over the course of one thousand years, Bratislava Castle dominates the city skyline from its perch 300 feet above the Danube.
Historic Prussia and Saxony

Berlin • Dresden Pre-Program Option

One of Europe’s preeminent centers of history, art and music, Berlin is known for its world-class museums, grand opera house and eclectic architecture. Explore the Pergamon Museum on the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Museum Island; visit the Wall Museum at historic Checkpoint Charlie, the former border crossing between East and West Berlin; and enjoy a panoramic city tour cruise along the Spree River. En route to Prague, enjoy a walking tour through oft-overlooked Dresden, known as the “Jewel Box of Germany” for its splendid Baroque and Rococo architecture and its cultural and artistic significance. Accommodations are for three nights in the ideally located, deluxe [Westin Grand Berlin Hotel].

Hungarian Tradition in Budapest

Post-Program Option

Extend your stay in captivating Budapest, amid the majestic hills of Buda and the artistic, bohemian avenues of Pest. Visit the stately, Gothic Revival-style Parliament Building, and enjoy an excursion into Hungary’s great protected Puszta (plains), including a display of master horsemanship and a traditional regional lunch. Accommodations are for two nights in the Five-Star [Kempinski Hotel Corvinus].

Pre-Program and Post-Program Options and the Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens Optional Excursion are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

M.S. Amadeus Brilliant

The elegance and romance of the music composed by Austria’s native son Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was inspiration in the meticulous crafting of the M.S. Amadeus Brilliant, which provides the comforts of a refined and traditional floating hotel.

This exclusively chartered ship offers 74 river-view, air-conditioned, stylishly appointed Suites (236 square feet) and Staterooms (161 square feet), among the most spacious of any European river ship. Most accommodations feature a French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door with iron railing). Each has two twin beds (convertible to one queen-size bed), a private bathroom with shower (Suites have bathtub with shower), individual climate control, direct dial telephone, flat-screen television, sitting area, safe and hair dryer. Suites have a minibar.

Freshly prepared continental meals featuring local ingredients are served in single, unassigned seatings in the delightfully scenic Panorama Restaurant and include early-risers’ coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner and late-evening snack. Complimentary wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.

Public facilities are spacious and include the Panorama Bar, Lido Bar, Amadeus-Club with Internet station, beauty salon, boutique and fitness studio with early morning exercise classes and massage services. The Sun Deck has a chessboard and shuffleboard. Guests will appreciate the complimentary use of an audio headset, available to all passengers for listening enhancement during shore excursions. The ship has an elevator serving all passenger decks except the Sun Deck, and laundry service is available. There is no doctor aboard the ship.

The English-speaking, international crew provides warm hospitality. The ship meets the highest safety standards and is one of the only European river ships to have been awarded the “Green Certificate” of environmental preservation.
Included Features

**In Prague, Czech Republic**

- Three nights in the centrally located, deluxe **InterContinental Praha Hotel** with breakfast each morning.
- **Welcome Reception** in the hotel.
- Walking tour of Prague’s historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage site, through the **Staré Město** (Old Town) and Josefov, the old Jewish Quarter.
- Private tour of the Estates Theatre with a short, exclusive performance of Mozart compositions.
- Visit to the magnificent **Hradčany Castle** complex, including its Gothic-style St. Vitus Cathedral.
- Specially guided and directed tour of **Lobkovicz Palace** with private concert of classical music.
- Private tour of the Art Nouveau-style **Municipal House**.
- Scenic transfer from Prague to Passau, Germany, and a walking tour of Passau featuring its charming Altstadt (Old Town) and a visit to the 12th-century St. Stephan’s Cathedral, with lunch.

**On board the exclusively chartered**

**M.S. Amadeus Brilliant**

- Five-night cruise on the legendary Danube River from Passau, Germany, to Budapest, Hungary, with port calls at Melk, Dürnstein and Vienna, Austria; and Bratislava, Slovakia.
- River-view, air-conditioned Suite or Stateroom, each with a private bathroom.
- All meals served at single, unassigned seatings—early-risers’ coffee, buffet breakfast and lunch, afternoon tea, four-course dinner and late-evening snack—featuring fine continental cuisine.
- Complimentary house wine and beer are served with lunch and dinner.
- Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Two specially arranged classical music performances on board the ship.
- Scenic transfer from Prague to Passau, Germany, and a walking tour of Passau featuring its charming Altstadt (Old Town) and a visit to the 12th-century St. Stephan’s Cathedral, with lunch.

