

# RIDGE POINT HIGH SCHOOL – BAND & GUARD

## Walt Disney World & Universal Studios

January 29 – February 2, 2020



### Preliminary Guidelines & General Information

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In January 2020, the Ridge Point High School Band & Guard has the opportunity to participate in a variety of performing arts workshops hosted by Walt Disney World! Under the guidance of Disney Teach Artists, students will develop fundamentals, reinforce performance concepts and fine-tune techniques with a fun hands-on session. All students participating on the trip are required to attend a workshop.

There are many things that students and parents need to know about our trip and we hope the details provided here answer your questions. **PLEASE REVIEW THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY** – it outlines important guidelines, participation requirements, and specific trip details necessary to ensure a fun, safe, and rewarding trip for everyone. **Participation in the Disney trip is 100% optional!**

Please note that information related to the trip will evolve as we continue to finalize plans. Ongoing information will be communicated by email to those registered to attend as well as through the Band & Guard website. **It is the student's and parent/guardian's responsibility to be aware of all communications and respond accordingly as needed.**

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#### **TRIP PRICE & INCLUSIONS:**

The maximum out-of-pocket cost is \$1,500/student and covers all expenses necessary to participate on the trip. We guarantee that the total cost will not exceed this amount. Based on preliminary costs and prices of this trip in prior years, we believe that the final cost for everyone will be even less!!

The trip package includes:

- Roundtrip airfare
- Ground transportation
- 4 nights hotel accommodations (quad occupancy for students; double occupancy for directors/chaperones)
- 3-day Disney Park Hopper Pass – admission to Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Hollywood Studios, Animal Kingdom
- 1-day Universal Pass – admission to Islands of Adventure & Universal Studios Orlando
- All meals – 4 breakfasts / 4 lunches / 5 dinners
- Trip T-shirt

This cost does NOT include lunch on departure day or spending money for snacks, souvenirs, etc. during the trip.

As required by FBISD, the cost for directors will be covered 100% by the Ridge Point Band Boosters; the cost for chaperones will be covered approximately 40% by the Ridge Point Band Boosters

### **TENTATIVE ITINERARY**

The following schedule represents a tentative itinerary based on the details currently available to us.

#### **Wednesday – January 29, 2020**

- FBISD Ground Transportation - RPHS to Houston Airport
- Air travel to Orlando – expected to be provided by Southwest Airlines
- Ground Transportation – Orlando Airport to Disney All Star Resort
- Hotel check-in – Walt Disney All Star Music Resort

#### **Thursday – January 30, 2020**

- Breakfast at hotel (meal voucher)
- All Day – Universal Orlando
- Lunch/Dinner – in park (meal vouchers)

#### **Friday – January 31, 2020**

- Breakfast – at hotel (meal voucher)
- Morning – Performance Workshops at Disney
- All Day – Magic Kingdom
- Lunch/Dinner – in park (meal vouchers)

#### **Saturday – February 1, 2020**

- Breakfast – at hotel (meal voucher)
- Morning – Animal Kingdom
- Afternoon/Evening – Hollywood Studios
- Lunch/Dinner – in park (meal vouchers)

#### **Sunday – February 2, 2020**

- Breakfast – at hotel (meal voucher)
- Morning/Early Afternoon – Epcot
- Lunch – in park (meal voucher)
- Ground Transportation – Disney All Star Resort to Orlando Airport
- Dinner – \$\$ provided for meal purchase at airport
- Air travel to Houston
- FBISD Ground Transportation – Houston Airport to RPHS

### **PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY**

The following are guidelines that *must be met to be eligible* to participate on the trip:

- Member of the 2019-2020 RPHS Band & Guard
- Current on all required participation fees for RPHS Band & Guard
- Fulfill all practice and performance obligations for RPHS Band & Guard
- Academically eligible per UIL guidelines for the entire Fall 2019 semester
- Compliance with the FBISD Student Code of Conduct – ISS or greater results in ineligibility
- Compliance with FBISD Extra-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct

**The FBISD Student Code of Conduct and FBISD Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct will also be enforced throughout the trip. Any infraction will result in a student being sent home at the expense of the parent/legal guardian.**

**IMPORTANT!!! Students must be current on all required participation fees for RPHS Band & Guard. If a student is in arrears from this or any prior year(s), they will be ineligible to participate on the trip until paid in full. Additionally, if a student's required participation fees for the 2019-2020 year are not paid in full by August 1, their seat on the trip will be cancelled and any funds paid toward the trip will be transferred to the booster's general fund to cover delinquent participation fees. Once required participations fees are paid in full and a student's account is in good standing, they may be reinstated to participate on the trip, pending seat availability.**

## REGISTRATION - PAYMENT – CANCELLATION

Everyone participating on the trip is required to sign and complete the TRIP REGISTRATION CONTRACT (available on the website) and PAY according to schedule. Parents/guardians must also sign the contract along with their student participant.

There are three payment schedule options. The schedule has been timed so that we are able to cover the required deposits and final balance payments required for this trip.

\*\*\*Amounts noted in parentheses represent the Chaperone cost and does not apply to students.\*\*\*

Payment Option / Deadline / Amount			Details:	Cancellation Policy:
1 + Final	2 + Final	4 + Final		
<u>June 1</u> <b>\$1,000</b> (\$N/A)	<u>June 1</u> <b>\$500</b> (N/A)	<u>June 1</u> <b>\$250</b> (\$N/A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirms your seat on the trip.</li> <li><b>After this date, space on the trip will be limited.</b> Anyone joining the trip after this date will be confirmed on a space available basis.</li> </ul>	<b>Before October 1st:</b> All payments are fully refundable, less a \$50 registration fee and any credit card convenience fees incurred
		<u>July 1</u> <b>\$250</b> (\$N/A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anyone not yet confirmed, should submit the full \$500 due.</li> <li>Seat confirmation is on a space available basis.</li> </ul>	
	<u>August 15</u> \$500 (\$600)	<u>August 15</u> \$250 (\$300)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anyone not yet confirmed, should submit the full \$750 due.</li> <li>Seat confirmation is on a space available basis.</li> </ul>	
		<u>September 15</u> \$250 (\$300)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anyone not yet confirmed, should submit the full \$1,000 due.</li> <li>Seat confirmation is on a space available basis</li> </ul>	
<b>***October 1, 2019***</b>			<b>FINAL DAY TO CANCEL WITHOUT PENALY -- NO EXCEPTIONS!!!</b>	
<u>November 1</u> \$500 (\$350)	<u>November 1</u> \$500 (\$350)	<u>November 1</u> \$500 (\$350)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amount will be adjusted based on the final actual cost of the trip and will not exceed \$500.</li> <li>Orchestra: Final payment will also include an additional fee to cover travel for the orchestra director and will not exceed an additional \$75.</li> </ul>	<b>After October 1st:</b> All payments are non-refundable and payment is due in full

Payments can be made by check - payable to Ridge Point Band Boosters – or credit card.

### Payment by Check

- For those choosing a payment plan, a series of checks to correspond with the payment plan dates must be submitted at the time of initial registration. These checks will be held and deposited on the scheduled due dates.

### Payment by Credit Card

- Credit card payments will incur a convenience fee of \$1 per \$25 (or increment thereof) charged. For example, a \$150 deposit made by credit card will be charged an additional \$6 convenience fee.
- Credit card number and corresponding details must be submitted at the time of initial registration.
- For those choosing a payment plan, charges will be processed on the scheduled due dates.

Cancellations made by the cut-off date will be fully refunded less \$50 and any credit card convenience fees incurred. All refunds due to cancellation will be paid by check; refunds cannot be processed to a credit card.

After the cut-off date, cancellations made for any reason – illness, ineligibility, unexpected personal obligation, etc. - will be subject to the full trip cost, including the final payment due on November 1.

