

19 March 2010

Dear Music Parents:

Plans for our trip to Toronto are almost finalized and we are eager to get going! Included in this letter is an itinerary, information about where we will be staying, transportation, and other things you will want to keep on hand until we return. It is imperative that you sign and return the behavioral contract, permission form, and medical release form (BOTH SIDES). **Please sign and return these forms by Tuesday, March 30.**

We will be traveling by motor coach to Toronto. The company we will be using is **Hunt Valley Motor Coach**. They are located in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Their phone number is 410-584-7377.

While in Toronto we will be staying at the:

**Crowne Plaza Toronto Don Valley  
1250 Eglinton Avenue East  
Toronto, ON M3C 1J3, Canada  
1-877-474-6835**

Our procedures for departure are as follows:

- Students are to bring their packed bags to the band and chorus rooms on Wednesday 14 April 2010 no later than 7:30AM. Students will then proceed to class for the remainder of the day. We will be making an inspection of these bags and their contents during the school day.
- We will be departing from Good Counsel at **10:00PM on Wednesday 14 April 2010. Students should arrive at Good Counsel no later than 9PM** to load the buses.

Our plans for returning are as follows:

- We will depart Toronto early on Sunday, 18 April, 2010 arriving at Good Counsel around 6PM. The choir group returning from Ithaca should arrive around 5PM.
- Early Sunday morning, we will update the marquee on our website, [www.goodcounselmusic.org](http://www.goodcounselmusic.org), as well as send all parents of trip participants an email with a more specific arrival time at GC so you will not have to wait for your child in the event that we are running behind schedule. We will also encourage students to use their cell phones to call you on our way home. Please plan to arrive at GC at or before our return time. **Please make sure we have your correct email address in our database!**

As a part of the terms of participation in this trip, it is important that students and their families are aware that this trip is a school sponsored function and that we are traveling as representatives of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. Consequently, all the rules and regulations in the student handbook will be enforced throughout the trip. Students are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior at all times. Students are reminded that included in this are:

1. Displays of affection and sexually promiscuous behavior are inappropriate at any time.
2. Students are expected to be kind, courteous and respectful of all individuals on the trip, as well as those we encounter on the trip.
3. Students are expected to comply with the requests of *all* chaperones.

To be especially noted is that the school's policy states that the possession, use and/or distribution of any prohibited, controlled or illegal drug, including alcohol will result in immediate suspension and possible expulsion. Any student who exhibits obvious signs or behavior of being under the influence of alcohol or any other illegal substance will face these sanctions.

**Anyone caught disobeying any of the following rules will be immediately sent home by common carrier at the parent's expense and will face the consequences of disciplinary procedures. These procedures may include, but are not limited to, not being allowed to attend the prom and/or graduation ceremonies.**

1. No possession, use and/or distribution of any prohibited, controlled or illegal drug, including alcohol.
2. No smoking or use of tobacco products at any time.
3. Students are not permitted to be in the hotel rooms of students of the opposite gender at any time. Additionally, at no time may students be on the floors of the hotel where members of the opposite sex are housed.
4. Curfew is at 11:00 pm unless otherwise announced. Students are expected to be in their rooms at 11:00 pm and may not leave without the permission of a chaperone until after wake-up the following morning.
5. Students who knowingly facilitate or cover for students breaking any of the above rules are subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the directors.

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School is a place of honor. Students witnessing violations of rules are expected to report these violations to a chaperone in order to protect the integrity of our school. The behavior of one person reflects upon the entire group. We are all responsible of the positive image of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School.

In the event of an illness that requires any student to be returned home, the family will cover the cost of transportation for both the student and, in the case of need, a chaperone as well as all medical and other associated expenses.

We firmly believe that it is our responsibility to create an atmosphere on this trip that promotes a successful performance, as well as a safe and enjoyable time by all. If you have any questions about these policies, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would be happy to discuss any issues or concerns you may have about the trip.

Sincerely,

Brett D Taylor  
Band Director

Richard A. Slocum  
Band Director

Stanley A. Spottswood  
Chorus Director

# What Do I Need To Bring?

**Students need to plan ahead when preparing for the trip. The things they must bring are as follows:**

1. Their instrument, music and any other equipment they need to successfully perform.
2. Complete concert dress packed in a hanging bag, which will be checked out to the student before we leave. This includes black dress shoes and socks, cufflinks, etc.
3. Choir members must bring dress clothes (shirt and tie for boys, dresses or dress slacks for girls) for the performance day.
3. No more than two pieces of luggage. This includes a carry-on bag for the bus ride. Students will be carrying their own luggage and cannot handle more than two bags in addition to concert dress and instrument. **All luggage and bags must be clearly labeled or tagged with the student's name.**
4. Included in the trip price are all meals from breakfast on Thursday through lunch on Sunday and admission fees to all attractions. Students may want to have some extra money on hand for incidentals and shopping, if they plan on doing any in Toronto.
5. One nice outfit (no jeans or t-shirts), to be worn to church on Saturday evening.

**Items that we recommend that students bring with them:**

1. A pillow and a sweater. Busses are usually cold. The “layered” approach is the best solution to this problem.
2. An iPod or other personal entertainment items will help to keep students occupied during the bus ride.
3. Some appropriate snacks for the bus. Please no glass bottles or coolers.
4. Casual clothing must not have offensive or distasteful logos or writing. Students will be asked to change if chaperones find their clothing inappropriate.
5. Check the weather and bring appropriate clothing. The hotel does have an indoor pool.

