

**Benton Community High School Choir Tour
Washington D.C. and New York City**

June 1 - June 8, 2009

ITINERARY
LIST OF CHAPERONES
WHAT TO TAKE
STUDENT RULES
CONTINGENCY PLANS
HEALTH PLANS

Hotel addresses

Washington D.C.

Key Bridge Marriott

1401 Lee Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22209
United States
Phone (703) 524-6400
Fax (703) 524-8964

New York City

Salisbury Hotel

123 W 57th St
New York, NY 10019
(212) 246-1300

CHOIR TOUR ADULTS

John Hayden
Jennifer Hayden
Buddy Maddox Jr.
Laura Maddox
Brenda Schanbacher
Brent Hodnefield
James Offt
Mitch Glunz
Christy Hodnefield
Joan Offt
Cindy Glunz
Brian Brittain

Alyssa Stoddard
Suzie Lange
Colleen Hammes
Cindy Stoddard
Trent DeNeve
Mary Horst
Michelle Lampkin
Wendy DeNeve
Bonnie Lueckenotto
Patrick Lampkin
Stella Wolter
Cindy Reinberg

Buddy Maddox Sr.
Kim Schroder
Andrea Nolan
Jewell Maddox
Lori Kithcart
Alan Gessner
Tim Harbach
Kelynn Schulte
Linda Gessner
Brenda Harbach
Becky Junge
Cathy Peddicord

Emergency Numbers: Cedar Valley World Travel (Bus Company) **319-540-3343**
Emergency Cell phone (319-721-9298)
Hotel Numbers: See Above

Benton Community High School Washington D.C. and New York City Choir Tour

INTINERARY

ALL TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Monday, June 1

8:00am	All luggage on stage. ALL luggage including carry on's will be checked. MARK YOUR NAME CLEARLY ON THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR LUGGAGE. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A LUGGAGE TAG, USE MASKING TAPE.
8:30-9:30	Chaperones arrive, Luggage check, Seniors need to leave building,
9:45am	Chaperones find seats on bus
10:15am	Students load luggage on busses, then board Tri-State Coaches
10:30am	Depart for Washington D.C. SACK lunch (bring your own), we will stop for dinner only. Overnight on coach
10:00 p.m.	Driver switch in Elyria, Ohio

Tuesday, June 2

Early morning	Arrive in Germantown, P.A., chance to wash face, brush teeth, comb hair etc. @ McDonald's Mid-morning arrival in Washington D.C. Tour Newseum Lunch Newseum
11:30	Leave Newseum for Holocaust Museum
1:45pm	Leave Holocaust Museum
2:00pm	United States Capitol Tour arrival
5:00pm	Leave and travel to Pentagon Memorial
7:00pm	Arrive at hotel, bus driver's break Chaperones in charge of your kids at hotel, or Mall, etc... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evening activity/Dinner: Pentagon City Shopping (shuttle bus at hotel if you want...must be with a chaperone)• or stay at hotel and swim, order pizza...?? 9:30 return from Mall, 11:00 room check (you'll WANT to be in bed, trust me!!) hired security for evening hall duty beginning at midnight.

Wednesday, June 3 (Wear your Daisy Gold tour shirts on this day)

Breakfast in the hotel, at your own cost, if you wish. Otherwise, bring food from home.	
7:30am	Leave hotel for Arlington National Cemetery
9:45am	Leave for National Cathedral
10:15am	Tour National Cathedral
11:30am	Leave for Smithsonian Museums (lunch there on your own. There is a great cafeteria at the Air and Space museum where we will drop off)
4:00pm	Pick up all students at the American History Museum White House Picture Stop
5:30pm	Leave for Star's Bistro 2120 P St., NW Washington, DC
6:00pm	Dinner at Star's Bistro (Included in trip cost)
Evening tour of Monuments Lincoln /Vietnam/Korean, WWII Memorial, FDR Memorial, Jefferson Memorial	
Overnight in D.C. - hired security for evening hall duty	

Thursday, June 4

Breakfast in the hotel, at your own cost, if you wish. Otherwise, bring food from home.

6:45am Load luggage on busses
7:15am Leave for Mount Vernon
8:00am Mount Vernon Tour (home of George Washington)
11:00am Leave for NYC, Get a snack or bring one with you

2:00pm LUNCH STOP (Plan accordingly) Woodrow Wilson Exit

Check into hotel - **EVERYONE TAKE YOUR OWN LUGGAGE. WE'RE GOING TO DECLINE THE LUGGAGE SERVICE**

Evening free MUST BE WITH A CHAPERONE... You can wander, shop, eat, etc...

Overnight in New York City

Friday, June 5

Everyone will go with their assigned group at a pre-determined time.

