

Plano West Orchestra Orlando Trip April 22-26, 2020

Every two years, the Plano West Orchestra travels out of state. This spring is our year, and we will be going to Orlando, FL to visit Disney World and Universal Studios (including Harry Potter world). We will leave after school on April 22, and return Sunday evening on the 26th. Students will miss two day of school (April 23 and 24), but because this is a school trip, these will **not** count against attendance or final exam exemption. On our trip, students will participate in a studio recording session with Disney conductors. In this session, we'll learn how the studio recording process works, and we will even record a soundtrack for a cartoon. This will be a very exciting and educational event, and one that I am certain will be a lifelong memory for all who attend.

Participation in the trip does not affect a student's grade in orchestra. However, students report that our Disney trip is one of their favorite memories from West, so I hope you will all carefully consider attending! We have a hard limit of 162 students to attend the trip, so that is granted first come first served by turning in the contract and deposit.

Cost: The total cost of the trip will be about \$1450.00 dollars, with a small variance higher or lower depending on the number of students who attend. This may be paid in a single payment or in installments. **Students will also have the opportunity to fundraise credits towards their trip cost.** A deposit of \$242 dollars will be due September 20 for those who wish to attend. Subsequent installment payments are shown below, but you may make payments quicker if desired.

SEPTEMBER 20 - \$242 deposit (\$175 is non-refundable)

OCTOBER 25 - \$242

NOVEMBER 21 – \$242

DECEMBER 15 - \$242

JANUARY 24 - \$242

FEBRUARY 21 - \$240 May be slightly higher or lower depending on final trip numbers.

Any money a student fundraises may be used to decrease any payment. **Track your balance on Cut-Time.**

What is Included? Hotel accommodations at Port Orleans French Quartet hotel at Disney World, daily meals (except while traveling), airfare, bus transfer to the airport from Plano West, bus transfer in Orlando, entry tickets at Disney, Recording Session with CD, Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure (including Harry Potter land).

What is not included? Dinner the night we depart, lunch and dinner on Sunday, spending money in the parks, travel from the airport back to Plano West (pickup will need to be arranged at the airport).

Eligibility: Students must be passing all their classes in accordance with the State UIL No Pass / No Play rule. This means that it is possible that you pay for the trip and your child does not get to go. If they fail during the 3rd quarter, there will be some opportunity to regain eligibility before the trip, however, the best way to guarantee attendance is by passing third quarter.

Students must also have fulfilled or be fulfilling their financial obligation to the orchestra. Students must have either paid their orchestra fees, or be making regular scheduled payments towards their orchestra fees, to be eligible to sign up for or attend the spring trip.

Security: Security and conduct will be of the utmost importance during this trip. Students will be under very strict rules regarding conduct in public and in the hotel. Chaperones will be closely monitoring student activity at all times, and students found to be in violation of major rules may risk immediate expulsion from the trip group, discipline at school, and referral to the justice system. **A security guard will be hired to patrol our hotel room blocks each night.**

Refund Policy: \$175 of your deposit is non-refundable, regardless of why you may need to cancel your participation in the trip. This includes a student who becomes academically ineligible. The amount of refund you receive is based on when you notify a teacher in writing that you will not attend the trip.

Until 12/13/19: Cancellation fee is forfeiture of your \$150 deposit and nothing more.

12/14/19 to 1/24/20: Cancellation fee is forfeiture of your deposit plus \$75.00

1/25/20 to 2/20/20: Cancellation fee is forfeiture of your deposit plus \$100.00, plus any additional charges levied by various tour operators.

2/21/20 to 3/2/20: Cancellation fee is forfeiture of your deposit plus \$200.00, plus any additional charges levied by various tour operators.

After March 3, 2020: No refunds can be given.

Details: This information page is not comprehensive. If your child attends the spring trip, you will be receiving a highly detailed information packet with all the information you will want to know. All students and families will also be required to attend a trip meeting at **7pm on April 15** in the Plano West Presentation Room (building A). Until that time, you are welcome to contact me with any questions you may have at ryan.ross@pisd.edu.

Please sign the attached contract, attach your deposit, and return to Mr. Ross on or before September 20. Trip payments should be met either through fundraising or individual payments *unless other arrangements are being made with Mr. Ross*. All checks should be written to Plano West Orchestra Boosters. Payments may also be made online through the Cheddar-Up link on planowestorchestra.com

Feel free to make a copy of the contract before turning it in. Thank you for your support of the Plano West High School Orchestra program this year. We appreciate the important role our orchestra parents play in the success of our music students.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ross
Plano West Orchestra Director
ryan.ross@pisd.edu

Amy Gross
PWSH Associate Orchestra Director
amy.gross@pisd.edu

Spring Trip Contract

I intend to allow my child, _____, to participate in the 2020 orchestra spring trip to Orlando. By declaring my intent, I acknowledge having read, understood, and agreed to those facts outlined in the information sheet and re-stated below:

- 1) I will adhere to the payment schedule, or I will pay off the trip faster. A current trip balance is also available on Charms. If I have questions about my child's balance, I will contact the booster club treasurer. The total trip cost is approximately \$1,450.00.
- 2) I understand that once a payment is made, refunds may only be made as outlined above. I also understand that \$175 of the deposit is non-refundable, regardless of when cancellation is made.
- 3) I understand my child cannot attend the trip if they are academically ineligible. If they are academically ineligible and cannot attend the trip, the student will receive some valuable items from the trip such as meal vouchers and park tickets to be used at a later time, but no guarantee can be made as to the ability of the student to use those items outside of the group travel dates.
- 4) I understand my child cannot attend the trip if their orchestra fee is not paid or is not being paid off in some sort of regular payment plan.
- 5) I understand that if my child is involved in a serious enough infraction, they may be sent home early from the trip at the child's family's expense, or they may be subject to additional discipline at school or in the justice system.

Student Name _____ Class Period _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Name Printed _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Your deposit of \$242 must be included with this contract. Checks should be made out to Plano West Orchestra Boosters. Alternatively, online payment can be made through the Cheddar-Up link at planowestorchestra.com

Are you interested in serving as a chaperone for this trip? If so, you will be sent additional information to review. By selecting Yes, you have not yet been selected as a chaperone. You are only indicating your wish to be considered. The cost for a chaperone will be \$725.00. Please circle one.

YES, send me details

NO thank you