**MOHAVE MIDDLE SCHOOL - BAND, CHOIR, AND ORCHESTRA TOUR**

**Dates: May 4th – May 6th, 2018**

Mohave Performing Arts Students and Parents,

This letter gives you a general overview of the trip. Our California spring tour is on the horizon for those students eligible to participate in this event. Students must be in good standing with their behavior, grades and absences, not only in their performing arts classes, but school wide. This means, student must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or better and must be passing all classes (No F’s). Students must also have no major violations of the code of conduct. They may not have any office referrals and may not have any N’s (Needs Improvement) or U’s (Unsatisfactory) on their 3rd quarter report cards or 4th quarter mid-term reports. Any student who receives an out of school suspension is not eligible for this trip. Students who are poorly behaved while on tour could risk the chance of being sent home at the parent’s expense, (or you may be asked to physically come and get them). Chaperones will report all behavior problems to their director and they will be referred to Mohave’s Administration (we will have an administrator along on the trip). Please recognize that the Spring Tour is optional and has no bearing on a student’s Fine Arts classroom grade. We encourage all eligible students to participate in this fun filled, educational experience. We will be participating at an adjudicated competition near Disneyland. When we are not at the competition we will be enjoying all that Disneyland has to offer.

**GENERAL CURRENT INFORMATION**

**Dates:** May 4th – 6th, 2018

**Transportation:** Commercial Luxury Motor Coach. These buses have DVD’s/T.V’s padded reclining seats, and bathrooms.

**Housing:** We will stay Friday and Saturday night at the Hampton Inn-11747 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove, CA 92840

**Cost:** ***Approximately* $400 per participant**.

**Tentative Itinerary:**

**FRIDAY:** Travel to California – depart around 7am

 Performances for Music in the Parks Competition

**SATURDAY:** Performances for Music in the Parks Competition

 Fun in the Park!

 Awards Ceremony for Competition (in Disneyland)

**SUNDAY:** Travel home to Arizona

**Final Parent Meeting – Wed. April 4th – 6pm:**  Parents and students are strongly encouraged to attend the parent meetings, we will discuss important information regarding the trip and also answer any questions that you may have.

**Making a Trip Payment/Deposit:**  You may choose to pay the total cost of the trip all at once, or make payments to be submitted before the due dates listed on the following page.

***Submit all payments directly to Mrs. Julie Brown in the front office. DO NOT bring your payments to your teacher.***

WHEN WRITING A CHECK:

1. Make Payable to the appropriate group: Mohave Choir, Mohave Band, Mohave Strings
2. In the “memo” line, write student’s **full name** and **ID number**
3. Please be sure your check has a correct address **and** phone number PRINTED on the check. (We cannot accept counter checks with name and address written in).
4. You may also pay using Money Orders, Cash or a Cashier’s checks

Deposits are not the total cost of the trip, but will allow us to make prepayments to many of the services that we contract, which require as much as 100% prepayment. You may use tax credit funds for a portion of these deposits/payments. Forms and information have been given out and are available in class, and also on Mrs. Frank’s web page at: ***www.MohaveChoir.weebly.com***- and by searching Jaime Lee Frank in the Staff Directory.

* **TOTAL TRIP COST:** Approx. $400 – Final trip payment and cost will be determined by number of students attending the trip and how much fundraising they have done.
* **First Deposit and Trip Contract/Commitment Forms:**  Due on or before November, 16th, 2017 - $80 (non-tax credit payment) We are approved this year for 80% tax credit! Meaning the rest of the payment can be made as optional tax credit payments!
* **Second Payment:** $160 - Due on or before Wed. February 2nd, 2017
* **Third and Final Payment:** $160 - The remainder of the balance for the trip will be due on or before Wed. April 4th, 2018.
* **Also, families have the option of paying $80 monthly payments instead of the $160 – as long as you have paid the total amount by the due dates above.**

**PERMISSION SLIPS, CHAPERONE FORMS AND HEALTH FORMS DEADLINE: April 4th, 2018**

If, for any reason the school has to cancel the trip your deposit money will be returned. (Please note, tax credit donations are non-refundable) However, because we have contracts with companies and have to pay ahead of time, please understand that if you do not qualify for the trip due to bad grades or behavior, the trip is non-refundable. (Whether or not you attend, we still have to pay for you).

**Tax Credit Payments for Trip:** A certain percentage of the cost of our trip can be contributed from a tax credit donation (we are approved for 80% this year = $320. This means that those payments if you elect them to be tax credit payments will be taken off of your tax liability for that year. Please download the Fine Arts Tax Credit form from Mrs. Frank’s website: *www.MohaveChoir.weebly.com*

***Tax Credit payments can be made any time before filling taxes – until 4/17/18 and still count toward 2017 filing.***

**Meals and Spending Money:** This cost will be in addition to the trip cost and will be provided by the parent/student. There will be two lunches, and one dinner on this trip that will require extra monies. Friday lunch on the bus will be a **sack lunch brought from home.** Lunch on the road on Sunday will be at fast food type inexpensive restaurant. The hotel will have a complimentary breakfast available for us on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Students may take advantage of this service for their breakfast. We are also trying to get two $10 meal vouchers per student for Saturday at Disneyland to help offset the costs of meals there. Note: If a parent is not comfortable with their child being responsible for their own apportioning of personal funds, then the adult chaperone assigned will handle this for your child. Money can be allotted on a daily basis under this format. Students will also need to bring extra money for souvenirs, snacks, etc.

**Chaperones, “buddy system” and room leaders:** Chaperone district policy on out-of-state trips is to have one chaperone per ten students. Overnight chaperones, on a trip such as this, are now required by the district to fill out a form and finger printing process. Each student will be operating with a “buddy” at all times. Each hotel/motel room will have one student “room leader” that will have special responsibilities. The “room leader” and the “buddy system” procedures will be explained in detail in an upcoming meeting/letter.

**If you are interested in Chaperoning the trip:**

##  1.     Visit www.SUSD.org 2.     Click on the "**About**" tab at the top of the page3.     Click on "**Volunteers**"4.     Click on "**The Volunteer/Chaperone application is now online"** link5.     Click on the "**Apply for this position**" tab in the top right corner6.     Fill out the application7.    **Save** and **Attach** it to an email and send it to Julie Brown at juliebrown@susd.org, with the Subject “**Parent Volunteer Chaperone for Mohave Middle School**”. (Please CC their fine arts teacher on the email).8.      **Include the name of your student and their class (band/strings/choir)**in the email body. 9.    **Go back** to the "Volunteer & Chaperones" webpage and **watch the video** (input name, phone #, email, school - **and click SUBMIT**) to register to be a chaperone.

## ONLINE LINK FOR TAX CREDIT PAYMENTS FOR TRIP:

Go to: [**touchbase.susd.org/taxcredits/**](https://touchbase.susd.org/taxcredits/) **NOTE: Be sure to select "Mohave Middle School" and then under "Item"- select their fine arts class trip (“Band Disneyland Trip”, “Orchestra Disneyland Trip” or “Choir Disneyland Trip”) and be sure to put your student's name in the next box.**

***The system will not notify us if you fill out the form, so do not forget to attach application to an email to Julie Brown (******juliebrown@susd.org******) AND email their fine arts teacher that you’ve finished the process.***

**Teacher emails:**

Mr. Reyes (Strings) – rreyes@susd.org

 Mrs. Misch (Band) – jmisch@susd.org

 Mrs. Frank (Choir) – jfrank@susd.org