

Jacksonville-Burley Performing Arts News

Craig S. Jennings, Chorus & Drama Director
295-5101 ext. 50107 cjennings@k12albemarle.org

Andrew LaPrade, Band Director
ext. 50100 alaprade@k12albemarle.org
October 2014

Burley Chorus to Perform with All City / County Honor Choir

On Tuesday, October 7, central Virginia's finest choral music students will join together to present the All City and County Honor Choir concert. Selected Burley 8th grade chorus students will participate in this prestigious honor. We have been diligently preparing music to perform with students from Sutherland, Jouett, Henley, Walton, and Walker middle schools. This event will take place at Charlottesville High School and is free and open to the public at 5:30 PM in the Martin Luther King Jr. Performing Arts Center.

Advanced Choral Concert Date Set!

The 7th grade, 8th grade, Honor Choir and Bear-I-Tones semester concert date has been confirmed for Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 7:00 PM in the Burley Auditorium. Students will arrive by 6:45 PM dressed for a formal choral concert. Admission is free.

Albemarle County Middle School Honor Band

On Wednesday, November 5 selected students will be performing with the 80 other middle school students from each Albemarle County Middle School. Students will rehearse all day and perform in a concert that evening. As a part of this event, a brand new piece of middle school band literature has been commissioned and composed for the group that will go into circulation after our premiere performance. The Albemarle Middle School Honors Band holds the country's longest running commission project, dating back to the 1970's. This year's guest composer and conductor is Randall Standridge from Jonesboro, Arkansas. Mr. Standridge is a full time composer and editor for Grand Mesa Music Publishers. Students will be notified of their selection by mid-October.

Pep Band

Any Burley 7th or 8th grade band student may participate in the Burley Pep Band. We will perform at the end of October for one evening of girl's and one evening of boy's basketball games. Practices will be during Homeroom on Thursdays. This is optional.

All District Band Auditions – December 6

All 8th grade band students are expected to audition for the District XIII All-District Band. This is great opportunity for students to prepare for an audition and have to perform in a little bit of a pressure environment. The audition is blind. (This means the judges are behind a curtain.) This event will take place on Saturday, December 6. Middle school auditions are first thing in the morning. Any 8th grader who has a conflict with this needs to let Mr. LaPrade know no later than November 7th as we have to pay a fee for each student auditioning.

Secondly, this event will be hosted at Burley this year. The event will involve approximately 700 middle and high school students from 12 counties, and will use every classroom in the building. We will need several parent and student volunteers to help in shifts throughout the day. An email with volunteer information will be sent out within the next month.

Burley Bands and Choirs are headed to New York City!

In April 2015 Advanced Burley Ensembles will be traveling to New York City to take part in a music festival in the form of a band and chorus competition. Qualifying ensembles are: 7th & 8th grade Chorus, 7th and 8th grade Band, Jazz Band, Honor Choir and Bearettes. Our current, proposed itinerary is as follows:

Tentative Itinerary (Subject to change)

Thursday, April 16

Travel day via charter bus
Packed lunch en route
Rest stops as needed
Natural History Museum of NYC
Check in to hotels
Dinner / Shopping at local mall
Lights out

Friday, April 17

Breakfast at hotel
MetLife Stadium Tour
Lunch Cruise / Statue of Liberty photo opportunity
9/11 Memorial
Dinner at Heartland Brewery
Stomp at the Orpheum Theater
Return to hotels, lights out

Saturday, April 18

Breakfast at the hotel
Band and Chorus performances at the College of Staten Island Performing Arts Center
Box lunch (Panera or similar)
Central Park (weather permitting)
Top of Rockefeller Center sightseeing
Medieval Times for awards ceremony, dinner, and show

Sunday, April 19

Breakfast at the hotel
Pack up, clean up, check out
Lunch en route
Rest stops as needed

Cost

The cost of the trip this year is, as with everything else, subject to the cost of fuel and location. Our total trip cost this year is \$650. The trip fee will cover absolutely everything: all food, charter bus transportation, events, three nights hotel accommodations, competitions, attractions, shows, tips, et cetera.

**The first Spring Trip payment of \$162.50,
as well as the trip "Statement of Intent" form are due
October 31, 2014**

Please do not send cash.

Why have a Spring Trip?

