

**Gateway Music Festivals & Tours
Danvers High School Band
Waikiki Holiday Parade**

Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor
**Oahu, Hawaii
November 20 – 26, 2011**

April 27, 2010

Dear Parents,

The Danvers High School Falcon Marching Band will represent the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the **Waikiki Holiday Parade** commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor, on Friday, November 25, 2011 on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. This is considered to be a "once-in-a-lifetime" event as this may very well be the last time that this parade will recognize Pearl Harbor survivors. The Falcon Marching Band will be the first band from Massachusetts selected to perform in the Waikiki Holiday Parade recognizing Pearl Harbor survivors. The band will march down torch-lit, Kalakaua Avenue, along Waikiki Beach honoring a Pearl Harbor survivor, who will ride in a car in front of the band.

There are many preparations now under way to prepare for this tremendous event. We will shortly form a donation committee that will prepare a marketing packet to be sent to businesses and organizations inviting them to make tax-deductible donations to our trip. Other committees will be planning and coordinating a variety of fundraisers that will take place over the next several months. Your cooperation, support and involvement will help make our fundraising campaign a success. Please join the Parents for Music Education (PME) on the first Thursday of each month in the high school band room. The meetings are from 7 – 8:30 p.m. Each month we discuss and plan fundraising activities and we provide trip updates as they become available. In addition, the band web site www.danversband.org is a valuable source of information. We also have an email distribution list where you can receive updates and notices regarding band and PME activities. To be included on the list, please send an email to danverspme@yahoo.com. In the email please state your name, your child's name, their year of graduation, and what instrument they play.

Most of the land portion of the trip is confirmed. **The stated cost of the trip includes our travel agent's estimate of what they anticipated air will cost at this point in time.** We will not know for certain the exact cost until group air sales become available in late January and early February.

Our travel agent will also be offering a *Friends and Family Package* for those who may be interested. Since our travel agent is coordinating the band's entire itinerary they can coordinate the *Family and Friends Package* to coincide with the band's activities or allow people the flexibility to do other things as they choose. The hotel for the *Family and Friends Package* will most likely be the same hotel the band will be staying at. We are planning to stay at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, which is a large complex with multiple buildings. Please check the appropriate box on the attached sign up sheet if you are interested in more information regarding this package. The *Family and Friends Package* will be provided as a convenience to those who are interested.

The following conditions must be honored for students to qualify to be on the trip roster.

Eligibility – This trip is open to all current grade 7 – 10 (grade 9 – 12 during the school year 2011-2012) band and color guard students who demonstrate a satisfactory level of musical ability or guard skill. All music and routines learned must be memorized.

Academic Requirement – Every participant must make every effort to remain in acceptable academic standing each quarter.

Fitness Program- All students must maintain a regular routine of exercise to be in condition for this activity. This should include stretching, muscle toning and cardiovascular exercise. The athletic department will put together a packet of information to assist you with this.

Medical Exam – All students will be required to show evidence of passing a physical exam prior to band camp each year and will need to fill out and submit the band medical form prior to band camp.

Fitness Screening – All students will be required to pass a fitness screening by the end of September each year.

Instrument Practice – All students should begin a regular routine of practicing their instrument every day (approximately 30 minutes each day). It is important to develop strong musical skill and endurance.

Rehearsal Schedule/Attendance – In addition to in-school rehearsals, band and color guard members will practice every Wednesday evening 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. and Saturday mornings 9 a.m.- 12 noon (on SAT test dates, practice will be from 1 – 4 p.m.). In addition, percussion and color guard will rehearse on Monday evening 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. All practices and performances are MANDATORY.

Travel – For families who are traveling to Hawaii for the 70th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor: The band will be flying to Honolulu on Sunday, November 20, 2011 and returning on Saturday, November 26, 2011. ALL students must travel with the band with the following exception. If you are planning to travel to Hawaii, and you are planning to extend your trip on either end by flying out before the 20th or returning after the 26th, you may book air for your child with the rest of your family to secure the best rate and keep your family together. This way, you will not be faced with buying round trip air for your family and then trying to get a one-way ticket for your child on either end. However, your child must meet the following trip requirements.

