

“Musical Escapades Through Italy” 2022 - Admissions Information

About “Musical Escapades in Italy”: METI is a program of the MountainTop Strings of California, an artistic ensemble from Big Bear Lake, directed by cellist Sharon Rizzo. Founded in 2011, the ensemble has concertized extensively throughout Italy on many occasions. Most notable performances have included the Pantheon in Rome, the Cremona Summer Festival, the Duomo di Orvieto, Chiesa San Stae in Venice, and many more historic venues and festivals throughout Italy. In 2022, we plan to visit, rehearse and perform in 5 of Italy’s regions: Tuscany, Lazio, Umbria, Emilia-Romagna and Veneto. In addition to music, we love to have fun on free time, take in the Italian culture, eat great food and even venture out on some optional biking excursions!

Our Music: Performances consist of many styles of music including Baroque, Classical, Sacred, Latin, Jazz, American and even some light rock at some of the outside festivals. The music is tailored and appropriate for each of the diverse venues.

Who Should Apply? We welcome serious high school and pre-college musicians, college and pre-professional musicians to apply. Approximate age range is 15 to 28. We have openings in the following positions:

- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Voice
- Pre-formed String ensembles

“Musical Escapades in Italy” offers:

- String Chamber Orchestra
- Chamber Music/Small Ensemble Opportunities
- Solo Feature Opportunities
- Vocal with Strings
- Cello Ensemble
- Masterclasses

TO APPLY: We require the following by October 1st, 2021

- A completed application. If applying as an ensemble, please send all applications together, with a \$50 application fee per person.
- Recorded audition or request for a live audition to be scheduled prior to October 1st, 2021
- \$50 application fee, payable to “MTSC” by check or on the website: www.mountaintopstrings.org
- A teacher recommendation letter, which can be included with the application or sent separately.
- Accepted musicians will be notified within several days, and a **\$1,000 deposit is due by October 15th, 2021**, payable by check or on the website www.mountaintopstrings.org
- Note: Credit Card Payments will add a 3.5 percent processing fee to each payment

All materials should be sent in one of the following ways:

- Payments via Check or Money order to “MTSC”. Please mail to: Sharon Rizzo, P.O. Box 71, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315. You may also pay the application fee at www.mountaintopstrings.org
- Email Applications and YouTube links to: sharon@mountaintopstrings.com