



**CHORAL FESTIVAL TOUR
ANNAPOLIS & BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
APRIL 10 – 13, 2014**

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome!
2. Overview of the Trip
3. Itinerary
4. Cost
5. Payment Schedule
6. Fundraising
 - a. Volunteer Sign Up
 - b. WFAEA Scrip Program
7. Participation Form and Deposit
8. Open Forum for Questions, etc...

NOTES:



WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

90 West Main Street
Westborough, MA 01581

www.westboroughhighschoolchoirs.weebly.com

CHORAL FESTIVAL TOUR ANNAPOLIS & BALTIMORE, MARYLAND APRIL 10 – 13, 2014

Dear WHS Choir Student, Parent(s) and/or Guardians,

Greetings! It is with great excitement that I am writing you this letter. From April 10th – 13th, 2014 the WHS Choral Music Department will be taking a Music Festival Tour of Annapolis & Baltimore, Maryland. This trip is open to **all** members in the WHS Choral Union (Women's Chorale, Mixed Chorus, Concert Choir, and Chamber Singers). The trip will be organized in conjunction with World Strides Heritage Performance Programs. World Strides is a reputable and accredited program for music festival tours with which I have worked in the past and have consistently had a positive experience. This company strives to provide both exceptional musical and educational experiences for their clients and students.

I have chosen Annapolis, Maryland as our destination for many reasons. Not only is World Strides hosting a competitive music festival there, but Annapolis is home to the U.S. Naval Academy and is where the author of *The Star Spangled Banner*, Francis Scott Key, attended school. Our students will have the opportunity to perform for and work with Dr. Barry Talley, Music Director Emeritus of the U.S. Naval Academy, who is also the director of the Annapolis Music Festival. During the Festival Competition portion of this trip, students will perform for adjudicators who will rate and evaluate each choir's performance. After each ensemble's performance an adjudicator will work with the choir in a master class workshop setting to provide feedback and to try new musical ideas and techniques to further their musical performance in the future. Based on each choir's performance the ensembles will be awarded a rating which will be presented at an awards ceremony later that day.

Not only will students be able to perform in a festival tour and gain a better understanding of our country's naval history, they will also have the opportunity to hear the U.S. Naval Academy Band perform. There is also the possibility that the students can have a master class workshop with Dr. Aaron Smith, the Director of Musical Activities at the U.S. Naval Academy. Furthermore, our students

will be able to perform in the Naval Chapel and attend a Naval Chapel organ demonstration and be able experience the cultural, historical, and educational opportunities that Baltimore has to offer.

For safety and student management concerns, a few WHS Fine Arts staff would join us on the tour and our goal is to have one adult chaperone per ten students. Additionally, I would look to recruit parents that are nurses/physicians to participate in the festival tour to support the medical needs of our students. Chaperone volunteers are needed!

The students will travel to, from, and around Annapolis and Baltimore, Maryland in coach buses provided by Yankee Lines (a reputable coach bus company). Accommodations will be met in the Hilton Baltimore Airport Hotel with four students per room, and two chaperones per room. Perhaps the most important piece is that the students will be strongly impressed upon that they are ambassadors of not only WHS, but also the Westborough community. Consequently, the students will be held to our high WHS expectations for behavior, dress, and conduct (as outlined in the student handbook) with a zero tolerance rule.

A tentative outline of the festival tour schedule is provided further on in this packet. You will notice the schedule is full allowing the students to be actively engaged in musical, educational, and meaningful experiences the entire time without considerable “down” time.

The current estimate cost of the festival tour is \$597 per student and \$597 per chaperone. This would include most of the student’s meals, accommodations, entrance fees to sightseeing activities, and transportation. Students will be responsible to pay for a few meals on the trip on his/her own. Fundraising will be a large part of the WHS Choral Music Department’s efforts during the 2013-2014 school year in order to lower the cost of the trip and to allow possible scholarships for students who are unable to afford the festival tour’s entire cost. To help with the fundraising initiatives we will need parent volunteers to collaborate with the Choral Director.

As you may be able to tell, I am extremely enthusiastic and energized about this music festival tour. Our festival tour is fully supported and approved for both its musical and educational experience by the Coordinator of Fine Arts, David Jost, the WHS Administrative Team, the Superintendent, and School Committee. If you have any questions or concerns about this trip, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience via email.

Thank you,

Alyson Greer Espinosa
Director of Choral Music
greerespinosaa@westboroughk12.org
westboroughhighschoolchoirs@gmail.com

Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything. ~ Plato



WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

90 West Main Street
Westborough, MA 01581

www.westboroughhighschoolchoirs.weebly.com

CHORAL FESTIVAL TOUR ANNAPOLIS & BALTIMORE, MARYLAND APRIL 10 – 13, 2014

ITINERARY

Thursday, April 10th

6:30 am – Depart for Annapolis, Maryland

12:00 pm – Arrive at Independence Mall in Philadelphia, PA for bagged lunch and impromptu A Cappella performances at Independence Mall.

