



MUSIC IN THE PARKS

Busch Gardens, VA

MAY 10-11, 2019

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Attached please find important information about the upcoming Swanson Music Department trip to Busch Gardens, VA for the Music in the Parks Music Festival. As you know, the trip will take place May 10-11, 2019. Please read each of the following pages carefully and discuss this information with your child.

Please complete, sign and return to school.

- 1) Parental Authorization for Field Trip form
- 2) Authorization for Administration of Medication form
- 3) Student Behavior Form
- 4) Field Trip Luggage and Lodging Search Permission form

All forms must be returned to your music director by Monday, April 29, 2019.

♪ How to reach us during the trip in case of emergency:


Call or text Hanna Eun at 571-216-0414 (Trip Coordinator/Parent Volunteer). The address of our hotel is Wyndham Garden Hotel Busch Gardens Area, 201 Water Country Parkway, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

♪ Chaperones/Hotel Accommodations: There will be numerous adult chaperones on this trip that will accompany the students everywhere. There will be four students in each hotel room and students must stay in the rooms assigned. (They have all had the opportunity to select their roommates, and the lists we receive back from Music in the Parks are final.) Absolutely no coed visitation in hotel rooms will be allowed. Girls are not allowed on the boys' floor, and boys are not allowed on the girls' floor. Access to in-room pay-for-viewing movies will be blocked.


♪ Money: Students are responsible for any money they bring with them. The prepaid meals include Saturday's all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet and an all-you-can-eat picnic in the park. On the day of departure we will collect \$2.00 per student as a tip for the bus drivers. Students may want money to purchase something to eat at Busch Gardens before boarding the bus on Saturday to come home or to purchase snacks at the park during the day.


♪ Medications: Please refer to the enclosed "Student Medical/Emergency Information" form and the "Authorization for Administration of Medication" form. One staff person who is a nurse will be traveling with us and will be responsible for administration of medication. If your child regularly receives medical care for a chronic health problem, please put this information on the medical forms. Feel free to use the back of the forms if you need more space. Please turn in BOTH medical forms. Also, on the day of departure, be sure to remind your child to turn in any medication directly to the chaperone in charge on Friday,

May 11, in the Band Room when they bring their luggage in before school. At the end of the trip, any remaining medication can be retrieved when the band returns to Swanson.

 **Busch Gardens:** During our day in the park, a director/chaperone checkpoint site will be

established. Chaperones will rotate the responsibility for manning the station in shifts, and students will be able to find a chaperone or staff member there at any time. First aid will also be available at this site, and Busch Gardens has a fully equipped first aid area.

 **Rules:** Continuing our fine Swanson tradition, we expect to have a wonderful time. However, it is extremely important that all students understand the behavior expectations. Please review the student behavior form carefully with your child before signing and returning it. **Specifically, please note that the following actions are grounds for expulsion from this trip and further disciplinary action by Swanson/Arlington Public Schools: use of alcohol, narcotics, tobacco, entering hotel rooms of members of the opposite sex, endangering self or other group members/hotel guests/park visitors.**

 **Packing List:** Please help your child adhere to the packing list. With this large group and so many instruments, we have limited space on the buses for suitcases. Each student should bring only one small suitcase and a small backpack for the bus ride or park day. Please remind your child that after the student packs his/her suitcase Saturday morning at the hotel, the suitcase will be stowed under the bus and will not be available to the student again until we arrive back at Swanson. They must take anything they will need during the day in the park with them Saturday morning. Also, please remember to check weather forecasts immediately before the trip and adjust packing accordingly.

If you have any other questions, please contact us. Thank you for all your support. We look forward to another wonderful music trip that will be safe and fun for everyone!

Paul J. Norris

Thomas Hartman

PACKING LIST FOR BUSCH GARDENS TRIP

Please put everything in a small suitcase; cargo space on the buses is limited. You may bring a backpack to keep with you, which you may want to have on the bus and in the park for a change of clothes (after the water rides!) or to hold any souvenirs you purchase.

