



Mission Viejo High School Choral Music Seattle Trip April 4-7, 2024 Information

Mission Viejo High School's Choral Music Program is a hard-working and successful organization that brings pride to the community. Recognizing the strong work ethic and high level of talent our kids have to offer, Worldstrides Heritage Performance Programs has invited the Mission Viejo High School Choral Music Program to participate in their nationwide choral music competitions in Seattle, Washington! Exposing our students to superb music programs in a competitive arena, while exploring one of the top destinations in the Pacific Northwest, will further provide a unique experience to grow both musically and expand the comradery within our MVHS Choral community, making the Seattle 2024 trip one that cannot be missed!

Cost and Payment Schedule

In an effort to maximize our program's trip we will combine musical experiences with the sights of Seattle, thus allowing our students a once-in-a-lifetime trip they will never forget. To make this happen, we have decided to partner with Worldstrides Heritage Performance Programs, who is known for providing high school music programs like ours amazing travel opportunities nationwide.

The cost for the Seattle trip is **\$1250**. For a detailed list of items included in the cost of our trip, please see the trip package information section located in the subsequent pages of this packet.

This trip is only possible through continued support of the music program. If the choir cannot meet their donation/fundraising goals, it may not be feasible to participate in this choir trip and future tour events in general. This is in addition to the student contributions that are needed annually for continued support of the music program. For a detailed payment schedule, please see "Mission Viejo High School Payments and Cancellations" section in packet.

Payments can be made by check to: Mission Viejo High School Choir (please include your student's name on the memo line) or electronically through the ASB webstore (please find the link at www.missionviejochoir.com). **The trip down payment of \$250 is due Friday, September 1st.** This payment will reserve your spot on this trip and allow us to secure airfare to lock in the trip pricing. Payments do not include money for souvenirs, meals not

predefined as being part of the package, spending money or extra (non-itinerary) activities that may be available during down time.

Should a student decide he/she would like to participate and the period of adding additional students to the trip list has passed, a waitlist will be offered. In the event that a previously committed student must drop out, a student on the waitlist would be offered the opportunity to take their place. All payments would be required to be caught up to the standard pay schedule at the time of commitment.

Payments should go directly to the Student Store, either electronically through the webstore or in person in the Student Store, open every day at Lunch. In the event that the Student Store is closed, Mrs. Norris can collect deposits to turn in for contributions for the trip. In the event that the Student Store is closed and Mrs. Norris is out, a locked deposit box is located at the front of the choir room in which students may deposit any payments.

Who is Eligible?

Although everyone in the Mission Viejo High School Choral Music Program is eligible to go, this trip is offered only for our auditioned choirs who commit to participating in additional choral activities outside the normal classroom setting. As Chamber Singers and Treble Choir are auditioned choirs, those choir members are automatically able to participate in this tour without audition. All interested students both in and out of the MVHS Choral Music Program must join one of the two auditioned choir to become eligible to travel. All interested students can contact Mrs. Norris by emailing norriss@svusd.org to discuss each student's schedule options and to schedule a time for an audition.

In the event that a student willingly violates the MVHS Code of Conduct, does not put forth the effort that goes with the requirements of this voluntary tour, or willfully defies the teacher, adult leadership or overall cohesive choir, he/she will be removed from the trip prior to departure. In the unlikely event that this happens, a refund will be generated for funds paid less non-refundable expenses due to group booking policies with our trip vendors.

Documentation Requirements

Along with all students conducting themselves in accordance with the MVHS standard code of conduct, students will be required to adhere to all rules set forth by Mrs. Norris, the tour company, and all chaperones for the duration of the trip, and must sign a Behavior Contract prior to departure. Should any violations occur before or during the trip, the student will be punished in accordance with SVUSD policy.

In addition, all students are required to fill out a comprehensive medical release form detailing any medical issues each trip-goer may experience. It is imperative for the leadership and the safety of our students that we have all information needed in the unlikely event of a medical emergency.

These and any additional critical documents will be disseminated closer to our departure date.

Chaperones

While we could not go on this trip without them, chaperones are responsible for the same payments and payment schedule as the students. The school requires one (1) chaperone per six (6) students. Should we have an excess of chaperons interested in joining the tour, a waitlist will be created.

Please note: parent chaperones will not necessarily be their own student's chaperone.

There will be a mandatory chaperone meeting two (2) weeks prior to the trip as well as additional information at our trip parent meetings throughout the school year. If you are interested in being a Seattle chaperone, please contact Sarah Norris at norriss@svusd.org or our webmaster at missionviejochoir@gmail.com

Fundraising

In addition to the Five Points Amphitheater fundraiser that is currently going on through the MVHSIMBA organization, we will be holding our pre-concert dinner for our Spotlight Concert where the tickets sold by the student will go towards their trip account. Additionally, any MVHS Choir sponsorship brought in by an individual choral student generates 50% of the sponsorship directly to their fundraising account. In addition to these direct fundraising opportunities, there is an individual trip donation letter on our website that each student can send out to their friends and family who might be interested in helping you achieve your financial goal of going to Seattle with the choir. Please see Mrs. Norris or the choir website (www.missionviejochoir.com) for more details. **IT IS POSSIBLE TO FUND THE ENTIRE COST OF THE TRIP THROUGH FUNDRAISING.**

Medical Travel Requirements

In accordance with the SVUSD guidelines for overnight and out of state student travel, we will be following any and all medical guidelines that the district requires to make a trip like this happen. As our program did in previous trips, we will abide by any and all local medical guidelines that may be in place at the time of our 2024 tour to Seattle, Washington.