Free Day Opportunities include: NBC Studio Tours, Television tapings, Radio City Music Hall Tour, Central Park (Zoo, Boat Rentals, etc...), Shopping,

5:45pm Meet in the lobby to walk to dinner
6:00pm dinner @ Mars 2112 1633 Broadway at 51st
10 minute walk to "Mary Poppins"
8:00pm Broadway musical "**Mary Poppins**" 214 West 42nd Street
(Between Broadway and 7th Avenue)
11:00pm Group Picture in Times Square on the "TKTS" traffic island between 46th and 47th (Duffy Square). If a movie is shooting, go between 45th and 46th in front of Marriot Marquis.

Saturday June 6

Breakfast on your own

8:00am Riding tour of Lower Manhattan, finish at South street Seaport
Lunch at Southstreet Seaport
2:00pm Leave for some free time (with your "group") in Little Italy and Chinatown
4:30pm Depart from Little Italy area for "The Beast",
5:00pm The Beast Boat Ride (You'll get wet!)
6:00pm Back to hotel...dinner on your own with chaperone
8:00pm Broadway Musical "In the Heights"
Richard Rodgers Theatre - 226 West 46th Street -

Sunday, June 7 (Pack your Green NYC Tour shirt for after church)

9:00am Load luggage on busses
9:45am Leave
10:30am Church in Chinatown (Choir will sing, boys in ties, girls in skirts or dresses)
• True Light Church 195 Worth Street, New York, NY
• We will sing "Thy Will Be Done" and "This Little Light"
Eat lunch in Chinatown or Little Italy
1:15pm Leave Chinatown
1:30pm Arrive at Battery Park...Be with Chaperones for Ferry Boat
Statue of Liberty (choir will sing National Anthem) and Ellis Island
2:45 (approx) Tour at Statue of Liberty (Conf. #), Ferry to Ellis Island
AT THE LATEST...Catch the 5:00 ferry from Ellis Island back to battery park
5:30pm busses load at Battery Park
5:45pm Dinner at Southstreet Seaport
7:15pm leave for Home

Monday, June 8

Arrive in Van Horne late afternoon (Approx. 3:00)... you can call home to your parents at our last rest stop to give a more accurate time

Benton Community Choir Tour

WHAT TO TAKE

EVERYONE:

One Large Suitcase, no more

One overnight bag, no more

A pillow and blanket for the bus ride

You will not need your tuxedo, or black dress

One garment bag (if desired), no more

Girls: Reminder: More security checks...only take necessities with you when touring, leave purse and big bags...they will be checked everywhere we go and will really slow things up.

These things are not allowed in the many of the D.C. touring spots.

- Aerosol and non-aerosol sprays
- Cans and bottles
- Oversized suitcases, duffle bags, and oversized backpacks
- Knives of any length, razors, and box cutters
- Mace and pepper spray

Clothing

Dress comfortably for the bus trip. Be presentable when we get off the bus for meal stops.

Decent school clothes are appropriate for most of the touring excursions. Dress clothes will be necessary for the church performances, (no sweatshirts). You will be representing your school on tour, therefore you will not be allowed to wear clothing that would be unacceptable at school (Big Johnson, beer logos, offensive garb, etc... Shirt and Tie for boys for Broadway shows and Church. Girls - Skirts or Dresses.

Have things you will need on the trip in a **SMALL** bag which will be kept on the bus with you on the way to DC. **SMALL** coolers are permitted but you have a responsibility to keep things neat on the bus. **You will not be able to get your luggage until after we have arrived at the hotel after an entire day of touring in DC**, so pack smart! ***A clean bus is a happy bus!!*** This is your home for an entire week, and none of us want to ride around in a smelly or messy bus! Let's make sure we keep a trash bag circulating around and keep it clean!!

There are also a number of items that should **NOT** be brought on the trip. ANY item of extreme value should not be brought. If you choose to ignore this advice, don't be shocked or come crying to a chaperone if it gets lost or stolen. If you bring it with you it is your responsibility to keep track of it. This would include expensive cameras, jewelry, expensive watches etc. **The less you bring with you, the less you will have to carry around when we tour.** We've been told that the kind of gum that has a metallic backing on it and the gum "pops" out of the back, may set off some alarms in D.C. and New York.

Start making a list of necessities today and start checking them off as you pack them.

Money

You will need money for approximately 16-17 meals. You may want to bring some breakfast food with you to avoid that cost. Also bring any spending money you think you may need (look through the itinerary for ideas about spending money). **I would highly recommend you bring traveler's checks rather than cash. These checks will be honored anywhere you go, just like cash, but can be cancelled and refunded to you if they are lost or stolen.** There will be multiple opportunities to buy souvenirs also. The following are included in your tour package and items for which you will not need money. These include 2 Broadway tickets, Riding tour in Manhattan, security guards, Circle Island Boat Tour, Smithsonian, Mount Vernon, Arlington, Ferry tickets to Statue of Liberty, 2 Dinners in New York, One Dinner in Washington D.C., bus cost, hotel cost. \$225-\$250 would probably be enough spending money. More or less would obviously be an individual choice.

Plan on a \$5.00 contribution to your bus driver as a gift. This gift will go to the driver that spends time with us in D.C. and New York. Your chaperone will collect this money on the way to D.C. Each bus will have a card they will sign and will present the gift to the driver as he leaves us on the way home from New York.