# Itinerary

*Wednesday 14 April 2010*

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| -7:30am  | Students drop off luggage in room 132/133        |
|          | Students report to classes.                      |
| -9:00pm  | Buses arrive, students report and begin loading. |
| -10:00pm | Depart for Toronto                               |

*Thursday 15 April 2010*

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| -9:00am  | Arrive in Niagara Falls, Journey Behind the Falls. |
| -11:00am | Depart for Toronto, Lunch at Hard Rock Café        |
| -2:00pm  | Band, Choir, Orchestra clinics, TBD                |
| -4:00pm  | Hotel arrival and check-in                         |
| -6:00pm  | Dinner at the hotel and REST!!                     |
| -11:00pm | Curfew   |

*Friday 16 April 2010*

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| -6:30am         | Good morning! Breakfast at hotel.  |
| -7:00am         | Choirs depart for performances   |
| -8:00am to 11AM | Choir performances @ York University   |
| -11:30am        | Choir returns to hotel then departs for Ithaca College (*see Ithaca itinerary below) |
| -12:00pm        | Bands depart for performances  |
| -1:00pm to 6PM  | Band performances @ U. of Toronto  |
| -6:00pm         | Band returns to hotel, then departs for Blue Jays Baseball game (dinner @ game)      |
| -12:00am        | Return to hotel, curfew  |

*Saturday 17 April 2010*

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| - 7:00am | Wake up! Breakfast at hotel                  |
| - 8:00am | Depart for CN Tower                          |
| - 9:00am | CN Tower Tour                                |
| -10:00am | All About Toronto, Step-On Tour              |
| -12:00pm | Lunch and shopping at Eaton Centre           |
| -3:15pm  | Awards ceremony and dinner at Medieval Times |
| -6:00pm  | Evening Mass @ TBD                           |
| -8:00pm  | Return to hotel, pack                        |
| -11:00pm | Curfew                                       |

*Sunday 18 April 2010*

|          |                               |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| -6:00am  | Breakfast at hotel            |
| -7:00am  | Check out and depart for home |
| -12:00pm | Lunch en route                |
| -6:00pm  | Arrive at Good Counsel        |

# **\*Ithaca Gospel Festival Itinerary**

While in Ithaca we will be staying at the:

**Clarion Hotel  
1 Sheraton Drive  
Ithaca, NY  
607.257.2000**

*Friday 16 April 2010*

-12:30pm  
-5:00pm  
-6:00pm  
-9:30pm

Choir bus departs Toronto for Ithaca College  
Arrive at Ithaca College, dinner  
Rehearsal  
Return to hotel

*Saturday 17 April 2010*

-7:30am  
-8:30am  
-9:15am  
-11:30am  
-1:00pm  
-5:30pm  
-8:15pm  
-11:00pm

Wake-up  
Breakfast  
Rehearsal  
Lunch  
Rehearsal  
Dinner  
Concert  
Return to hotel, curfew

*Sunday 18 April 2010*

-7:30am  
-8:30am  
-12:00pm  
-5:00pm (approx.)

Wake up, breakfast  
Depart for GC  
Lunch en route  
Arrive at GC

# Band/Chorus Trip Agreement Form II

Please sign and return this form by Tuesday, March 30, 2010.

I have read the information letter about the trip to Toronto/Ithaca and agree to support and abide by all rules and regulations stated in it. I understand that I/we are responsible for any costs incurred by the student during the trip.

Students Name (PLEASE PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL**

**FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORM**

Please complete both sides of this form

The parents/guardians of \_\_\_\_\_ request that he/she be allowed to participate in the field trip to Toronto/Ithaca College (choir only) on April 14-18, 2010 sponsored by the Music Department (Group or Moderator).

**By signing below, I also give permission for my child to cross the border into Canada and cross back into the United States as a part of this school organization.**

Transportation for the field trip will be:

- 1. School bus or motorcoach
- 2. Public transportation
- 3. As a passenger in the moderator's or chaperone's personal car.
- 4. Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that the rules of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School as stated in the Student Handbook are in effect at all times during the trip.

As a parent/guardian I agree to:

- 1. Release and discharge Our Lady of Good Counsel High School and its employees from any liability resulting from any claims of action for personal injury or medical expenses that may arise from the transportation described above;
- 2. Not hold liable Our Lady of Good Counsel High School for any injurious actions endured on the part of my son/daughter while he/she is on the field trip.
- 3. Release the school from any negligence liability.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of parent/guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**PLEASE COMPLETE OTHER SIDE**

# MEDICAL ATTENTION RELEASE FORM

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Name of Student:  | City/State of Birth: |
| Name of Parents/Guardians:  |                      |
| Address:  |                      |
| Home Phone:   |                      |
| Work Phone:   |                      |
| Cell Phone:   |                      |
| Insurance Company:  |                      |
| Policy Number:  |                      |
| Any medical conditions (allergies, medications, illnesses, etc.):   |                      |
| <p>I, _____, give permission to any Our Lady of Good Counsel faculty/staff to allow medical attention for my child, _____, in the event of an emergency. I understand I will be notified of the incident; however, the faculty/staff member will serve as a consenting adult in my place.</p> |                      |
| _____<br>(Signature of parent/guardian)   |                      |