**Enhanced Travel Services**

- Transfers and luggage handling abroad for participants whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined above, led by experienced English-speaking local guides.
- **Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions**.
- Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom on board the ship and on excursions.
- Optional excursion to Vienna’s UNESCO World Heritage-designated Schönbrunn Palace and Gardens available at additional cost.
- Hospitality desk aboard the ship and in the hotel.
- The services of experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors throughout the program.
- Complimentary use of a state-of-the-art audio headset for each participant during guided excursions.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure material.
- Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.
Since the 18th century, the lands encompassing the Danube River Valley—Austria, Hungary and Germany—and the Czech Republic have bequeathed to the world an unparalleled musical legacy. The 1700s saw the creative genius of Johann Sebastian Bach, Franz Josef Haydn, Johann Pachelbel and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In the 19th century, such musical titans as Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Schubert, Johannes Brahms, Franz Liszt and Johann Strauss II reigned over the courts and orchestra halls of central Europe, backed by the generous patronage of the Habsburgs in Vienna.

This exclusive journey highlights the musical traditions of master composers and their enduring vitality. See the stage in Prague’s prestigious Estates Theatre where Mozart premiered his famous opera *Don Giovanni* and attend a private performance of the great composer’s works. Admire Europe’s largest cathedral pipe organ in Passau’s Cathedral of St. Stephan. View a collection of Beethoven’s original manuscripts and attend a private performance of musical works by Beethoven and other master composers in Lobkowicz Palace. Enjoy a short organ recital within the 15th-century Dürnstein Abbey.

Stroll through the historic center of Vienna in the footsteps of Beethoven and Brahms, see the famous Vienna State Opera house and attend a private performance of Mozart’s music at Sala Terrena, the oldest concert hall in the city. Enjoy classical music performances on board the ship.

The golden statue of Waltz King Johann Strauss immortalizes Vienna’s rich musical legacy.
### LAND/CRUISE TARIFF excluding taxes*  
Per person, based on double occupancy

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Early Booking Tariff** through Dec. 9, 2016</th>
<th>Tariff** after Dec. 9, 2016</th>
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| 6 Small window, Haydn Deck, aft.  
(limited availability) | $3695 | $4695 |
| 5 Small window,  
Haydn Deck, forward. | $4395 | $5395 |
| 4 French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing), Strauss Deck, aft. | $4895 | $5895 |
| 3 French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing), Strauss Deck, forward. | $5295 | $6295 |
| 2 French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing), Strauss Deck, midship. | $5895 | $6895 |
| 1 French balcony (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors with railing), Mozart Deck. | $6395 | $7395 |

Singles are available in category 2 at $9695* and in category 1 at $10395* on or before December 9, 2016. Add $1000 for reservations made after December 9, 2016.

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### SYMPHONY on the BLUE DANUBE RESERVATION FORM

Send to: Oberlin Alumni Association  
Ward Alumni Center  
65 E. College St., Suite 4  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1681  
For information, phone: Gohagan & Company at 800-922-3088 or Oberlin Alumni Association at 440-775-8692.

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Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Historic Prussia and Saxony Pre-Program Option and/or $200 per person Hungarian Tradition in Budapest Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

- Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.  
- Make checks payable to Thomas P. Gohagan & Company.
- I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to:  
  - Visa  
  - MasterCard

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Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by March 17, 2017.

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*Visa, MasterCard, or Check

**Please make my/our reservation(s):  
In Stateroom Category:  
1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____
- Double occupancy (two twin beds).  
- Double occupancy (one queen bed).  
- Single accommodations.  
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).  

Please make my/our reservation(s):  
Historic Prussia and Saxony  
Berlin • Dresden  
Pre-Program Option
- Double at $1135 per person.  
- Single at $1535 per person.  
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).  

Hungarian Tradition in Budapest  
Post-Program Option
- Double at $750 per person.  
- Single at $1150 per person.  
- I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).  
- I/We want you to book my/our air from (fill in departure city) to Prague, Czech Republic, with return from Budapest, Hungary, at additional cost to be advised.

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.  
I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.
Full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply. In addition and without limitation, Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, loss or damage to persons or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts, omissions, errors or omissions of yahts, motorcoaches, railroads, airlines, or by any other conveyance or vessel. Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) are subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 121 days prior to departure; from 95 through 120 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 61 through 94 days prior to departure, 40% of the published full regular tariffs; from 45 through 60 days prior to departure, 55% of the published full regular tariffs; from 22 through 44 days prior to departure, 70% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 21 days or less prior to departure, a full cancellation charge will be 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In any such proceeding, the substantive, but not procedural law of Illinois will apply. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any controversy or claim arising out of or relating in any way to this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement, the brochure, or any other information relating to any trip, or the trip itself, shall be settled solely and exclusively by binding arbitration in Chicago, Illinois, in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association then existent. In any such proceeding, the substantive, but not procedural law of Illinois will apply. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants and accepts the terms contained in this Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.