

## **Tour Policy**

We represent our communities and state as musical ambassadors. As such we carry great responsibility, individually and collectively. We are called upon to demonstrate for the duration of our rehearsals and tours the very best in personal behavior, integrity, group/team attitude, and, of course, musicality which is in turn representative of the highest standards. By behaving responsibly and mindfully, by planning ahead, and having some basic guidelines we will all have a GREAT experience.

In general, there is a simple rule to go by:

*Be where you are supposed to be, when you are supposed to be there, doing what you are supposed to do, in the way you are supposed to do it.*

*To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late.*

The following policies will be in effect for our program.

## **REHEARSALS & PERFORMANCES**

You are responsible for your time. As we prepare for our tour, keep in mind the purpose of the trip. Making music of the highest caliber is our first priority. All participants are expected to know the given schedule in advance, and as it is reviewed each day in the morning and/or at night.

1. Be early to rehearsal with music and pencil. If you are late, please enter with as little disruption as possible. When the director's hands go up, the music begins. The director, or a student director will lead warm-ups.
2. Please notify director of any absences well in advance (784-7284-Office; gkrauspe@cusd200.org). Surprises are best for birthdays and holidays – NOT rehearsals and concerts!
3. Come to rehearsal prepared. Look at and number every measure of music. Our sessions are meant to prepare MUSIC, not notes! NUMBER YOUR MUSIC NOW!
4. Concert Dress: Ladies – White blouse and black skirt, necklace (provided), hose, dress shoes. Men – South Blazer, tie and slacks (provided), white shirt, dress shoes and socks. NOTE: For ACDA you will wear robes, and men will need dark slacks. Improper garments mean you will not perform.
5. Each member is responsible for his/her music, equipment, garments, instruments, etc. for the duration of the tour.

6. While choir members are responsible for their personal belongings and activities, several members will have specific jobs assigned in advance. These jobs will include:
    - Headcounter – on the bus each time before the bus leaves.
    - Concert manager & crew (6 people per bus) – load & unload luggage
    - Bus environment manager and crew – keeping' it clean and livable
    - Hotel environment manager and crew – no choir article left behind!
    - Section leaders – one per section; source for notes, information, stuff you missed.
    - Garment managers – dresses, robes, skirts, jackets, ties, shoes etc.
    - Equipment manager & crew – instruments, risers, stage equipment, etc.
    - Esprit de corps – leads fellowship and unity of the choir
  7. No noise on stage or backstage
  8. NO GUM!
  9. Keep hair out of face. Keep your hands down and always carry your folder in the arm away from the audience. Open and raise music on cue.
  10. Listen!
  11. Each concert is important and is to be the very best experience our audience can have. Be excited, physically involved. Be artistic, expressive, and worth watching and listening to! Smile!
  12. A thorough warm up before each concert is planned. Singers should plan a good 10-15 minute warm up for voices and bodies. Our esprit de corps people will lead a fellowship circle before and after each program.
  13. After each concert, plan to meet as a group in a designated area for a brief time. Do your assigned jobs quickly, quietly, and effectively and help one another out.
- Make sure you leave each concert site with the same things you arrived with, i.e. music, instruments, clothing. The directors and chaperones are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal belongings. It is advised that you keep personal belongings to a minimum and well secured during travel. Common sense here, people.

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## **IN TRANSIT/TOURING**

1. Be early/on time to leave and arrive at all times. Please be in your seat until the headcounter has verified that all are present. We will not move until all are accounted for. It bears repeating: *To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late.* A cardinal rule of touring is that you NEVER keep the group waiting. If you miss any information, you must see your section leader or another member to get brought up to date.
2. **Absolutely no loud voices, singing, and trying to be heard over the ambient din of the bus.** Our bus time is best used to rest the voice, visit with your neighbor, read, watch a video, and relax.
3. Please remember that the bus is our home on the road for the tour, and that while we have a crew helping to keep the bus in order, each member will be responsible to take care of your belongings, space and any trash. We are guests on the bus and must treat the vehicle and our space accordingly.
4. Attire for traveling is to be neat and clean. Only bring things you ABSOLUTELY need. You can often rinse things in the hotel and let them dry overnight. This is a common practice so plan to travel as light as possible. ANYTHING YOU BRING, YOU AND YOU ALONE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR! TRAVEL LIGHT!
5. Remain seated and quiet upon arrival at any destination to receive instructions before leaving the bus. Our concert manager and crew will unload luggage. The directors will obtain room keys and hand them out on the bus. You will then leave the bus, take your luggage and proceed to your room. Remember, in most cases, THERE WILL BE A DESIGNATED MEETING PLACE FOR THE EVENING AND THE MORNING! Listen for the assigned meeting times and locations!
6. You must be quieter in public spaces such as hotels, meeting rooms, convention centers, etc. Please respect the space of other travelers, and of anyone else sharing a room, bus, plane, restaurant, etc. Do not be labeled "obnoxious kids!"
7. No one is permitted to enter a private vehicle at any time!

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## **GENERAL CONDUCT**

1. A director friend of mine gives a simple rule to her singers. "Be a credit to your mother and don't do anything that would hurt or disappoint her!"
2. THERE IS A ZERO TOLERANCE RULE FOR ANY ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE. No tobacco, alcohol, or drugs! Any person who violates this rule will be sent home at their expense, and be prosecuted to the fullest extent of school conduct code and the law. While there will be directors and chaperones present throughout a trip, it is expected that parents send their children on tour only after discussing responsible choices and behaviors. Parents accept full liability for injuries, accidents, and events brought about by the behaviors and actions of their child. The fact of the matter is there will be little opportunity for any problems of this nature to occur, but it must be said.
3. The director makes all room assignments in advance. No changes will be made unless initiated by the director. Upon arrival at the hotel, please remain quietly on the bus, while the crews unload luggage/equipment from below and the director checks in. Keys will be distributed and you will be dismissed from the bus. Each evening, curfew will be established by the director as dictated by the hotel and our evening activities. For your safety and for the integrity of the choir, curfew means in your room for the night. Students are NOT allowed in other students' rooms AT ANY TIME, or gathering in hotel hallways! You may gather/meet in public areas according to established hotel curfews and policies. Directors, chaperones, and hotel security will be on duty throughout the night for your safety and security. After curfew, questions such as "Can I go to the vending/ice machines?" or, "Can I go to.....'s room to get my CD's?," etc. will be answered simply. "No." You will need to get plenty of rest to be your best. **Each night we will meet as a group in a designated area at a given time to review the day's events and plans for the next day.** After this time you are required to be in your assigned rooms. Any disturbance in hotels, or in public arenas which in any way compromises our roles as musical ambassadors for WW South and the District 200 community will not be tolerated.
4. All expenses incurred on the trip not covered by the school or choir program are the responsibility of the participants. The same applies to personal belongings. You are responsible for your own stuff!

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