We have found that trips are very positive and powerful both for the programs but also for each participating student. As always, participation in this trip is *optional*, but we strongly encourage each student to take part for several reasons:

- The opportunity to perform for, to see and to hear other groups from other parts of the country
- The opportunity to perform for, and receive constructive criticism from, professional judges in a top notch facility
- The opportunity to experience the local culture in the chosen city
- The bonding experience of traveling and performing successfully with our groups
- The resulting boost in pride, self-esteem, and esprit de corps

Requirements for participation

In order to be included in the trip, students must meet the following:

- Be in good standing with the participating ensemble (Band / Chorus)
- Maintain a “C” or better grade average
- Be in good standing with all other school classes and current responsibilities
- Be in good standing in the community
- Meet the account payment deadlines (see the financial sheet.)

Please note: Mr. Jennings and Mr. LaPrade reserve the right to delay or refuse a student’s trip access for any of the reasons listed above.

Discipline

Any and all office referrals may be sufficient cause for dismissal from the Spring Trip, possibly without refund, depending on circumstances.

Chaperones

Chaperones are selected by the directors in the best interests of the participating students. If you are interested in serving as a chaperone, please contact the directors during normal school hours.

A formal application will arrive with the January newsletter. While we are extremely grateful to our parent volunteers, helping out in no way “purchases” an adult a position as chaperone. Again, the students **must** come first. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Burley Middle School

New York City

Financial Facts

Please save this for your records! It is very important!

1. Cost

The cost this year will be \$650.00 per student. **This includes all meals, shows, travel, lodging, gratuities, and required expenses.**

2. Down Payment

In order for us to start reserving the hotel, restaurants, et cetera, we must begin to commit. This requires a \$162.50 per person initial down payment. This is due with your permission slip (the last page of this packet) **no later than Friday, October 31, 2014.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DOWN PAYMENT IS NOT REFUNDABLE after November 30.

Please consider this when deciding whether to participate in the trip.

3. Financial Obligations and Policies

Please understand that we do not pay for the trip in one large lump sum just before we leave; to the contrary, we have already made contact with vendors who require payment in advance, and will continue to do so through March. Because of this, **trip payments are not refundable after 30 days past the published due date.** Once the 30 days have passed, the money is committed to payments that have to be made to reserve services essential to our trip. Student accounts will be published periodically so students and parents can review the balance. Students who are more than a week late making a payment may be *assessed a late fee.*

4. Space

Space is limited to 140 total students in eligible ensembles and is available on a *first come, first served basis.* Students will then be placed on a waiting list and added to the trip in the event space becomes available. Students on the waiting list will not be charged for the trip unless added, whereupon the full current amount will be due or a payment schedule will be arranged with the directors. If there are enough interested students to warrant acquiring a fourth bus, then the directors will explore that option.

5. Financial Payment Deadlines

Amount to be paid	Date	Total Account Balance (Assuming no fund raising)
\$162.50	October 31	\$162.50
\$162.50	December 01	\$325.00
--NO DECEMBER PAYMENT--		
\$162.50	January 30	\$487.50
\$162.50	February 27	\$620.00

6. Fund raising

We will have several fundraisers (pending). We have just finished a coupon book fundraiser and will announce a fundraiser for October very soon. In November we will sell poinsettias. Monies raised will be deducted from the final payment(s).

***Please note:** The directors and the school administration reserves the right to disqualify any student from participation based upon non-compliance with the above conditions. If this should occur, **trip and fundraising money may not be refunded**, as it is most likely already committed to the tour company. Depending upon the situation, some of it may remain in the student's account to be refunded. This policy is in place to avoid having the main body of the ensembles having to pay for another individual's indiscretion.*

Please sign and return the final page of this packet, along with a check or money order for **\$162.50**

Payable to "**Burley Middle School**"

*with your child's name in the memo no later than **FRIDAY, October 31, 2014.***

*Please **do not send cash** to school with your child.*

For your protection as well as ours,

We will NOT accept cash.

We are happy to answer questions, listen to suggestions, or otherwise get to know the parents of our students. Please feel free to contact us during regular school hours!

(434) 295-5101

Mr. Jennings

ext. 50107, cjennings@k12albemarle.org

Mr. LaPrade

ext. 50100, alaprade@k12albemarle.org

Burley Middle School Spring Trip
Initial Permission Slip
and
Letter of Intent
New York City 2015

I, _____ parent/guardian of
(child's first & last name) _____

have read and understand the Spring Trip information packet. My family understands and will abide by the policies. Please find enclosed the down payment of \$162.50

(non-refundable after November 30)

Please make checks payable to Burley Middle School.

Please do not send cash to school with your child!

Signature

Parent contact information:

Parent's / Guardian's name

Email address