Trip Overview / Q&A Meeting

There will be a Choir Parent/student meeting on **Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 6PM**. The first half of the meeting will be about the overall choral program and year-at-a-glance; the second half will be set aside to discuss the Seattle trip so that everyone has a full understanding of the trip details. Please contact Sarah Norris by e-mail at norriss@svusd.org, our trip coordinator at missionviejochoir@gmail.com for any immediate questions about the trip or initial deposit, or visit our website at www.missionviejochoir.com to stay up to date.

Trip Package Information

Basic Package Includes:

- Airfare from LAX to Seattle
- 1 Carry-on luggage and 1 carry-on small bag (backpack (recommended), purse, etc.)
- 3 nights' accommodations in Seattle
- Several meals for the duration of the trip (all Continental Breakfasts and more)
- Competition & Registration for the Worldstrides Heritage Competition
- Entrance fees and expenses for the Museum of Pop Culture, Seattle Space Needle, Guided Underground Tour, Snoqualmie Falls, Ballard Locks, etc.
- Puget Sound Harbor cruise
- Entrance to *Beetlejuice – The Musical*
- Any adjudication and registration expenses for the program
- Dinner, Dance, & Awards ceremony in Seattle
- Choral clinic / exchange at the University of Washington
- Charter bus transportation in Seattle
- Round trip transportation from MVHS to LAX
- All taxes associated with the trip
- All taxes and gratuities

Not included:

- Souvenir spending money
- Snacks, food, drinks & meals not identified as part of the trip package
- Any additional individual charges incurred on the trip
- \$5 cash tip for our tour guide (collected prior to departure)

Cost per person: *(Chaperones and students priced the same)*

Pricing: **\$1250** *(4 students to a room. Chaperones to be 2 to a room)*

Although, we'd like as many chaperons to join us as possible, we must stick to a 1 to 6 ratio based on room pricing and SVUSD student requirements. Should there be additional spots that won't affect trip pricing, we'd more than welcome the additional travelers.

Payments

Due Date for Payments		Trip Payment Amount
Deposit date:	Friday, September 1, 2023	\$250 per person
	Friday, October 6, 2023	\$200 per person
	Friday, October 27, 2023	\$100 per person
	Friday, November 17, 2023	\$200 per person
	Friday, December 8, 2023	\$200 per person
	Friday, January 12, 2024	\$200 per person
Final Payment:	Friday, February 2, 2024	\$100 per person

Should a spot open after the commitment deadline, an additional student may be added from the waitlist. At that time, they would be required to catch up with all trip payments based on the above schedule.

Should the payment schedule be financially challenging for your family, please contact Mrs. Norris at norriss@svusd.org to see if there are actions that can be taken to ensure all qualified students can attend this trip.

Cancellations

Should something happen that makes your student unable to attend after an initial commitment was made, you will be liable for the following amounts due to booking non-refundable trip requirements:

Date Range	Commitment
September 1, 2023 – October 6, 2023	\$100.00 per person
October 7, 2023 – December 8, 2023	\$300.00 per person
December 9, 2023 – February 2, 2024	\$600.00 per person
February 3, 2024 – departure	No refund, 100% penalty

***Cancellation due dates and penalties subject to change based on reservation commitments.*

Payments received after the due date may be subject to late charges due to an inability for the choir to obtain the group discount pricing at the time of booking. Any unpaid reservations are subject to the same cancellation penalties.

**Mission Viejo High School Choral Music
Seattle Trip 2024 Information**

Must be turned in with first payment

I, _____ (name of parent or guardian), give permission for my student, _____ (name of student) to participate in the Mission Viejo High School Seattle Trip on April 4-7, 2024. I understand that I am financially responsible for the Initial deposit on September 1, 2023, of \$250, as well as all payments based on the payment schedule. I understand that any subsequent trip payment may be paid outright or fundraised through the opportunities presented throughout the year by the MVHS Choral Music Program. I realize that this trip takes place during spring break and no normal school days will be missed so any absence based on the Seattle tour will be classified as unexcused. I understand that this trip is in no way required as part of the MVHS Choral Music class grade. I also understand the payment schedule and cancellation policy and agree to abide by them.

I, _____ (name of parent or guardian), ***DO NOT*** give my student, _____ (name of student) permission to participate in the Mission Viejo High School Choral Music Seattle Trip on April 4-7, 2024.

Student Signature

Student Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Contact Information (please print):

Student Name: _____

Parent / Guardian Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone: _____