

Mayfield High School Choirs

New York City, NY - 2019

Wednesday, March 20 – Saturday, March 23

Welcome to the 2019 Mayfield High School Choir Trip to New York City, NY! We are traveling with 24 students, 2 chaperones, and 2 directors on a chartered motor coach. Our trip includes a choral performance by the combined singers in a Manhattan church, a workshop with real Broadway actor(s), and *Be More Chill*. We will also enjoy multiple NYC sightseeing and entertainment opportunities.

Pre-Trip Reminders

- All trip forms must be turned in:
 - Permission Slip (with contact/medical information completed)
 - Please put any dietary restrictions on this form, too, and let us know ASAP so we can plan ahead.
 - Any required medical forms:
 - Authorization to administer medications
 - Authorization to for student to carry inhaler/epipen
 - Authorization to administer OTC medicines (Tylenol, Advil, TUMS)
- Students WILL NOT receive cash to cover meals that are not part of the tour package. Please budget for 2 meals on the road (fast food) and 3 lunches in NYC (minimum \$50-60 is suggested)
- **Sign up for the Remind group: Text the message @MHS2NYC to the number 81010**
 - We will use this to announce meeting times and places on the trip, as well as share some photos throughout the trip!

Departure and Bus Riding

- When you arrive Wednesday evening at 9:00pm, come in through the front door, leave your suitcase in the front hallway and head to the choir room.
- Carry-on materials go under your seat in the choir room.
- Report to the choir room at 9:00pm for music rehearsal.
- Use MHS restrooms BEFORE getting on the bus at 10:30pm.
- Limit walking around while the bus is in motion.
- Air conditioning or heat is always on – bring layers on the bus to be prepared!
- Bring some “healthy” snacks (granola bars, trail mix, etc.) to eat in addition to any customary “junk” food... you don’t want to feel ill all weekend!
- Closed top water bottles and beverages only; spills are messy, sticky, and gross.
- You may bring G/PG/PG-13 DVDs for the ride home. Remember, we range in age from 14-18. ANY amount of undress or vulgar language is not appropriate. KNOW YOUR PG-13 movies (we suggest you check out the parent advisory on www.IMDB.com before bringing the movie). Chaperones/staff have final say on whether the movie is screened.
- Regardless of the device/medium, any inappropriate materials will be confiscated.

- Singing or shouting is NOT permitted on the bus ride. This rule may be lifted on the return ride at the discretion of the director. You will be performing on Thursday, shortly after arrival in New York. Please plan to rest your instruments on the trip.
- The bus restroom is to be used for “emergency” needs only – consider them decorative otherwise. We will make regular rest stops along the way for proper facilities.
 - Likewise, if there is time to use a bathroom at any stop, USE IT whether you think you need to or not.
- Please respect the space you share with others.
- Follow all instructions from the driver/chaperones.
- Remain seated and listen attentively to any directions given on the bus
 - Sometimes instructions will be given before stopping, as we might have to depart the bus quickly so we don’t hold up traffic in NYC!
 - The bus will make occasional stops for food, rest, or fuel on the way. When given permission to get off the bus, make sure you are back quickly and ready for roll call [know your number!]. Look for others and stay with the group. Don’t hold up the trip by wandering aimlessly.
 - Please be aware if you generally get motion sickness. Busses have more of a rolling action than traditional cars. Talk this over with your parents and indicate Dramamine or alternative on the medical form before we leave so that we can prepare.

Luggage/What to wear and bring

- All luggage & equipment must be tagged with your name and address using the Noteworthy labels provided.
- You may bring 1 small to medium suitcase and 1 carry-on bag.
- All shoes/boots/socks must go into your personal luggage bag.
- We will NOT bring dresses and tuxedos.
 - Bring a nice looking black and white outfit to perform in on Thursday
 - You will likely need to wear this on the bus overnight as we perform first thing Thursday morning.
- Bring “business casual” or “smart casual” attire for the Broadway show. There’s no official dress code, but we should look good!
- Casual wear is appropriate for the entire rest of the trip. As you know, weather conditions can change, so please check the weather and pack appropriate clothing. There is no need to over pack. As of 3/13, the forecast is predicting highs in the 50s and lows in the 30s. Layers are key!
- To bring:
 - Clothing for 3 days of touring
 - Pajamas (remember, you’re sharing a room with others, so please be mindful of appropriateness)
 - Sweatshirt/jacket/rain gear
 - Undergarments
 - Comfortable walking shoes
 - 1 nice black and/or white outfit for our choral performance
 - 1 medium nice outfit would be appropriate for the Broadway show. Nothing fancy is required, but please no jeans/t-shirt.
 - Toothbrush/toothpaste

- Deodorant
- Shampoo/soap
- Shaving articles
- Hair styling needs
- Prescribed medications (must be listed on the Medical Authorization Form)
- Optional items:
 - Watch
 - Cell phone/charger
 - Spending \$ for souvenirs (or prepaid debit card)
 - Camera
 - Sunglasses
 - Sunscreen
 - Plastic bag for dirty clothes
 - School-appropriate games for free time

Rules/Conduct/Travel Hints

All rules and regulations in the MHS student handbook and this trip handout will be followed for this field trip. You are representing our school, community, and state, and therefore all students are expected to display themselves as well-groomed, courteous, well-behaved citizens at all times and in all places. As young adults, good manners and courteous behavior are expected. Special areas of concern tend to be when arriving at destinations such as: the hotel, a restaurant, at an entrance gate, etc. Never make a “mob scene.” These establishments have other guests who are not us!

