

North Hills Bands and Orchestras

“Pride, tradition and excellence”

53 Rochester Road Pittsburgh, PA 15229 • 412.318.1402

www.nhipa.org

Hello Band and Orchestra Families,

We are excited to share with you an update of our 2019 Spring Performance Tour, now to New York City! As you know, we have been working on the plans for some time now and many of our students have been fundraising already. Our 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/clinics*
- *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, HS Orchestras, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band. **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 compete in the perform for the adjudicators at Messiah College, we need to field a representative group. For example, if too few of the Jazz Band trumpets commit to the trip, Jazz Band may not be invited to travel and perform.

The **Choir Spring Performance Tour is occurring the same weekend** with the goal of allowing students to perform with both the instrumental and vocal ensembles. Students traveling with the choir will ride a different bus and stay at a separate hotel, however the remainder of the tour schedule allows for all music students to be together for most planned activities and 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 \$550. It is possible that we may be 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 14, 2018 (must be contributed by cash or check – deposit cannot be fundraised)**
- **\$125 total, including the \$25 deposit, by turn in Night #1: December 3rd, 2018**
- **Total (TBA) due in March 2019**

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.

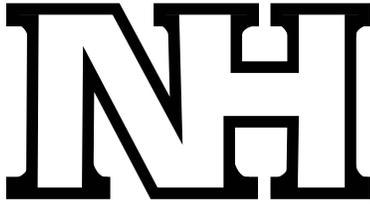
- all of this information will be shared through our very informative weekly e-mailed fundraising updates. **Please register for e-mail communication through the link below if you are not currently receiving these e-mails.**
- reference the calendar @ www.nhipa.org > Calendar for fundraising dates.
- 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 > 2019 **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 14, 2018.**



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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

New York City Performance Tour – Tentative Itinerary

DAY 1, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

TBD Depart North Hills Middle School
Rest stops and packed breakfast and lunch en route (provided by North Hills)

12:30 p.m. Arrive at Liberty State Park
Ferry from Liberty State Park to Liberty Island: Statue of Liberty
Ferry from Liberty Island to Battery Park and walk to the 9/11 Memorial

4:30 p.m. 9/11 Memorial

5:00 p.m. One World Observatory

7:30 p.m. Dinner at Heartland Brewery

10:00 p.m. Arrive at the Hilton Hasbrouck Heights/Meadowlands

11:00 p.m. Lights out: security guards on duty until 6:00 a.m.

DAY 2, SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019

7:30 a.m. Breakfast at the hotel (Included)

8:30 a.m. Depart hotel

9:30 a.m. Walk across Brooklyn Bridge
Transfer to Times Square

12:00 p.m. Group Picture in Times Square
On own in chaperone groups for lunch (\$15.00 Cash Included)

2:30 p.m. Arrive at theater

3:00 p.m. King Kong

6:30 p.m. Board the Spirit Cruise

7:00 p.m. Dinner Dance Cruise around Manhattan

10:30 p.m. Return to hotel

11:00 p.m. Lights out: security guards on duty until 6:00 a.m.

DAY 3, MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019

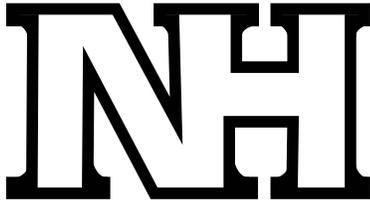
7:00 a.m. Breakfast at the hotel (Included)

8:00 a.m. Depart hotel

12:00 p.m. Arrive at Messiah College
Lunch
All Ensembles perform in concert halls and receive clinic from Messiah College Faculty
Dinner

6:00 p.m. Depart Messiah College

10:00 p.m. Return to North Hills Middle School



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North Hills Instrumental Music – New Your City Performance Tour STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

I, _____ commit to take part in the North Hills Instrumental Music Department trip to New York City **April 13 – 15, 2019**.

I realize that I **must fully prepare for performances** and I understand **my financial contribution** to the tour.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____