



NEWS RELEASE

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USI Travel/Study Program to visit Chicago for music and shopping

The University of Southern Indiana Extended Services Travel/Study Program is now taking reservations for its fall trip to Chicago beginning Friday, October 30, with the motorcoach returning on Sunday, November 1.

Commentators Jack and Sue Schriber will inform and entertain travelers while attending one of the grand re-opening performances of *Ragtime*, a new Mary Cassatt exhibition at the Art Institute, and indulge in lots of holiday shopping. Accommodations will be arranged at the Hotel Allegro, recently opened after extensive modernization (formerly the Bismarck Hotel). Hotel Allegro is located on Randolph Street (one of the boundary streets of Marshall Fields), very near the Ford Center and only a few blocks from State Street.

Previously the lavish Oriental Theatre, the Ford Center for the Performing Arts is opening with its first production since renovations began. Built in 1925, the Oriental Theatre was known for luxurious decor and the latest in entertainment. The Ford Center promises the same exquisite comfort combined with state-of-the-art theatrical showcasing. The inaugural production will be the Chicago premiere of Livent, Inc.'s new musical *Ragtime*, directed by Chicago theater veteran, Frank Galati.

Organized by The Art Institute of Chicago, *Mary Cassatt: Modern Woman* brings together 125 of the artist's most beautiful and compelling paintings, pastels, drawings, and prints. The only American invited to exhibit in the Impressionist exhibitions in Paris, Cassatt (1844-1926) is placed at the heart of one of the most important artistic movements in Western history and at the forefront of emerging modernism.

The \$435 registration fee includes motor coach transportation, two nights double occupancy lodging, lunch on Friday, a main floor ticket to *Ragtime*, and admission and recorded tour for the Cassatt exhibit. A \$25 deposit is required by August 1.

For more information, or to register, call 812.464.1989 or 800.467.8600.