

Choir Tour 2018! You're invited!

29 September 2017

Dear BFHS Choir Parents and Students,

It is with great pleasure and excitement that we invite you to participate in "Choir Tour 2018"! This will be our 4th annual tour to California. Tour is a great opportunity to grow and learn as musicians and as a choir.

In years past, specific choirs have been invited on tour. This year, we have decided that we would like to extend the invitation to all choir members. Two choirs will be formed from those members choosing to go. One will be for high school students, and the other will be for junior high students. These choirs will take part in a clinic at UCLA, a competitive festival where they will receive judge's comments and a rating, as well as a music workshop.

Students desiring to go on tour must be in good academic/behavior standing with their choir director as well as the school. Grades and behavior will be considered when you submit your tour commitment form. If a student has had significant behavior or academic issues in choir or other academic classes, he or she will not be permitted to attend tour. These decisions will be made by Mrs. Clegg, Miss Abney, Mrs. Bailey and BFHS Administration on a case by case basis.

Please see the attached itinerary for the details of this year's trip. The cost includes all workshops, activities, and a 2-day "Park Hopper Pass" to Disneyland and California Adventure, as well as breakfast each day. Students are responsible to provide money for lunches and dinners each day. A recommended amount for these lunches and dinners is \$80.00.

Fundraising opportunities will be available throughout the year to help students raise money for tour. Fundraising is never mandatory. Students are welcome to participate, but it is never required. These include:

- **Choir Gala:** a percentage of each ticket a student sells to the Gala will be applied to their tour cost.
- **Gold Canyon Candle Sale:** This will be held at the end of November just in time for the holidays. Students receive \$8/candle to apply to their tour cost.
- **Bake Sale:** the choir holds a bake sale every Friday in February. Students are welcome to bring in baked goods and all proceeds from their baked goods are applied to their tour cost.

Another way that many families pay for tour is through tax credits. Any resident of Arizona can donate tax credit money toward a student's tour cost. Married couples can donate up to \$400

per tax year and individuals can donate up to \$200 per tax year. **Forms for this donation are located in the front office and need to be submitted there.** Please notify your choir director if a tax credit is donated in the front office that is meant to be used for choir tour. Tax credit forms are included as a part of this packet. **Be sure to write your student's name and "Choir Tour" after their name, in addition to marking the box labeled choir.**

The cost for tour is \$525.00 per student. A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due on Monday, January 8th 2018. The remaining amount of \$425.00 is due on Friday, March 9th 2018. **All payments that are NOT fundraising OR Tax Credit are made through a payment portal set up by our tour company.** Fundraising money is collected through the choir boosters. Tax Credit donations are made in the BFHS Front Office. **Only tax credit donations can be made in the front office. No other money will be collected in the front office. If non-tax credit payments are made in the office, it will be the parent's responsibility to ask the school for a refund and submit the payment through the tour company's payment portal.**

We have been extremely fortunate to have had incredible chaperones join us on tour each year we have gone. Chaperones are essential to the safety, efficiency, and fun of tour! We are open to taking as many chaperones as we can fit on our buses. In past years we have taken between 10 and 15 chaperones. The cost for chaperones is \$525. There is a price increase if chaperones would like a single hotel room. Otherwise, the chaperone price is based on double occupancy. Chaperones are asked to travel on the bus with us to and from California, stay in the tour hotel (Ayres Anaheim), and participate in all tour activities for the duration of the tour. If you are interested in serving as a chaperone, please check the box on the tour commitment form that you turn in for your student. We will then contact all those interested and schedule a chaperone meeting. Chaperone and student payment deadlines are the same.

A Choir Tour 2018 parent interest meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9th in the choir room at BFHS. Please plan on attending this meeting if you have questions about tour or would like to hear about the itinerary and activities in more detail.

All interested students need to turn in a tour commitment form (included in this packet) by Friday, December 1st 2017. Money is not due at this time, but it is expected that if you turn in the commitment form, you plan on going on tour and paying the \$100 nonrefundable deposit on January 8th.

We are excited to have you join us on tour this year! Go Chargers!

Mrs. Amanda Clegg
Miss Haylee Abney
Mrs. Amy Bailey

BFHS Choirs

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CHARTER SCHOOL

Choir Tour 2018

School Address: 18864 E Germann Rd, Queen Creek, AZ 85142

Teacher Name: __Amanda Wolff Clegg__ School number: 480-558-1197

Teacher email: aclegg@bfcsmail.com

Departure Date & Time: 4/26/18 8 am

Return Date & Time 4/29/18 apx 5 am

	THURSDAY 4/26/2018	FRIDAY 4/27/2018	SATURDAY 4/28/2018	SUNDAY 4/29/2018
M o r n i n g	5:30 AM bus arrive at school Drive to LA	Breakfast at hotel	Breakfast at hotel Music in the Parks Festival	Arrive home at approximately 5:00 AM
A f t e r n o o n	Lunch stop in Thousand Palms 2:00 PM College Workshop UCLA	Disneyland & CA Adventure	Disneyland & CA Adventure Workshop	
E v e n i n g	Dinner at Farmers Market Griffith Observatory Ayres Anaheim	Disneyland & CA Adventure Ayres Anaheim	Disneyland & CA Adventure Depart for Phoenix	

*All of the activities listed in **BOLD** above are included in the price of this trip.*

*The price of the above stated trip is **\$525** per student

*The price of the above stated trip is **\$525** per adult

Project Exploration's Payment Policies:

*An initial non-refundable deposit of \$100 per paying participant is due apx 90 days prior to trip departure date on 1/8/18.

*FINAL payment and FINAL rooming lists are due about 40 days prior to trip departure date on 3/9/18. Final payment is non-refundable. If numbers increase after this date, the participant will only be able to participate based on availability and late fees might be incurred.

Tour Commitment Form
Due Friday, December 1st 2017
Please turn in to your choir director

Name _____ Choir _____

- I understand that by submitting this reservation form I am committing to attend the tour and pay the deposit and remaining balance on the designated due dates.
- I understand that I must be in good academic/behavior standing with my choir director as well as BFHS in order to attend Choir Tour 2018. If I am determined to not be in good standing by Mrs. Clegg, Miss Abney, Mrs. Bailey and BFHS Administration, I understand that I will not be permitted to attend tour and that reimbursement of any money paid is determined by the tour company.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

I am interested in being a chaperone, please notify me about the upcoming chaperone meeting at this email: _____.