

JCDS CHORUS & BAND

MUSIC USA FESTIVAL at UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

FRIDAY, APRIL 13th, 2012

Dear Chorus & Band Parents,

The Chorus and Band will be participating in the annual Music USA Festival at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida. Please mark your calendars for this all-day event on Friday, April 13th, 2012. We will be competing against other elementary schools and even middle and high schools. We will perform in front of a panel of judges at Universal Studios in the morning and then spend most of the day at Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure theme parks! We hope your child will be able to be a part of this exciting experience. This is one trip you don't want your child to miss! It is very rewarding to have the opportunity to perform in front of judges and get their valuable feedback on the spot.

Please return the attached Permission Slip, check (if needed), and Behavior Expectations form to Mrs. Bowen before February 23rd.

Sincerely,

Virginia Dickert

Music Specialist
vdickert@jcds.com
904-641-6644

&

Stacy Bowen

Fine Arts Coordinator
sbowen@jcds.com
904-418-5064

&

Chrystal Staples

Band Director
kcstaples@netscape.com
904-716-0928

COSTS

(checks ONLY - payable to JCDS, NO CASH)

Chorus Members	PAID already with Chorus fee (includes park admission, festival fee, performance wristband, & t-shirt)
Band Members	\$130.00 each (includes park admission, festival fee, performance wristband, & t-shirt)
Adults & Siblings	\$75.00 each (includes park admission and performance wristband)

*Students who are in both Chorus and Band do not need to pay because they have paid through the Chorus fee.

If you and/or your Chorus/Band Member have an **ANNUAL PASS** to Universal Studios or Islands of Adventure (NOT a military ticket, on-line ticket, AAA ticket or discount ticket) then you may pay a discounted fee from what is listed above. Mrs. Bowen must have a copy of your annual pass, clearly showing the photo and name of the pass holder as well as a copy of your driver's license. Please contact Mrs. Bowen, sbowen@jcds.com, for the discounted fee amounts if you or your student has one of these passes.

DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 2012

Turn in CHECK (if needed), PERMISSION SLIP & BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS to Mrs. Bowen.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

The day of the trip, your child must bring enough additional money for lunch and dinner in the parks.

EXPRESS PASS RULE: Express Passes are not allowed unless everyone in the designated group can purchase one.

MUSIC USA T-SHIRT

Each student participant will be given a Music USA t-shirt to be worn in the parks. This t-shirt is mandatory to be worn by all Chorus and Band members. T-shirts will be given out during the last Chorus and Band rehearsal before the trip.

CHAPERONES

We need to have 20 OFFICIAL chaperones. Chaperones MUST agree to ride on the buses to and from Orlando and cannot have other children to care for on the trip. Each chaperone will be in charge of a group of 4-5 students in the parks. It is most likely that additional parents (non-chaperones) will be with each group as well. The sign-up for this privilege is first-come, first-serve, however we will need an equal number of parents from each grade level if possible. If you wish to be one of our "official" chaperones please contact Stacy Bowen, sbowen@jcds.com. All students will be assigned an Official Chaperone.

BUSES

We require that all students **must** ride the bus TO Orlando with the rest of the group. This ensures that all students are accounted for and are on time for the competition. It IS possible that your family may choose to stay in Orlando and not ride the bus back to JCDS. We request that you notify Mrs. Bowen prior to the trip if this is your plan. That way we know not to wait on your student at the end of the day.

****ENTRANCE TO SEE PERFORMANCE – IMPORTANT ****

ALL adults, (chaperone or not) and ALL NON-CHORUS/BAND children who come on this trip **MUST** purchase park admission with *performance wristbands* THROUGH JCDS by the deadline if they want to see the chorus and band perform in front of the judges. This is a policy of MUSIC USA. Even though you may already have a ticket to Universal, it will not grant you access into the behind-the-scenes sound stage where the chorus and band will perform. The *performance wristband* is what gets you into the sound stage performance.

SCHEDULE

5:30-5:45 AM	Meet at JCDS (Eat breakfast early!)	11:30 AM	Go to buses and change clothes
6:00 AM	Buses depart from JCDS	12:00 PM	Enter parks
8:30 AM	Arrive at Sound Stage 33		[Eat lunch and dinner in parks.]
9:30 AM	Chorus Performance	7:00 PM	Go to buses in Bus Parking
10:00 AM	Soloist Performances	7:30 PM	Buses depart
10:30 AM	Band Performance	10:30 PM	Arrive home to JCDS (approximate)