

January 6, 2010

Dear Fellow Traveler:

When traveling with one hundred and fifty kids, nothing can be left to chance. Every minute must be planned to avoid confusion. Smaller groups allow for more flexibility. January is a cold month in NYC and so we will want to adjust our plans so that we are the most comfortable. For example, we do not want to go to the observatory of the Empire State Building on a foggy or rainy day. Because of our small number, I am listing sightseeing times on our itinerary and giving a list of places that it is our goal to see. We will place them in the best spots depending on factors such as weather, time and location.

If you have a parent that is willing to go somewhere that the group is not going, you are welcome to talk with me and if it works with our schedule, you can do the thing that is important to you. We will discuss details when we are all together, but no student may EVER go anywhere outside the doors of the hotel without an adult. I have to know of your whereabouts EVEN IF YOU ARE WITH AN ADULT at all times. In short, we do not have to stay together as a group, but we DO have to be with a parent and I must know where you are.

Below is the list of all the things we will try to squeeze in:

Madame Tussauds – Wax Museum - Amazing – Look it up - \$15  
Hard Rock Café  
“Top of the Rock” – Top of Rockefeller Center  
Empire State Building Observatory – This ticket is included in your trip  
Ice Skating  
Ground Zero  
St. Patrick’s Cathedral  
NYU –Greenwich Village/SoHo  
Julliard  
Central Park  
Lincoln Center  
Metropolitan Museum of Art – admission is by donation  
Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island - \$12  
South Street Seaport (shopping and food)  
Broadway play (Your choice – I will help you get a ticket if you haven’t already done so)  
Canal Street (cheap souvenirs)/China Town/Little Italy  
Park Avenue/Madison Avenue/ 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Shopping – (well, mostly window shopping – very pricey)  
City Bus Tour – approximately \$30 for the whole day

If you would like to attend worship somewhere on Sunday, let me know.  
Feel free to let me know if there is something else that is not on this list you would like us to try to see.

We’re almost there!

## **Important Information**

- On the trip school rules apply. If you break school policy or cannot follow instructions on the trip, at the discretion of Ms. Killian, you could be sent home. (At the expense of your family.) I cannot be responsible for your safety if you do not follow directions. Even if you do not completely understand the reason for the request, it will be necessary for you to do as asked.
- I need medical information forms from each student. If you are in Show Choir, I have what I need.
- I need cell phone numbers for every participant.
- My cell number is 404-316-6534. Please go ahead and put this in your phone.
- If you are not a frequent flyer, let me know. I fly very often and will walk with you through the security checkpoint.
- Airport security takes any statements seriously. You may not make jokes about explosives as you go through security.
- You may be chosen for additional screening. This is routine and no reason for alarm.
- It is not unusual for luggage to be lost. Carry a change of clothes in your carryon bag.
- Do NOT forget your performance attire and your music.
- It is cold! Don't forget gloves, coat and hat. You really, really need all three. Something to cover your ears is essential. Walmart has the packets hunters get to put in their pockets that put out heat. You might consider picking some of these up.
- Don't forget your camera.

## **Arriving at the Airport**

- We are departing at 11:35 on Continental Airlines Flight #1164.
- I will have your ticket. Students 16 and over must have a picture ID. Adults you MUST have ID. I recommend that you bring some form of ID no matter your age.
- We will all check in together and go through security together. Students will say goodbye to your parents at ticketing.
- I will hand you your ticket at Continental Ticketing. Please don't go ahead and check in without me.

## Spending Money:

- In the past it has worked very well for parents to put some, not all, of the spending money on a prepaid card. (With Visa or MC logo) Encourage your child to have a method to keep up with what they have spent.
- Approximately \$130 for meals
- \$25 for a Metro Card (Subway – This is for a seven day pass. We will be on the subway every day.)
- \$18 each direction for checking one bag – If there is someone you can pack with and have one bag between two people it would save you \$18. If you can manage to pack in a carryon size bag, you would have no additional expense. This fee was a surprise to me. It has always been the first bag free. We saved almost \$100 on our tickets. I guess this is how they get it back!
- Shopping money is completely up to each individual
- You may plan to attend a Broadway play on Friday – Sunday night. I did not include this in our itinerary because of the added expense. If you want to go online and purchase tickets for a show, feel free to do so for one of these nights. Talk to me about these details. It is possible to get tickets for as little as \$50 on up. There is a concierge in the hotel that sells tickets, but there is also a half price line you can stand in each day.
- Tickets to go to the Statue of Liberty are
- There will be an opportunity to go to Madam Tussauds wax museum. Price will be \$15. This is a fun activity.
- Groups will be sightseeing free locations every day. You can spend as much or as little as your budget demands.

## Rehearsals in the next week will be with Alexander High School Students

I am sorry for the short notice but we MUST know this music BEFORE we go.

Date	Location	Time
January 9 (Friday)	Alexander High School Chorus Room	4:00 – 5:30
January 11 (Monday)	Chapel Hill High School Chorus Room	7:00 – 8:30
January 12 (Tuesday)	Chapel Hill High School Chorus Room	7:00 – 8:30

Remember that we will place activities in each “sightseeing” spot as we see what works best with weather and time constraints. See the list of activities. You may have Broadway tickets on one of the evenings so the evening schedule will be adjusted for you.

## Suggested Itinerary

Friday January 15, 2010	Depart ATL on Continental Airlines # 1164 Arrive at Newark Unpack and settle in to hotel Sightseeing/Dinner/More sightseeing	11:35 AM 1:59 PM 2:00 – 4:00 PM 4:00 – 11:00 PM
Saturday January 16, 2010	Breakfast Rehearsal (Mandatory) Lunch/Dinner/Sightseeing	7:30 AM 8:30 – 12:30 PM 12:30 – 11:00 PM
Sunday January 17, 2010	Breakfast Sightseeing/ Lunch Rehearsal (Mandatory) Dinner/Sightseeing	8:00 AM 9:00 – 1:00 PM 1:00 – 5:00 PM 5:00 – 11:00 PM
Monday January 18, 2010	Breakfast Sightseeing/Lunch Depart for Dress Rehearsal at Carnegie Break for a snack before concert Concert at Carnegie Hall!!!! Depart for Dinner Cruise Return to hotel	8:00 AM 9:00 – 1:30 PM 2:00 PM 5:00 PM 8:00 PM 10:00 PM 2:00 AM
Tuesday January 19, 2010	Breakfast Last minute shopping Depart for airport Depart Newark on Continental Airlines #1155 Arrive in Atlanta	8:30 AM 9:00 – 11:00 PM 11:00 PM 6:15 PM 9:02 PM