MANDATORY PACKING:

Dress uniform for performance:

Gentlemen: black pants, white button-down collar shirt, black shoes, black socks, cummerbund and bow tie

Ladies: black (appropriate length) skirt or pants, white shirt/blouse with collar, black shoes with appropriate hosiery, cummerbund and bow tie for girls in band

Clothes for Saturday at Busch Gardens:

- Everyone must wear a Swanson Music Department T-shirt & blue jeans or blue jean shorts
- Rain poncho/jacket (be sure to put it into your backpack on Saturday)
- Undergarments
- Sleepwear
- Toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, brush/comb, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, etc
- Money: \$2 for bus driver tip + *optional* spending money for Busch Gardens on Saturday.
- Prescribed medications: These must be accompanied by directions on the medical form. You may also bring aspirin/Tylenol/other over-the-counter medications (see medical form), but these must also be turned in to the first-aid chaperone Friday morning upon arrival at Swanson.

EXTRAS YOU MAY WANT TO BRING:

- Sunscreen (very important for day in park)
- Hat (for park, awards ceremony, parade – all outdoors)
- Extra t-shirt and pants for the trip home (packed separately to leave on bus on Saturday)
- Light jacket or sweatshirt in case it is cool
- Camera
- Books, cards and/or small games for the bus trip
- Plastic bag(s) for toiletries, wet and dirty clothes
- Snacks in zip lock bags or containers (for the bus both ways or in the hotel room). Please have snacks that aren't so likely to be ground into the rug on the floor of the chartered bus; for example, no crumbly moist brownies. NO SODA CANS ARE ALLOWED ON THE BUS
- Cell-phones, iPods, etc. are allowed, **but** chaperones and directors will not be held responsible for loss, breakage or theft

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYTHING YOU BRING WITH YOU!!! KEEP TRACK OF YOUR SUITCASE/INSTRUMENT/BACKPACK! Please have name-tags on all luggage and instrument cases!!

IMPORTANT REMINDER – ALL STUDENTS MUST FOLLOW ARLINGTON COUNTY RULES CONCERNING FIELD TRIPS. FAILURE TO OBSERVE THESE RULES WILL CONSTITUTE GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL FROM THE TRIP AND POTENTIAL FURTHER ACTION BY THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR FORM – Busch Gardens, May 10-11, 2019

The trip to the “Music In the Parks” competition in Busch Gardens, PA has been well planned and follows Arlington Public School guidelines for trips of this nature. Since the students travel under the auspices of Swanson Middle School and Arlington Public Schools, they will be subject to school regulations for the entire trip. All students are expected to honor mandatory meeting times without exception. Alcoholic beverages and drugs of any nature, including tobacco, must not be brought or used on this trip. Parents of students taking prescription drugs must indicate their child's medication and dosage on the medical forms, and students may not carry prescription medications. They must give their medications to the designated chaperone upon arrival at the band room at school on Friday, May 10, 2019. The trip nurse will distribute the medication as directed by the instructions on the medical form. Finally, by signing this form all students agree to respect and obey the chaperones who will be accompanying the band on this trip, as well as to respect each other.

The staff members who are accompanying Swanson instrumental music groups will discipline any student who violates the guidelines of the trip. Swanson supervising staff members reserve the right to contact parents at any time during the trip to discuss violations of rules by their child. Should a situation warrant removing a student from the trip, parents will be expected to pick up or arrange and pay for air/bus transportation from Busch Gardens, PA to Washington, DC for their child.

As on past Swanson trips, we expect that all students will live up to our expectations for their behavior. This competition will be a valuable experience for all of the students involved and we look forward to sharing this opportunity with them. Your cooperation and support are very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Norris

PLEASE READ THE STATEMENT ABOVE AND SIGN BELOW. RETURN TO YOUR DIRECTOR BY April 29, 2019.

PARENT/GUARDIAN

I have read the above and fully understand and agree to the conditions stated on this form.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