1. Flights must be booked in such a way so your child is able to complete all of our final rehearsals and help us pack before we leave (time to be determined)
2. Your child must be checked in at our hotel on our arrival day by 7 p.m.
3. You will be responsible for airport transfers to and from our hotel
4. Your child must follow our itinerary completely from the point of check-in and they may not depart our itinerary until the very end of the trip (we will designate a time for you to pick up your child at our hotel). It is still a little early to finalize a time but it should be in the ballpark of 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. on the night of November 25th.
5. Your child will pay the "Land Only" price of the trip. We will not have an accurate amount to deduct until February when we book air.
6. You will need to file a "Trip Release Request Form" with Mr. Parsons prior to making the arrangements.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

In order to meet all of the financial obligations for this trip, spread out the payments as much as possible, and keep the monthly payments as low as possible, the following payment schedule is established.

In general, payments will be due on the 15th of each month. The final payment will be due by October 5th (fifth) 2011. A full payment schedule is on the last page of this packet. **The total cost of the trip is anticipated to be **\$2880 per person.**

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**** The stated cost of the trip includes an estimate of the cost we will incur to bring all of our equipment and instruments with us.** This is one of the most challenging aspects of planning any group travel. The airlines have certainly not made it easy or cost effective. We are currently exploring several options for transporting our equipment to Hawaii.

The cost per student is based on quad occupancy. If students choose to have only three students per room each member of the room must pay an additional one hundred forty dollars (\$140). If students choose to have two in the room each student must pay an additional four hundred seventy dollars (\$470.00). If less than four to a room is unavoidable due to the number of students traveling, no additional charge will be required. For example, if the numbers work such that we have all rooms of four, and there are three people left making it impossible to create a room of four, there will be no penalty. If however, there are four (one room could disband to make each of the other three rooms a room of four) or more rooms of three, due to the way students select their rooms, each student will be responsible for the additional charges. **There will be no exceptions to this.**

The attached trip summary must be signed and returned to Mr. Parsons with a one hundred sixty dollar (\$160.00) check made payable to PME by June 15, 2010.

Each student has a personal trip account. The profits they earn in fundraising are held in this account. Profits earned will be deducted from payments 17, 16, 15... For example, if your child has earned \$450, payment 17 (\$320) will be deducted and payment 16 (\$160) will be reduced to \$30.00. Other fundraisers and our donation campaign will be used to help bring down the total cost of the trip for all students. Financial updates will be applied as the funds become available.

CANCELLATIONS

Terms & Conditions

If circumstances arise requiring a student to cancel, the following terms and conditions apply.

Profit from fundraising is not refundable under any circumstances. Funds may only be: applied to defray the cost of your trip, held in escrow for future years, donated to another participant on the trip, or transferred to friend or sibling who will be in band the next time we travel.

The initial deposits for air and land (\$100 each) of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) is non-refundable as of May 15, 2011. PLEASE NOTE: *The air deposit refundable date is subject to change based on the airline we choose, and the conditions of their contract.* The trip cost is based upon a certain number of students participating. For example, if one student cancels, the cost of our bus transportation still remains the same and the cost of the hotel room remains the same even though there will only be three students in the room instead of four.

Based on a room of four:

As of July 15, 2011, seven hundred twenty dollars (\$720.00), 25% (twenty five percent) of the total cost of the trip is non-refundable.

As of August 1, 2011, one thousand four hundred forty dollars (\$1440.00), 50% (fifty percent) of the total cost of the trip is non-refundable.

As of September 15, 2011, two thousand one hundred sixty dollars (\$2160.00), 75% (seventy five percent) of the total cost of the trip is non-refundable.

As of November 1, 2011, two thousand eight hundred eighty dollars (\$2880.00), 100% (one hundred percent) of the total cost of the trip is non-refundable.

We are taking travel insurance (cancellation, interruption and delay) for each individual as provided by Gateway's Trip Mate plan.

To view the plan, log onto: <http://www.tripmate.com>, click on "Plan Information" and enter plan number F433G.

Once we have air booked and the *Family and Friends Package* is available, we will schedule a preliminary planning meeting for parents and students. At this meeting we will distribute a trip planning manual, the suggested fitness program and a planning calendar that will take you right up through our return from Hawaii.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at (978) 777-8925 Ext. 2295 or email me at ronaldparsons@danvers.org.

