

Hollywood Trip FAQ's

March 1st, 2017

Is it too late to register for the trip?

Not yet, you can still sign up. However, please register soon rather than later. Last minute tickets could result in unnecessary increases in costs.

Chaperones??????

We are working closely with Mr. Kohler to make sure we have the perfect balance of chaperones to students. We also look forward to making enhancements to the chaperones' trip experiences, by applying what we learned worked and did not work during the Philly/NYC Trip. Please be patient. This is will be communicated as soon as we have a fair and decisive plan.

Will I be able to take my student out of the group for a family excursion?

Sorry for the inconvenience, but no. This is a school trip, and as such, we must adhere to certain policies that protect the school from liability. Your student must stay with the group for the entirety of the trip. However, you are invited to participate in all of the activities MTC has arranged.

Are cadets invited, and can they participate in the parade?

Yes! Cadets that qualify for marching band are invited to come and participate! Cadets are treated as members of the marching band.

Can any family member go on this trip?

*Every family member is invited! Families will room separate from their marcher, but are welcome to participate in every meal, tour, and show that accompanies this trip. Again, **please remember that this is your marcher's trip.***

*****Marchers are expected and required to participate in all events outlined within MTC's itinerary. As such, students will not be permitted to leave the group.**

I'm having trouble signing into MTC's website to make my payment (s).

MTC's help desk ([800.616.1112](tel:800.616.1112)) and email (support@music-travel.com) is very helpful in sorting out login and account issues. They are also very knowledgeable about our trip and can also answer most questions.

Fundraising... (many questions about fundraising for Hollywood)

We currently have several opportunities to raise funds for this trip. Volunteering for working shifts at Lucas Oil Stadium, and Connor Prairie are a few ways to inject funds into your student's account. For more information/details on fundraising, visit fishersband.org.

I volunteered, can the money I and/or my student earned be transferred to our MTC account?

YES! Once you notice the funds in your marcher's student account, email studentaccounts@fishersband.org with a detailed request to transfer. Please be very specific.

Is my trip refundable if I can no longer go?

If you signed up and can no longer go, the only thing non-refundable is the \$80 deposit. If multiple family members cannot go, the deposit for every traveler is also non-refundable.

***The \$80 deposit could be transferred to NEW registrant. However, the responsibility of finding a new registrant is up to the canceller, as that is not a service MTC provides. Please contact the Dan or Barb Furniss, as we may be able to help.*

Will Students have access to hotel services that incur fees?

MTC asks hotels to remove access to pay movies and games, room service and outside phone service. Occasionally, some "pay-for" services cannot be disabled. In those cases, students and adults must pay the hotel for all charges they make.

How much money should I send my marcher with?

This is entirely up to you, the parent. When deciding, please remember that souvenirs and snacks are not included in the tour price. While your marchers does not NEED extra money, they may want to have a little extra for bottled waters, snacks, t-shirts, ...you never know. Anticipating their needs is difficult. Surely there will be more conversations about cash recommendations as we approach the trip.

If your nervous about sending them with cash, there are alternatives to consider, like American Express Travelers' Cheques, pre-paid Visa/Mastercard, or an ATM/debit card. The benefit of choosing one of these options is: if money is lost, parents can get these payment options replaced with a phone call. We recommend you educate yourself on the options and choose the best option that fits your family.

The Plane... Several questions have been asked about the flight.

We do not have any concrete information about the flight, at this time. However, we do know that you are able to use Frequent Flyer Miles to purchase plane tickets. MTC will not be able to do this for you, but please coordinate with them. As Tickets using miles need to be purchased on your own.

How much luggage are we allowed to bring on the trip?

There will be more discussion on luggage once we have solid plans for the flight, which airline, and the utilization of our semi.

Why are (will there be) practices on the calendar after the competitions have ended?

Practices will continue right up to the departure date so the band can get down the parade routine.

Where can people park their vehicles while away on the trip?

We will provide more information on this after travel plans have been solidified, and as we approach the trip.

Insurance Coverage Information

Damage to instruments (or luggage) is something no one wants to have happen. When it does occur, there are several potential causes:

- 1. Accident (a bus ran over a case with a violin in it, someone dropped the tuba, etc.)*
- 2. Malice (someone deliberately damaged the bell on the baritone, the drum heads were punctured, etc.)*
- 3. Normal wear and tear (when the horn case was opened, the slide was damaged because the horn slid around inside the case, etc.)*

In the first instance, whoever caused the accident is responsible, whether it be a student, a parent, hotel employee, coach driver, tour director, etc. Whether one can collect damages from that person, or not, depends on the circumstances. Malice, like any crime, requires that the person committing the act be identified and caught. Successfully catching the “perp” does not guarantee repair or replacement. Normal wear and tear can be accelerated by negligence, such as failure to properly pack a fragile piece of equipment or instrument within its case, or failure to properly place something in a luggage bay so it does not move or slide across the floor when a coach swerves or an airplane encounters turbulence. Fixing responsibility for the damage can be problematic, and fixing reimbursement cost can also be difficult, especially if prior wear and tear was excessive.

Music Travel Consultants/Educational Destinations does not provide or offer insurance (travel or otherwise) to cover any or all losses of or damage to instruments or luggage, whether carry-on or checked in a baggage compartment. Some school corporation insurance policies cover school-owned property, like musical instruments, but those policies generally do not cover privately-owned or rented instruments, equipment or luggage. One’s homeowners insurance covers some personal property items, and insurance riders or policies are available to insure instruments as well. It is definitely worth checking with one’s school corporation and/or one’s own homeowners insurance agent, to verify coverages and deductibles, before purchasing travel insurance. The latter is widely available online or through one’s personal insurance agent. For more information, please contact your school and personal insurance agent. If you are thoroughly confused, please telephone Music Travel Consultants.

All parents should have signed Marching Band forms that include a disclaimer releasing responsibility of the Boosters organization.

**Key tip: It is a good idea to check in with your personal insurance company about the trip.*