



Union High School Choir Boosters

6201 NW Friberg/Strunk Street, Camas, WA 98607 360-604-6250 www.unionchoir.org

March 15, 2011

Dear Choir Tour Families:

We are fast approaching our trip to New York City. You will be receiving an itinerary including emergency contact numbers and permission slips as we get closer to the trip, but I wanted to give you a heads up on some important information you and your student need to know.

Dates, Times and Flight Information

Tour Dates are Wednesday, March 30 – Monday April 4th. We are staying at the Hilton Garden Inn located at 70 Challenger Rd Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660 (201) 641-2024

Wednesday, March 30

4:45 am: Chaperones arrive at airport

5:00 am: Students need to arrive at the Portland International Airport. Drop off students outside the Continental Airlines area. Students will meet up with their chaperones and immediately make sure they have all their needed items.

Students must have the following items:

- Picture ID- they will need either a passport, a drivers license or permit, or a school ID (school ID is only accepted if students is under 18)
- \$50 for baggage fee (\$25 each way for 1 checked bag)
- \$120 for food (5 lunches, 2 dinners), Sat. PM activity, and subway tokens
- Complete Uniform (guys-tux, shirt, black socks, shoes, bun, tie, links and button covers & ladies- dress black nylons/shoes, jewelry)
- Sack Breakfast/Lunch (students need to bring enough food to supply breakfast and lunch- no liquids)

7:35 am Depart PDX (Continental Airlines – Flt. 485U)

Monday, April 4

10:18 pm Arrive at PDX (Continental Airlines – Flight #784V) Parents please pick up students at the airport.

Things to bring: Label all luggage and carry-on bags

- Men: will check 1 bag. They will carry on their tuxes (folded in thirds) and a personal item containing snacks and entertainment for the plane (books, cards etc.)
- Women: will check 1 bag that includes their uniform. They are also allowed a carry-on containing snacks and entertainment for the plane (books, cards etc.) and a personal item such as a purse.
- Picture ID- They must have either a passport, a drivers license or permit, or a school ID (school ID is only accepted if student is under 18)
- Money for Meals (5 lunches, 2 Dinners), Sat. PM activity and subway tokens Approx \$120 (We suggest \$12 for Lunch, \$15 for Dinner, \$20 for Sat. PM activity and \$10 for subway)
- Spending money (this is at your discretion) (Consider some snack \$ as well)
- Complete Uniform(men-tux pant and coat, shirt, black socks, shoes, cummerbund, tie, links and button covers & women- dress, black nylons, shoes, jewelry)
- Music in a Black Folder with your name on it and a pencil (even if it is memorized)
- Jacket – It is very likely going to be cold and wet
- Clothes for 2 Broadway shows (not too fancy, we will be walking and it may be cold, but they may want to dress up a bit. This is optional)
- Cell phones and chargers
- Swimming Suits
- Toiletries (Hair dryers, irons, and coffee makers are provided in the rooms)

Meals

Please send a sack breakfast/lunch with your student on the plane. I doubt they will eat much for breakfast and we do not eat until 7:00PM Wednesday night. For example, I have suggested they bring a muffin and a banana as well as a sandwich, chips and an apple- remember no liquids. They will eat it on the plane. We will get beverages and snack crackers on the plane. Many students will also choose to bring snacks to share on the plane and in their rooms. While in New York, the hotel provides a free hot breakfast each morning including scrambled eggs, breakfast meat, potatoes, breads, cereals, fruit, yogurt, juice etc. The students are expected to eat breakfast every day. Please encourage them to do so. They will need to purchase all their own lunches (5) and 2 dinners. Please plan for approximately \$12 for each lunch and \$15 for each dinner.

Wednesday:

Breakfast - At home

Lunch – Bring sack lunch including a Breakfast and a Lunch

Dinner- Ellen's Stardust Diner- included

Thursday:

Breakfast at Hotel- Included

Lunch- on your own

Dinner-on your own

Friday:

Breakfast- at Hotel- Included

Lunch- on your own

Dinner- Bubba Gump Shrimp -Included

Saturday:

Breakfast- at Hotel -Included

Lunch- on your own

Dinner- Dave & Buster's- Included

Sunday:

Breakfast – at Hotel- Included

Lunch- on your own

Dinner- Pizza at Hotel- Included

Monday:

Breakfast- at Hotel- Included

Lunch- on your own

Dinner- on your own (purchase dinner before boarding flight)

Activities and Performances

We have several great experiences scheduled during our trip. See below for a list of highlights:

- Festival Performance- This experience is shared with Heritage High school and several top high school groups from the New York area.
- Clinics with amazing clinicians
- Exchange concert
- Empire State Bldg
- Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island
- Ground Zero
- American Museum of Natural History
- 2 Broadway Shows: Lion King and Spiderman

**** Note about Spiderman:** Some of you may have heard that Spiderman had experienced some difficulties and needs to shut down performances to do some revamping of the show. We are aware of this and are keeping in contact with our ticket agent. Our tickets to Spiderman are non-refundable unless our particular show time is cancelled. If that happens they will help us get tickets to another show. At this time our plan is to go to Spiderman and from what I hear from people that I know that have seen it, we will have a great time.

Helpful Hints and Information:

Emergency Contact Information:

- Deanne Larson cell 360-921-5560
- Dave Larson cell 360-356-6145
- Lori Collier 360-903-3322
- Please make sure you get your student's chaperone's cell number from your student.

Follow us online during tour:

- <http://unionchoir.org> – Our primary site for photos, videos, and information about tour
- <http://facebook.com/unionchoir> – Photos and updates will be posted “real-time”. Visit this page and press the “Like” button to add UnionChoir to your Facebook News Feed
- <http://twitter.com/unionchoir> – Twitter will be used to keep the student's updated during tour (when to catch the bus, lights out, etc). You can also receive these updates on your mobile phone by texting “follow unionchoir” to 40404. After tour, turn this off by texting “leave unionchoir” to 40404.

Airline Policies:

Go to <http://www.continental.com/web/en-US/content/travel/baggage/default.aspx> for information about luggage size and weight restrictions as well as baggage fees.

Go to <http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/prohibited/permitted-prohibited-items.shtm> for restrictions and prohibited items. Remember **3-1-1 for carry-ons** = 3.4 ounce (100ml) bottle or less (by volume) ; 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; 1 bag per passenger placed in screening bin. One-quart bag per person limits the total liquid volume each traveler can bring. 3.4 ounce (100ml) container size is a security measure.

Clothing suggestions:

Women should consider bringing purses with long straps or a small backpack to carry with them instead of a purse.

Students may want to dress up for the Broadway shows. This is great, but please consider that we may need to walk around outside and it may be cold. Please wear comfortable shoes and a coat.

Check Weather prior to packing at <http://www.nbcnewyork.com>

If you have any other questions or concerns please feel free to call or email Deanne Larson at 360.254-4999 hm, 360-921-5560 cell or deanne.larson@comcast.net. We are so excited about this trip. The students will have a wonderful trip, both educationally and personally.

Thank you so much for trusting us with your students. We take this responsibility very seriously and will do everything we can to keep them safe and cared for.

Sincerely,
Union Choir Boosters