5:00 pm – Arrive at Baltimore Airport Hilton Hotel for check-in

6:15 pm – Depart for Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD for dinner at the Hard Rock Café

7:00 pm – Dinner at the Hard Rock Café

8:30 pm – Return to Hotel after dinner

10:00 pm – Students in rooms for bed check and lights out.

Friday, April 11th

8:00 am – Breakfast Buffet at Hotel

9:00 am – Depart for Annapolis, MD

9:45 am – Meet guides for Walking Tour of Historical Annapolis and U.S. Naval Academy. The Walking Tour is lead by a guide in colonial attire who will take you on a tour of this historic area of Annapolis including the Naval Academy

12:00 pm – Lunch at Annapolis Mall Food Court (this meal is not paid for by the trip cost)

2:30 pm – Arrive at city dock for check in and board the Annapolis Harbor Cruise

3:00 pm – Annapolis Harbor Cruise – view historic Annapolis harbor, the banks of the US Naval Academy, the scenic Severn River, and catch a glimpse of the Bay Bridges

5:00 pm – Arrive at the Annapolis Naval Academy

5:30 pm – Organ Demonstration Concert in the Naval Academy Chapel

6:00 pm – Performance Opportunity for the WHS Choirs to sing in the Naval Academy Chapel

6:30 pm – Box Dinner at the Naval Academy

8:00 pm – Performance of the U.S. Naval Academy Band

9:30 pm – Load buses and return to hotel

10:30 pm – Students in rooms for bed check and lights out.

Saturday, April 12th

8:00 am – Breakfast Buffet at Hotel

All-day: Music Festival, possible workshop with a master choral conductor, and if time allows possible sightseeing opportunities (TBD)

12:00 pm – Boxed Lunch

5:45 pm – Depart for Medieval Times

7:00 pm – Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament for the Music Festival Awards Ceremony

9:00 pm – Return to hotel

11:00 pm – Students in rooms for bed check and lights out.

Sunday, April 13th

8:00 am – Breakfast Buffet at Hotel

9:00 am – Hotel Check out, load buses and depart for The National Aquarium in Baltimore, MD

10:00 am – Baltimore Aquarium and Inner Harbor, Lunch on students' own (this meal is not paid for by the trip cost)

2:00 pm – Load buses and head back to Westborough, MA

9:00 pm: Arrive in Westborough, MA

ITEMIZED COST OF THE MUSIC FESTIVAL TOUR

ITEM	STUDENT	CHAPERONE
Hotel Room	\$259.00	\$382.00
Breakfast Buffet (3 mornings)	\$14.00 x 3 = \$42.00	\$14.00 x 3 = \$42.00
Hard Rock Café Dinner	\$20.00	\$20.00
Box Lunch (Saturday)	\$14.00	\$14.00
Box Dinner (Friday)	\$14.00	\$14.00
Baltimore Aquarium	\$22.00	\$26.00
Walking Tour of Annapolis	\$12.00	\$14.00
Annapolis Harbor Cruise	\$6.00	\$11.00
WHS Festival T-Shirt	\$15.00	\$15.00
Transportation Costs	\$193.00	\$59.00
TOTAL COST	\$597.00	\$597.00

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- All checks are made to *Westborough High School*, with Chorus Trip and your student's name in the Memo. Cash is accepted as well.
- Financial aid is available. Please discuss with Mrs. Greer Espinosa if you are having difficulties.

DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE	AMOUNT
Deposit	October 1, 2013	\$100.00
Payment 2	December 3, 2013	\$200.00
Payment 3	January 7, 2014	\$200.00
Final Payment	February 4, 2014	TBD



WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

90 West Main Street
Westborough, MA 01581

www.westboroughhighschoolchoirs.weebly.com

CHORAL FESTIVAL TOUR ANNAPOLIS & BALTIMORE, MARYLAND APRIL 10 – 13, 2014

PARTICIPATION FORM

This form must be handed in with your deposit due on October 1, 2013

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Ensembles: Women's Chorale Mixed Chorus Concert Choir Chamber Singers
(please circle)
 Members Only Don't Panic! Harmony in Heels Perfect Fourths

Student Email: _____

Home Address: _____

Student T-Shirt Size: Small Medium Large X-Large

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Email(s): _____

Yes! Please contact me. I am interested in helping with fundraising for the WHS Choral Festival Tour.

CHAPERONE VOLUNTEER

Yes! I would like to chaperone! Yes! I am a nurse or physician (circle one)

Name(s): _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____