1. Please be especially mindful when we have our lunch breaks in NYC – if you see 2 other groups at a small restaurant, perhaps pick somewhere else so that you can get through quickly and not be late to our next activity.
2. As public school students on a school-sponsored trip, smoking or use of alcoholic beverages or drugs is strictly prohibited. Students at no time will have any contact with, consume, or have in their possession, any type of alcoholic beverage, tobacco, or non-prescribed drugs.
3. In-room curfews (generally 11:00 pm) and lights-out (generally 11:30 pm) will be announced. No excuses.
4. No female student will enter a male student’s room. No male student will enter a female student’s room.
5. Students may not leave the hotel grounds at any time unless with the full group. Students may not simply choose to leave the hotel at their convenience (if for example, there is a pizza place right next door to our hotel...). Any off-hotel-property trips must be scheduled in the itinerary or approved by the director.
6. Students may only use approved transportation--no subway or taxis.
7. No public displays of affection.

8. A chaperone will be assigned to look after you and your room. The chaperones are present to assist you. Consult your chaperone and work with them. Tell your chaperone of any problems you may have. If there is an issue, let us know sooner rather than later.

9. Plan ahead. Be on time. Help each other. Eat properly. Get your rest!

10. Be ready to smile rather than complain. Be patient. Everything will NOT go like clockwork. It will not be like home. It will not be like a vacation you take with your family, unless you regularly take vacations with nearly 30 members of your family.

11. Do not open your hotel door unless the person has properly identified him or herself. A security guard and hotel manager will be available. The choir director DOES NOT want to be called to the front desk for student noise violations. Keep your room locked at all times. Never leave valuables in your room during the day.

12. There is to be no destruction of property at any time, at the hotel, on the bus, or anywhere.

13. Skipping breakfast is not an option. Get up in time to dress, eat, and be ready to travel.

14. Plan to bathe. Regularly.

15. Do not ask for special favors. You are only one of many people on this trip whom we must consider in making all decisions.

16. Sun protection: Please be careful and use sunscreen on exposed skin, especially if the weather is nice! It's been a long, cold winter, and your skin probably hasn't seen the sun in months! Even if you're someone who "doesn't burn," you might this time. Use caution please!

17. Don't even think of taking a souvenir from the hotel. Stealing is a crime, as is shoplifting. Shop owners are especially aware of shoplifters when groups appear.

18. Believe half of what you think you saw and 10% of what you think you heard. Rumors have a way of starting on trip such as this.

19. You are responsible for your own belongings. Do not ask someone else to take care of your belongings. Also, purses and shoulder bags are not recommended in NYC; a common recommendation is to keep money and personal belongings in a front pocket or lanyard under a layer of clothing.

20. Respect the property of others. Your reputation and our reputation as a group/school depend on it. Do not disappoint yourself or us.

21. Those individuals who cannot adapt themselves to group travel will be dealt with accordingly. Violations of the above regulations will require immediate action, possible disciplinary measures from the high school, and the possibility of a quick, expensive trip home.

This can and will be a wonderful, exciting trip for all students. We have a wide array of exciting activities planned that will be rewarding and fun for all students. Please remember to be kind to each other and to yourselves. It's okay to be the person who wants to go to bed first. As my high school band director used to say (1) It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice; (2) We are an individual group and not a group of individuals; (3) Though there may be "a time and place for everything," this trip necessarily limits some options.

When we get back from our trip, please make every effort to meet the demands of your "normal" school life. You should notify all teachers that you will be absent for the two days of school and be ready to catch up on any and all work by the time you return. Please do not arrive to school after break and ask for extensions "because of the trip" on any school work. Trip-related work extensions will not be granted. Like with any other field trip, you are responsible for making up any missed work from Thursday or Friday. Please treat this trip with respect for the educational opportunity that it is. There is plenty of time to do homework on the bus down and back if you be sure to get your missed work in advance.

Anyone is able to message me through the Remind group, but if you need me for any reason, I can be reached at 440-241-9907. I don't often answer the first time (too much spam), so either call a second time, leave a message, or send a text if needed.

Thank you – I am looking forward to an awesome trip!

Sincerely,
Mr. Brian Fancher
MHS Choir Director

Notes: