



Chorus and Orchestra

Suzanne Grant and Evelyn Champion, Directors

Dear 8th Grade Parents,

The Northwestern Orchestra and Chorus have been selected by Disney Performing Arts to be part of the entertainment at the WALT DISNEY WORLD Resort!

We would like to assure you that your child's safety while traveling is our first concern. We have had a great deal of experience with performing groups on overnight trips and there will also be Fulton County certified chaperones monitoring the students. Students are never left unsupervised in the hotel. The Disney parks are very safe for teenagers; there will be open cell phone communication between directors, students, and chaperones while we are in the parks. Students will be required to abide by all Northwestern and Fulton County policies on this trip, including use of language, personal displays of affection, and the dress code. Students who do not abide by the rules or who are late to meeting points will lose time in the parks or will receive the same disciplinary consequences as if we were in school. The behavior expectations will be reviewed extensively with students before the trip and will be published with the other trip documents. In order to keep our trip supervision closely monitored, students who travel on this trip with us are required to stay with our group exclusively, and with their assigned chaperone, and may not spend time with other friends or relatives while we are in Florida.

Additionally, all eighth grade students are required to meet the behavior and participation guidelines listed below in order to participate in the trip. We will be in continual communication with parents regarding any student who is not meeting these expectations.

1. **Daily Participation-** All students must meet the daily behavior and participation expectations throughout their school day and in their music class. Students must be in good standing with *all* of their teachers to travel to Disney with their music class. Talking, playing out of turn, failure to have required materials or practice assigned music, class disruptions, tardies, failure to take care of equipment, failure to follow directions given by the director, or any other inappropriate behavior will result in a warning and a student teacher/conference. Parents will be notified at this time and if behavior does not improve students may not be allowed to travel.
2. **Performance Attendance-** The chorus and orchestra are performing ensembles, and as such, regular attendance at rehearsals, clinics, and concerts is a necessity to ensure a quality, rewarding musical experience. The invitation to perform at Walt Disney World is a privilege and is considered a reward for the students' continued commitment to the music class. Students are expected to attend all extra-curricular rehearsals, clinics, and concerts throughout the year. Please refer to your student's music handbook for



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guidelines for excused/unexcused absences. Unexcused absences from performances or workshops can result in your child not being able to attend the trip.

3. ISS or OSS- students who earn school suspension will not be allowed to travel.
4. School Attendance- students may not have chronic unexcused absences from school.
5. Grades: students must maintain an A in their music class and not fail any other class to travel.
6. Refunds: NO refunds will be given within 60 days of the trip for any reason.

If you have questions about these expectations, please talk with your director.

The trip dates are **March 6-10, 2019**. We will leave at noon on Wednesday, March 6 and perform on Thursday, March 7. Students must bring luggage in on Wednesday morning before school and attend classes through lunch. We will leave the park at closing on Saturday night, then drive through the night and return to NMS very early Sunday morning. Monday, March 11 is a holiday for students.

The cost for the trip is \$600.00 per student, which includes transportation on a charter bus equipped with a bathroom and televisions with DVD, three nights lodging, three days admission to Disney World parks, three Disney meal vouchers, and a breakfast buffet for three mornings. Students will need some spending money for souvenirs and additional meals. Students will be housed four to a room in the hotel.

We will have a parent meeting on **Monday, February 4th from 6-7 p.m.** to go over the details of the trip including the required paperwork. Chaperones will meet from 4:45 p.m. the same day.

The cost for parent chaperones is \$600 for double occupancy (there is an additional \$110 single occupancy room charge). Chaperones will be selected based on previous volunteer service, student needs, and available space on the trip. Please indicate on the return form if you are interested in chaperoning this trip, but keep in mind that as a chaperone you are expected to travel exclusively with our group which includes riding the bus with students, monitoring students on the bus, at rest stops or food stops, in the hotel and in the parks. Chaperones will have to go through the Fulton County volunteer badging process that includes a background check and fingerprinting (not the same as the school volunteer or chaperone). But of course, you will have a lot of fun watching our fabulous performances and enjoying the parks! Please do not make payment until you are confirmed as a chaperone. Accepted chaperones will be notified after the September 30th payment when we know exactly how many students will be attending the trip.

We can only accept OSP payments for this trip. OSP opens on September 4. Please make sure you choose the correct link- Chorus Disney Trip or Orchestra Disney Trip. The first student trip payment of



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\$300 per person is due by Sunday, September 30 at midnight. The final student payment and full chaperone payment is due November 1st.

Please return the attached permission form as soon as possible if you plan to send your son or daughter on this trip. We are looking forward to traveling with your son or daughter. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time if you have questions.

Thank you,

ChampionE@FultonSchools.org

GrantS@FultonSchools.org





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Northwestern Chorus and Orchestra Disney Performing Arts Trip COMMITMENT FORM

STUDENT NAME _____

_____ YES, my son or daughter will attend the Disney World trip with the Northwestern Chorus and Orchestra on March 6-10, 2019. I have read the attached letter in its entirety. I understand a NON-REFUNDABLE donation of \$300 must be paid online and that we are committed to the trip and the remaining payment once I have paid the initial \$300. I understand that payments must be made on time or my child will lose their spot on the trip. Additionally, if my child does not meet the minimum expectations/requirements in Chorus or Orchestra that he or she will not be allowed to participate in the trip. *Please sign at the bottom after reading the cancellation policy.*

_____ YES, I am interested in going on the trip as a chaperone.

CHAPERONE Name(s): _____

CHAPERONE Phone and preferred email: _____

CANCELLATION POLICY- *please read carefully!*

It is highly unlikely that the trip will be cancelled. However, trip insurance is available to you to purchase individually through **CSA Travel Protection** at www.csatravelprotection.com for \$38 which is paid directly to **CSA Travel Protection**. By signing below you agree to purchase the trip insurance on your own or to hold Creative Group Tours, the Fulton County School District, Northwestern Middle School, and the Chorus and Orchestra director(s) harmless for cancellation due to severe weather or natural disaster, extreme illness or injury, death in the family, national crisis, or any other unforeseen circumstances or event that prevents the trip from taking place. The Fulton County School District, Northwestern Chorus and Orchestra Directors, Creative Group Tours, or Northwestern Middle School will not refund the cost of the trip if you are unable to attend for ANY reason, including an unavoidable schedule conflict, death in your family, injury or illness that prevents your child from traveling, or severe disciplinary infraction that prohibits your child from traveling with the group (Fulton County Policy). If you purchase the trip insurance, you would be responsible for filing a claim with the trip insurance company in the event your child cannot go on the trip. Please be aware that all circumstances may not be covered by the trip insurance.

Parent Signature _____



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WALT DISNEY World. Where magic lives.

Northwestern Chorus and Orchestra Disney Performing Arts Trip Payment Schedule

**\$300 donation due Sunday,
September 30 on OSP by midnight**

**\$300 due Thursday, November 1 on
OSP by midnight**

**Parent Meeting Monday, February 4
6-7 p.m.**

The overnight permission slip, code of conduct, notarized medical form, and medication forms will be distributed at the February 4 meeting are due Friday, February 15.

The itinerary, what to pack, and other important information will also be distributed at this meeting.