

East Middle School 8th Grade Performing Arts Chicago Trip

April 25-26, 2018

This year's trip to Chicago is certain to provide lifelong memories! It is open to 8th grade band, orchestra, choir students. In addition to a clinic for each group, the trip will include motor coach transportation, one hotel lodging, seven meals, visits to the Shedd Aquarium, lunch and shopping at the Navy Pier, a "Blue Man Group" show, and a "Comedy Sportz" show. It's great fun!

We will leave early in the morning from East MS on Wednesday, April 25, and return around 11:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 26. The cost will depend on the number of students and adults that sign up for the trip. If 158 or more sign up, the cost per student is \$383 (quad occupancy). We also need parents to join us on this fun-filled adventure as chaperones. The cost for adult double occupancy (with at least 150 participants) is \$166. Chaperones from previous years have really enjoyed the trip. The more chaperones the better, so please sign up. The price will go up if we have fewer than 150. The amount may be paid in full or in four installments: a deposit of \$83 by December 1, followed by 3 payments of \$100 (Jan. 10, Feb. 9 and Mar. 9), or the \$83 deposit followed by 3 payments of \$124 each for adults. If you choose to take out the Refund Guarantee Protection, add \$166 to the deposit. (This is highly recommended - you get your money refunded from Brightspark Travel if your plans change and your child/you can no longer go on the trip.)

Brightspark Travel is the tour company arranging the trip. Registration is easy: just go to <https://portal.brightsparktravel.com> and enter the tour web code: TAG8LKC. It is important to sign up by December 1st. Space will be filled on a first come, first served basis. The price is determined by the date/time Brightspark receives their first payment. Students are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible in order to secure a seat. You may pay in full or in installments. See the attached Brightspark letter for more information. Registration can only be done online, please do not bring money to your teacher.

Student Eligibility Requirement

The East & Power Middle School Performing Arts Department plans trips to provide musical and educational experiences for our students and to reward them for quality effort and performance throughout the year. Unexcused absences from required performances or rehearsals or inappropriate classroom and rehearsal behavior may be grounds for exclusion from the trip.

Eligible Students Will:

- Receive no more than a total of 3 "N" (Needs Improvement) or "U" (Unsatisfactory) grades in citizenship on all progress reports and report cards in ALL classes. (when you receive your 4th "N" and/or "U" you are no longer eligible to go.)
- Have no Level 2 behavior-related suspensions (in or out of school).
- Receive a passing grade in their performing art class on their report cards.

This policy is important. It forewarns students and parents that there are consequences for improper behavior on the trip participants. If a student becomes ineligible to attend this trip, there is a possibility of lost monies. Purchasing the refund guarantee protection (RGP) for the trip can ensure that almost all money would be refunded.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us by email or at 248-489-3601. Looking forward to a fantastic trip!

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