



West Deptford High School
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Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Mr. Thomas Kershaw, Jr. – Director of Instrumental Music
Mr. William Yerkes – Director of Vocal Music

September 26, 2019

Dear Band and Choir Parents,

The WDHS Music Department is presently planning a MAJOR five-day performance tour of the Chicago, Illinois area from May 27-31, 2020. This trip will include Downtown Chicago public performances for both the band and choir. The proposed itinerary is listed on the back of this page.

In May, 2008 the band and choir first made this journey to the Midwest and we believe that it was an experience of a lifetime for everyone. The extensive schedule is presently being finalized and we are very sure that *all* music students will want to be a part of this very exciting trip. The projected final cost for this trip should be approximately \$1250 for students and \$1450 for adults, with the exact, final cost being determined by the number of students and parents going on the trip.

We sincerely would like to provide the opportunity for **every child** in the WDHS Band and Choir to participate in this wonderful performance tour. Band and choir will be having a number of fundraisers throughout the fall, winter and spring to help offset out of pocket expenses. The goal of these fundraisers is to give every band and choir student the ability to raise the funds needed to travel with us to Chicago. Since this is a performance tour, we are hoping to have the **entire band and choir** attend the trip so our ensembles can perform at their full strength and very best. Much more importantly, we don't want to leave anyone behind!

We currently have 140 available spots and are now accepting reservations & deposits through October 16th. Priority for spots will go to students first and then to adults according to their initial deposit date. Please note that reservations are not complete until your deposit is paid in full. We have included the payment schedule on the back of this page. Please know that we are always flexible and willing to work with everyone. **To register: go to www.wdhsmusic.org and click the CHICAGO Logo.**

We *truly* hope that your child will be able to take part on our performance tour of Chicago this year. It is truly a unique, **once in a lifetime experience**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at school.

Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas Kershaw
Director of Bands

Mr. William Yerkes
Vocal Director

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **DUE TO PREPAID EVENTS AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS, PAYMENTS CANNOT BE RETURNED IF A STUDENT OR FAMILY MEMBER CANNOT ATTEND THE TRIP FOR ANY REASON. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOU TRY TO FIND A REPLACEMENT FOR YOUR SPOT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO GO.**
- Reservations will not be official until Mr. Kershaw or Mr. Yerkes receives your initial deposit on or before October 16. At that time, *you will be fully responsible for all subsequent payments.*
- Payments must be made by Check or Money Order to: West Deptford High School. CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED!!!
- All payments need to be submitted in an envelope with your student's name & "Chicago Trip" labeled on it.

Payment Schedule for Band & Choir Trip

1. October 16 – Reservation form & non-refundable deposit of \$200.00
2. November 13 – Required Non-refundable payment of \$200.00 DUE *
3. December 11 – Required Non-refundable payment of \$200.00 DUE *
4. January 15 – Required Non-refundable payment of \$200.00 DUE *
5. February 12 – Required Non-refundable payment of \$150.00 DUE *
6. March 11 – Required Non-refundable payment of \$150.00 DUE*
7. April 15 – Required Non-refundable FINAL payment of approx. \$150.00 DUE*

(Adults will add \$30 to deposit and all payments listed above.)

** - Fund Raising credits may be used as part or all of this payment.*

Tentative Itinerary Highlights

Details as of 9/26/19. Subject to change as the tour is finalized.

Wednesday, June 1

- Flight to Chicago O'Hare Airport/Adjust watches back 1 hour!
- Hard Rock Café
- Chicago Bus Tour including Willis (Sears) Tower & Millennium Park
- Dinner – Chicago Style Pizza at Giordano's

Thursday, June 2

- Shedd Aquarium
- Museum of Science and Industry
- Art Institute of Chicago
- Dinner at Gino's East
- Blue Man Group/Chicago Symphony/Theatre Performance

Friday, June 3

- Grant Park & Buckingham Fountain
- Public Performances at Navy Pier
- Dinner & DJ Sunset Cruise/Tour

Saturday, June 4

- Six Flags: Great America

Sunday, June 5

- Lincoln Park Zoo & Conservatory
- Tour Magnificent Mile/Shopping
- Flight Home/Adjust watches ahead 1 hour!