Hotel Fees

Movies will be shut off. Room to room phone calls will be free, but any other local calls will cost you. **Collect calls to home will cost you also**, even an 1-800 calling card will cost you. Just use the pay phone in the lobby.

IF SOMETHING IN YOUR ROOM IS DAMAGED AND NO ONE TAKES RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT, EVERYONE IN THE ENTIRE ROOM WILL POOL THEIR MONEY TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGE!!! NO EXCEPTIONS

On the bus:

Eating on the bus is a privilege to ensure efficient travel. The trip will begin with this privilege however, the bus driver has the right to revoke that privilege at any time. This would mean our food stops would have to last twice as long because we would have to eat at the restaurant. The bus driver will do this if he feels we are not using the garbage bags.

Be prompt for all departures, no exceptions. One person can hold up an entire trip and this is not fair. TO BE ON TIME IS TO BE EARLY

You must ride the **same bus** at ALL times. Roll takers should check roll before each departure. You will count off by number after everywhere we stop.

Upon arrival at all stopping places, stay on the bus until instructions are given by the director and chaperones.

Keep noise and movement to a minimum. **No stereos, CD players or recorders are to be played without headphones. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Keep floors and aisles of the bus clean. Place all litter in boxes provided on each bus. Messes will not be tolerated by the other members. These are nice buses and we want to return them in the same condition. Damages will be paid by the appropriate offender(s). Do not wear shoes if you are climbing on seats to get to the overhead compartment. No shoes on seats at any time.

Do not sit on the arm rests

Gently raise and lower window shades, they jam if you release them.

11:30 is quiet time on the busses. All videos will be shut off and you are expected to be quiet enough for people to sleep. PLEASE ADHERE TO THIS. YOU ALL NEED YOUR SLEEP ON THE WAY THERE AS WELL AS ON THE WAY HOME.

Regarding Videos and DVD's on the bus

All Tapes must be brought to school and approved BEFORE we leave. We will then mark it with "BUS ONE" or "BUS TWO" and they will be placed on the bus. Videos that have not been pre-approved will not be watched. There will be NO R rated movies shown. No exceptions.

Be tolerant of the movie choice and be glad you have a VCR at all. All video tapes should be marked with the students name. There will be no renting of videos while we are on the trip.

Contingency plans:

In the case of hazardous road conditions, we will be pulling the buses off the interstate at the nearest town and spending the duration of the time in an available school or church. In the event we would have to spend a night on a gym floor or in a church basement, have a pillow and blankets. Boys and girls would be in different buildings.

Important Rules

Carry a watch

No Alcohol, drugs, tobacco of any kind. Violation of this rule will have you on a plane or bus back to Iowa. No driving a vehicle at any time.

Boys are not allowed in girls rooms and vice versa. AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON. YOU GET ONE WARNING ABOUT THIS, THEN YOU'LL BE PLACED IN A CHAPERONE'S ROOM for the duration of the trip. If there is a group of people in a room there must be a chaperone present.

No one is allowed to leave the hotel or the group at any time alone, or without first checking with a chaperone. Stay in groups of at least four people. D.C. and New York City are NOT Van Horne. Be safe and be smart!!!

Room check time will vary and will be announced to you during the day on tour. No one is to leave their room after this time. Because of the liability and the potential situations that could occur in these large cities, you will be assigned to a chaperone for every minute of the trip thereafter if you indicate to us that you cannot be trusted to stay in your rooms after room checks. Off duty Police officers will be assigned to hall duty during the night to ensure that this will not occur. Plan ahead. If you have an emergency situation, call your chaperone.

Mark all luggage and garment bags clearly so that it can be identified. Chaperones will go through your luggage before we leave.

Respect the people you are rooming with. Pick up your things. Four people in a room can cause a disaster zone if everyone isn't very careful about picking up after him/herself.

Illness

In the case of illness or special problems, please notify your chaperone immediately. They are on the trip to help you in any way they can. There will be numerous people on the trip with CPR training. Getting enough sleep, eating regularly and sensibly, and generally keeping in good physical shape will make the trip much more enjoyable and successful for you and the entire group.

General conduct on the trip

This is an educational and fun trip for all of us, and observing common sense rules of courtesy and behavior will make it just that for all. When roll is called and when instructions are being given to the group, please give your immediate and quiet attention. This will greatly reduce the time which has to be spent on "business", give you more time for fun, and generally make the trip more enjoyable time for everyone.

Remember that when we are roaming around Washington D.C. and New York City that these cities are a far cry from the towns in which you all live. Don't carry your wallet in your back pocket. Don't buy cheap jewelry from street vendors, and always stay with a group of people in high traffic areas. Don't wander off into areas that don't look safe. You just have to use your head a little more than you have to when you go into Cedar Rapids.

Also, remember you are representing yourself, Benton Community High School, the state of Iowa, and the people around. Don't be obnoxious, loud, or rude. Be courteous to each other and people you come into contact with on the trip. Be a proud member of this organization and have a great trip!