

From the Lost Mountain Choral Department...

8th Grade Chorus Pre-GMEA Concert and Performance at GMEA

Dear Parents and Students,

This letter is to inform you of details about our upcoming performances at LMMS and at the Georgia Music Educators Association Annual Conference, the itineraries, cost, and special uniform requirements.

First, we will use a special uniform for these performances. Our normal khaki and polo shirts are NOT formal enough for this kind of presentation. Instead, we will wear all black.

- Ladies will wear a floor-length black dress with sleeves or jacket, OR floor-length black skirt and black blouse with sleeves or jacket, OR floor-length black pants and black blouse with sleeves or jacket. Blouses will hang below the waist of a skirt or pants by 3 inches. Also, all ladies are to wear black shoes that completely encompass the foot. Flip flops or sandals of any kind present a safety issue when maneuvering steps or risers, and are not acceptable attire.
- Gentlemen will wear a black, long-sleeved dress shirt, black pants, black socks, and black shoes that completely encompass the foot. Flip flops or sandals of any kind present a safety issue when maneuvering steps or risers, and are not acceptable attire. Incidentally, this will be the same uniform we will use at Disney. All-State Chorus members will also use this uniform.

Please bring your uniform in for inspection between January 7 and January 14. As always, if you need us to supply a uniform for your child, please let us know in writing including sizes by December 20 and we will do so.

On Thursday, January 17, 2019, we will hold a special clinic and rehearsal during and after school, followed by our concert. Students must bring their concert uniform to school that morning in a closed garment bag and drop it off in the Chorus Room. Students should NOT wear their uniform to school. When students report to chorus class at 12:30, they will stay until the concert is over. Students will miss 5th, 6th, and 7th period classes, stay after school for more rehearsal, eat dinner, change into concert uniform, and perform. I also have very exciting news about this day! Dr. Kenney Potter, Director of Choral Activities and Music Education at Wingate University (NC), will visit us and clinic our students for three hours during the afternoon! He will work on our program selections and general choral techniques. Dr. Potter is the composer of "Hope Is The Thing With Feathers", one of our selections on the program, and he is a very accomplished conductor and clinician at all levels, especially middle school. He is a past conductor of our own Georgia All-State Middle School Chorus. It is a rare and wonderful opportunity to work with a composer, much less one so adept at conducting and working with middle school students! This is an amazing opportunity! After school, we will feed students pizza and drinks. If there are concerns about food, please contact us. After eating, students will change into their concert uniform. At about 5:30, we will hold rehearsals with all the extra instrumentalists that are performing with us. We will take a short break, then perform our concert at 7 p.m. Parents, this is your only chance to hear this program in its entirety. The performance in Athens is closed to the public and only available for conference participants. Our theater holds 450 people, but since it's only 8th grade performing, we want lots of people to hear us. Please invite others to the performance.

On Thursday, January 24, 2019, we will leave school at the beginning of the school day to perform at the GMEA In-Service Conference and return that night. This is a very expensive trip and performance, but we don't want to ask families to pay a huge amount in addition to paying for an already expensive Disney trip. Therefore, we are covering the majority of the costs with fundraising money. Keep in mind that we are using fundraising money earned by 6th and 7th graders this year, as 8th grade Encore earnings are being set aside to

be applied towards the second Disney payment. ***Each student is asked to contribute \$45 to help cover the cost of our trip.*** If you want to contribute more, we will gladly accept it. This is a donation, and is not required in order for students to participate in this performance. All students may participate regardless of whether or not they have paid. Upon arrival at school, students will report directly to the Chorus Room with their uniform in a closed garment bag. Our itinerary is below, along with information about lunch, dinner and their pricing. Our estimated time of arrival back at school is 9:30 p.m. We will send updates on Remind as we return. If you are interested in chaperoning, please mark the appropriate location in the area at the bottom of this page. Please note that the chaperones may not get to hear the actual performance based on the available seating space in the performance venue, but they will get to hear the sound check in the space earlier that day.

9:15am	8 th grade students report to the chorus room for final rehearsal (chaperones report to chorus room)
9:45am	Buses depart for Athens, GA
11:45am	Lunch at Athens Varsity (each student/should pre-purchase a voucher on the form below)
1:30pm	Sound Check at First Baptist Athens
2:15pm	Students/chaperones board bus for Classic Center—walk around exhibit gallery
3:30pm	Depart for Mellow Mushroom (each student/chaperone should pre-purchase a meal from the menu choices on the form below or bring a non-perishable dinner)
5:15pm	Depart for First Baptist Athens
6:30pm	Warm-up
7:00pm	Performance
7:40pm	Board busses for LMMS
9:30pm	Return to LMMS bus lanes

Lunch at the Varsity includes one selection from each category. You can decide what you want when you get to the Varsity.

Entrée: Naked Dog, Chili Dog, Hamburger, or Cheeseburger

Side Item: Onion Rings or French Fries

Drink: Soft Drink, Chocolate Milk, Small Frosted Orange Shake

Dinner will be at Mellow Mushroom. Students must choose from one of the following options at this time so the restaurant has time to prepare meals. Your choices are :Burger/fries/drink, House Salad/pretzel bites/drink, Pepperoni Pizza/drink, or Cheese Pizza/drink.

KEEP THIS LETTER FOR YOUR RECORDS

8TH GRADE CHORUS TRIP TO GMEA
CHAPERONE INTERST FORM
STUDENT MEAL CHOICE SELECTION FORM

STUDENT NAME: _____

PARENT NAME: _____

I want to be considered to chaperone**: _____

Best number for Parent: _____

CHAPERONES, IF SELECTED, YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BY JANUARY 11 AND ASKED TO SELECT YOUR MEALS.*

Dinner will be at Mellow Mushroom. Students must choose from one of the following options NOW:

CHOOSE ONE:

1. _____ Burger/fries/drink
2. _____ House Salad/pretzel bites/drink
3. _____ Pepperoni Pizza/drink
4. _____ Cheese Pizza/drink

RETURN THIS FORM BY DECEMBER 20, 2018.