

North Hills Bands and Orchestras

“Pride, tradition and excellence”

53 Rochester Road Pittsburgh, PA 15229 • 412.318.1402 x3049

www.nhipa.org

Hello Band and Orchestra Families,

We are excited to share with you the details of our 2018 Spring Performance Tour to Orlando. As you know, we have been working on the plans for some time now and many of our students have been fundraising already. Many of your students also continue to excel in rehearsals and bring pride to the community in performance. Thank you for supporting them in so many ways!

Reasons we travel with our ensembles:

- *To provide educational opportunities to our students through performances/adjudications*
- *To bring recognition to our school district and music program*
- *To build a sense of community between the members of our groups*

Other considerations when planning a trip:

- *School schedule, including standardized testing*
- *Costs*
- *Performance schedules*

Who is invited on this trip?

All members of the Marching Band and HS String Orchestra are invited. **The decision to take each group will be made independently by the directors based on the commitment forms that are returned.** In order for each group to perform and learn as a unit in Orlando, we need to field a representative group. For example, if too few of the Orchestra cellos were to commit to the tour, Orchestra may not be able to travel and perform.

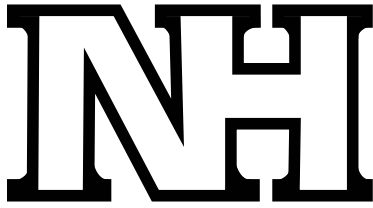
The choir **Spring Performance Tour to Orlando is occurring at the same time. Our goal is to allow students to perform with both the instrumental and vocal ensembles, as much as possible.** While the students will often be in the same places, the tours are separate tours. The directors will coordinate schedules and inform the students of the details to making performances.

Who chaperones the trip?

Our ensemble directors and our trip nurse chaperone the trip. If more adults are needed, district approved chaperones from the NHIPA are included. Our trip nurse functions like our school nurse when at school, caring for ill students and administering medication.

How are the students housed in the hotels?

Students sign up for rooms in groups of four. Boys and girls are separated in the hotel and each room has a chaperone of the same gender. Girls and boys are not allowed in each other's rooms. Security is hired in the hotel to assure our students are safe and in their rooms in the hotels.



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What is expected of our students?

School policies apply at all times, as this is a school trip. Students are expected to learn, practice and rehearse in a way that brings pride to our school and program. We also expect our students to act respectfully and responsibly at all times and in all situations.

Calendar

A few additional marching rehearsals and a parent meeting will be added to our calendar in the spring to prepare for the trip. The final trip information will also be distributed in the spring. Always check for updates at www.NHIPA.org.

What is the cost of the trip?

If you are new to our group, you may not have noticed that our trips rotate in cost. This is done deliberately. The Orlando tour is predictably the most expensive.

The most our tour will cost is \$990. We anticipate being able to reduce the cost of the tour once we have final numbers. We will continue to keep you updated along the way.

Our timeline for meeting our goals are as follows.

- **\$25 deposit with the attached commitment form, due by November 8, 2017 (must be contributed by cash or check – deposit cannot be fundraised)**
- **\$300 total, including the \$25 deposit, by turn in Night #1: November 29th, 2017**
- **Total (TBA) due in late-February 2017**

Our tours are all-inclusive. Students do not need to bring any additional money for meals, etc. Most students do travel with money for souvenirs.

Fundraising

Beyond the initial deposit, students can meet our goal through fundraising or contributions to the NHIPA.

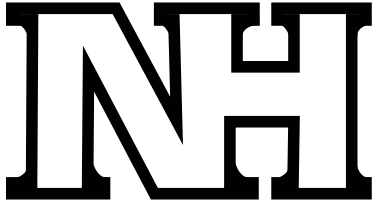
- all of this information will be shared through our very informative weekly e-mailed fundraising updates. **Please register for e-mail communication through the link below if you are not currently receiving these e-mails.**
- reference the calendar @ www.nhipa.org > Calendar for fundraising dates.
- contact our fundraising chairs or sales contact person with any questions. All this information can be found on our website: www.nhipa.org > Fundraising Opportunities and Forms.

E-mail Communications

The majority of tour information will be shared via e-mail. If attending but currently not receiving the weekly e-mails, register your e-mail @ www.nhipa.org > forms > 2018 **Tour E-mail Registration**.

Reserving your spot on the tour

For us to reserve a space for you on the performance tour, you must return the slip at the end of this letter to the NHIPA box with your \$25 deposit by November 8th, 2017.



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In Closing

It is our hope that our spring trip can be a positive experience for our students, families, directors and school district. As we work towards our goals, we can all grow stronger together as a program. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

Musically Yours,
Your Music Staff and the NHIPA

Disney Tour Tentative Itinerary

Disney reserves the right to change the details of our performances and clinics.

We are waiting to hear back from Disney Performing Arts on specific dates and locations for all performances and workshops by the choir, marching band, and orchestra. Once the details of these events are complete, we will provide a final itinerary.

NOTE: when the tour was proposed, we requested itineraries leaving on both Thursday, March 22nd and Friday March 23rd. We initially were confident in departing on the 23rd, but Disney's scheduling now requires that we depart on the 22nd. The itinerary below reflects this.

DAY 1, THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

Lunch at school
Campbell motor coaches depart North Hills High School
Dinner en route

DAY 2, FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018

Breakfast en route
Arrive at Disney water park (Blizzard Beach Water Park or Typhoon Lagoon)
\$18.00 Disney Dining Card for lunch
Check in at the **Embassy Suites Orlando Lake Buena Vista South**
Depart hotel
Arrive at Disney Springs
Possible ORCHESTRA Performance
Dinner on own (\$20.00 Cash Included)
Depart Disney Springs - Security guards on duty until 6:00 a.m.



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DAY 3, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018

Breakfast at hotel

Arrive at Magic Kingdom

(2 - \$18.00 Disney Dining Cards Included)

MARCHING BAND Performs in Parade at TBA

Depart Magic Kingdom after Fireworks Display - Security guards on duty until 6:00 a.m.

DAY 4, SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2018

Breakfast at hotel (Included)

Part of the day at Disney's Hollywood Studios and part of the day at Disney's Animal Kingdom

2 - \$18.00 Disney Dining Cards for Lunch and Dinner

ORCHESTRA or MARCHING BAND workshop "You're Instrumental" at 6 PM

CHOIR Performance at TBA

Possible FLAG and MAJORETTE workshop at TBA

Return to hotel; Security guards on duty until 6:00 a.m.

DAY 5, MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018

Breakfast at hotel and check out

Arrive at EPCOT (2 - \$18.00 Disney Dining Cards Included)

6:00 PM CHOIR Workshop: "Disney Sings"

8:45 PM Depart for home

DAY 6, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2018

Breakfast stop

Lunch en route

Return to North Hills High School

*For us to reserve a space for you on the performance tour,
you must return the form below to the NHIPA box with your \$25 deposit by November 8th, 2017*

North Hills Instrumental Music - ORLANDO TOUR - Statement of Commitment

I, _____ commit to take part in the North Hills Instrumental Music Department trip to Orlando **March 22 – 27, 2018**. I realize that I **must fully prepare for performances** and I understand **my financial contribution** to the tour.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____