Looking forward to a great year!
Ronald A. Parsons, Director

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Trip Includes:

Transportation

- ✓ Transfers to/from DHS/Logan Airport
- ✓ Round-trip airfare between Boston and Honolulu # *
- ✓ Lei greeting upon arrival
- ✓ Deluxe Motor coach transportation for all activities and performances on Oahu
- ✓ Motor coach driver's gratuities

Accommodations and Meals

- ✓ Six-night accommodations at the Hilton Hawaiian Village
- ✓ Baggage handling at the hotel
- ✓ Breakfast daily – 6 total
- ✓ Lunches – 2 total
 - USS Missouri Battleship
 - Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park
- ✓ Dinners – 4 total
 - Catered dinner at Kapiolani Park
 - Dinner Cruise
 - Hard Rock Café or similar
 - Polynesian Cultural Center buffet

Sightseeing and Activities

- ✓ Performance in the Waikiki Holiday Parade
- ✓ Polynesian Cultural Center admission
 - IMAX theater
 - Ha-Breath of Life evening show
- ✓ Pearl Harbor touring
 - USS Arizona Memorial tour
 - USS Missouri Battleship performance
 - USS Missouri Battleship admission and self-guided tour
 - USS Missouri Battleship group photo
- ✓ Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park
- ✓ Dole Plantation – includes pineapple maze admission
- ✓ Diamond Head hike
- ✓ Ali'i Kai Dinner Cruise

Logistics

- ✓ Services of a Gateway Tour Manager upon arrival in Honolulu
- ✓ Local Polynesian guide
- ✓ Instrument storage truck on Oahu
- ✓ Equipment transportation
- ✓ Luggage fees at airport *
- ✓ Individual Travel Insurance

#Additional charges may apply for airline surcharges on fuel or tax increases.

***Additional baggage charges may apply.** Size and weight limitations apply. Additional charges for overweight, oversized or excess baggage and equipment subject to imposition by airline not included and will be paid by individual student.

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PAYMENT SCHEDULE

PAYMENT DATE	AMOUNT DUE	CHECK #	DATE PAID
1. JUNE 15, 2010	\$160.00		
2. JULY 15, 2010	\$160.00		
3. AUGUST 15, 2010	\$160.00		
4. SEPTEMBER 15, 2010	\$160.00		
5. OCTOBER 15, 2010	\$160.00		
6. NOVEMBER 15, 2010	\$160.00		
7. DECEMBER 15, 2010	\$160.00		
8. JANUARY 15, 2011	\$160.00		
9. FEBRUARY 15, 2011	\$160.00		
10. MARCH 15, 2011	\$160.00		
11. APRIL 15, 2011	\$160.00		
12. MAY 15, 2011	\$160.00		
13. JUNE 15, 2011	\$160.00		
14. JULY 15, 2011	\$160.00		
15. AUGUST 15, 2011	\$160.00		
16. SEPTEMBER 15, 2011	\$160.00		
17. OCTOBER 5, 2011 (FINAL PAYMENT)	\$320.00		

TOTAL **\$2880.00

In general, payments will be due on the 15th of each month. The final payment will be due by October 5th (fifth) 2011. **The total cost of the trip is anticipated to be **\$2880 per person. Please make checks payable to PME. Checks may be placed in the drop box in the high school band room or mailed to: DANVERS PME, P.O. BOX 2145, DANVERS, MA 01923**

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PERMISSION SLIP

Please sign and return this permission slip with a check for \$160.00 made payable to “Danvers Parents for Music Education” by June 15, 2010.

(Student’s Name) _____ *has my permission to participate in the trip to Oahu, Hawaii, departing Sunday, November 20, 2011 and returning Saturday, November 26, 2011.*

I have read and understand the financial obligations, terms and conditions that are stated in this packet.

Parent’s/Legal Guardian’s signature

Date

Please send me information on the Friends and Family Package

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION
STUDENTS NAME:
PARENTS NAMES:
ADDRESS:
TELEPHONE:
PARENTS EMAIL:
INSTRUMENT:
YEAR OF GRADUATION (YOG):

Please staple check here