

DUE by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th (Signed with \$175 deposit)

**BMS Performing Arts Department
Spring Trip
May 14- 17, 2015**

Dear Parents:

We would like to take this opportunity to give you a few details about the Performing Arts Department's annual Spring Trip. This information will give you insight about the time frame, fundraising opportunities, and behavioral, attendance, and grading policies for this trip. More details will be provided as the departure date approaches. We especially want to stress the fundraising opportunities for your eighth grade student. All fundraising profits earned by your child will be applied to their trip cost except for the first retainer payment of \$175.00. We have had numerous students in years past, who have raised enough monies to supplement a large portion of the cost. *The non-refundable initial deposit is required in order to guarantee the cost per student, and is required by the tour company.* In the unlikely event that the trip is canceled by the school, the deposit will be refunded. Students will have the opportunity to use a portion of the profit from the Fall Fine Arts Fundraiser in October towards their payment. We offer this incentive so that all students who have shown dedication to the program will have an opportunity to take part in what has become an eighth grade tradition.

We plan to participate in a Disney Performing Arts sponsored event at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL. The estimated cost is \$575. This package cost covers hotel accommodations with private night security, charter buses, unlimited admission to four theme parks in the Orlando area such as Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom and Disney –Hollywood Studios, and nine meals (3 per day). Payments will be spread out into four increments within a five month period. The payments are as follows:

September 5th - \$175
October 3rd - \$200
November 7th - \$100
January 16th - \$100

***Upon receipt of this signed document AND the initial \$175 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit your student will be added to the Disney 2015 roster. Although this signed document is mandatory for trip participation it is the deposit that reserves your child's place on the trip.

We realize that this might be the first time your child has traveled away from your family. There will be one adult assigned to eight students and our rules, guidelines, and check-in points will be established to ensure the accountability and safety of each student. Although these chaperones are in close contact with the students that they are assigned, students are permitted to spend time in the parks in small groups without constant direct supervision. Please realize that students attending the trip represent themselves, their families, their

music programs, and Barber Middle School as a whole. Our trips have always been a great success due to the compliance of all classroom, school, and trip rules.

Below we have provided the Behavioral, Concert/Event Attendance, and Grading Policies that are used to determine a student's eligibility. Please read them carefully and initial by each to accept agreement. Only fully initialed contracts will be accepted. Providing your initials next to each section ensures that both parents and directors are on the same page in regards to these policies which are put forth to ensure the safety and eligibility of each child.

INITIALS _____

BMS Performing Arts Department Behavior Plan

All offenses are based on classroom guidelines found in Band, Chorus, Orchestra and Dance Handbooks. Offenses can include but not are limited to excessive talking, disruptive behavior, profanity, disrespectfulness, lack of participation in the classroom, and intentional destruction to classroom equipment.

Performing Arts Department Disney Trip Consequence Plan

- I. Behavior Guidelines in Performance Classes (band, chorus, orchestra, or dance)
 - A. First Offense – Verbal Warning.
 - B. Second Offense – Behavior will be addressed on the school-wide behavior card.
 - C. Third Offense – The student is referred to an Administrator.
* If a student is given an administrative referral and given In-School Suspension in the performance class, the student will be denied permission to go on the trip and will be fully refunded the amount of money paid by parent minus the \$175.00 deposit. Fundraising money does not apply.

- II. Behavior Guidelines in all other classes
 - A. If a student receives ISS two times, they will not be permitted to attend the spring trip and will be fully refunded the amount of money paid by parent minus the \$175.00 deposit. Fundraising money does not apply.
 - B. If a student receives OSS in any class at any time during the school year, the student will not be permitted to attend the trip and will be fully refunded the amount of money paid by parent minus the \$175.00 deposit. Fundraising money does not apply.

INITIALS _____

Concert/Event/Rehearsal Attendance Policy

The band, chorus, orchestra, and dance 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 participate in Disney Performing Arts at Walt Disney World is a privilege and is considered a reward for the students' continued commitment to the Barber Middle School Performing Arts Programs. Students are expected to attend all extra-curricular rehearsals, clinics, symphonic camps, community performances, and concerts throughout the year. Please refer to your student's performing ensemble handbook for concerts, events, and extra rehearsals that have been scheduled for the year. Mandatory before and after school rehearsals will be held so that the group of students who are attending the trip may rehearse together. These dates will be scheduled after student contracts have been received. Failure to participate in the above performances will result in your student losing trip eligibility,

INITIALS _____

BMS Performing Arts Grade Policy

In addition to behavior and attendance, it is very important that your student be proficient in the standards being taught daily in our classrooms. There is an audition process to be accepted to participate in the Disney's Performing Arts Programs; Walt Disney World only accepts groups of the highest quality. Should a student not maintain a "B" (80 % or higher) average in their performing class, the student will not be allowed to attend the trip. Progress reports are sent home at the midpoint of the Nine Weeks and grades are updated frequently (and can be viewed using SYNERGY). Should you have a concern or question about your student's grade, please make it a priority to contact your child's director so that we can provide insight and assistance before the grade goes on a report card.

Our department is excited and looking forward to our upcoming trip to Orlando. Again, more information and details will be coming home the closer we get to the trip date. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at 770-975-6764.

Please sign and return the contract portion of this letter as well as the \$175 deposit is NO LATER than Friday, September 5th. ***Failure to submit the initial deposit to secure a students' place on the trip by the above date will be interpreted by the directors that a student is no longer attending the trip.*** A copy of this contract will be provided to you after your initial deposit is received.

Sincerely,

Robert Grogan
Michael Cahal

Lisa Davidson

Mark Burroughs

Jenna Smith

Band Directors

Choral Director

Orchestra Director

Dance Director

Spring Trip Student Contract
Due Friday September 5th

My child, _____, and I have read and accept the guidelines as stated for the BMS Performing Arts Department Trip on May 13-17, 2015, and I have initialed agreeing to the Behavioral, Concert/Event Attendance, and Grading Policies regarding this trip. I understand that \$175 is due no later than September 5th.

*****All Fields Required*****

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Printed Name

Parent Phone Number

Parent Email

Student Signature

Date

* If you are interested in chaperoning the Disney trip, please check the box and sign below. Because chaperoning a trip of this magnitude requires a lot of work, our department will pay a portion of the cost of the trip for all chaperones. This amount cannot be determined until the student participation number has been finalized. Please note that chaperones will be required to ride the bus as well as stay in the hotel with our students. Keep in mind that all chaperones will be randomly selected based on the number of students attending the trip. Indicating your interest does not guarantee a chaperone position.

_____ YES! I would like to be considered for a trip chaperone this year!

_____ (Printed Name)

_____ (Signature)