**THE FINAL DAY TO CANCEL YOUR PARTICIPATION IS OCTOBER 1 – NO EXCEPTIONS! All cancellations must be confirmed in writing to Mr. Saldana (luis.saldana@fortbendis.com) AND the trip planner (trouvillemeetings@gmail.com).**

## **HOW DO I PAY FOR THE TRIP?**

We realize that the cost of this trip is significant! The cost of the trip is another reason that we are announcing the financial requirements before summer break. Over the summer months, students can be resourceful with their skills and abilities and turn their efforts into hard-earned money! A few suggestions for students to earn trip money include babysitting, pet-sitting, yard work, impromptu ensemble performances at a local business (with permission of course!), a self-organized small group car wash, etc. You can also reach out to your family and friends for support. Be creative!

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

We are fortunate to be able to offer a limited number of scholarships to qualified students. These scholarships will cover 50% of the trip cost with the student expected to cover the remaining 50%. Scholarship requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis and eligible candidates will be required to meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrate financial need
- Commitment to continuing in the Band & Guard program throughout their high school career
- Meet the trip eligibility requirements as outlined herein

Additionally, scholarship recipients will be required to participate in the trip fundraising efforts.

**Students wishing to be considered for a 50% scholarship must submit their trip registration no later than June 1, 2019 indicated their interest in applying for the scholarship.** Everyone interested in a scholarship will be asked to submit documentation supporting their scholarship request. **Students selected to receive a 50% scholarship will be required to sign a binding scholarship commitment no later than August 1, 2020. If you are applying for a 50% scholarship, you do not need to submit payment until scholarship status is determined.**

## **CHAPERONES**

We will have a minimum of 1 chaperone for every 12 students on the trip to include the following FBISD representatives – Mr. Saldana, Mr. Davis, Mr. Banos, Ms. Charro, and a school administrator. Additional chaperones must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Be a parent/legal guardian of a student on the trip
- Cannot have any other child/student under their care and/or travelling with them
- Approved FBISD Criminal History Application on file

Within the group of chaperones, we will have one to two individuals dedicated to cover student medical needs related to medication administration and medical care.

Chaperone responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, roll call at various designated times and locations, room checks, lights out/quiet enforcement, behavior monitoring, and ensure the general welfare and safety of all students on the trip.

The estimated guaranteed maximum trip cost is \$950/chaperone and includes everything in the student trip package. Chaperone hotel accommodations are double occupancy. Registration, payment and cancellation terms are the same as those outlined for students; the installments are adjusted to reflect the chaperone cost.

**For parents/legal guardians interested in chaperoning, as well as those interested in serving in the capacity of medical personnel, please email Tracy Alexander (mtalexander91@gmail.com).** Chaperones will be confirmed on or before August 1, 2020.

## FAMILY PARTICIPATION

For families who would like to take advantage of the great pricing available for this trip, we are offering a la carte purchasing of hotel, meal vouchers and park tickets. Due to the logistics of airfare and ground transportation, we are not able to offer these options; families are responsible for securing their own air and ground transportation.

Upon receipt of confirmed pricing for all above-noted options, we will distribute details to all Band & Guard families.

A la Carte Item:	Group Price:	Paid in Full By:
Disney All Star Resort - sleeps 4 (Exact property to be announced)	\$ 107/night	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Disney World 3-day Park Hopper Ticket	\$ 290/ticket	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Disney World Meal Voucher – Breakfast (Counter service meal)	\$ 12/voucher	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Disney World Meal Voucher – Lunch or Dinner (Counter service meal – includes dessert)	\$ 19/voucher	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Universal Orlando 1-day, 2-park ticket	Approx. \$100/ticket; <i>prices to be released in July</i>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Universal Meal Voucher – Lunch or Dinner (Includes Quick Service Meal at participating restaurants - entrée, beverage and dessert)	Approx. \$19/voucher; <i>prices to be released in July</i>	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Trip T-shirt	\$20/shirt	September 1 <sup>st</sup>

Payment for a la carte items is due in full at the time of the order and can be paid by check or credit card. If paying by credit card, a convenience fee as previously outlined will apply.

**All items purchased must be used during the time period of this trip and cannot be held to use at a later date. Additionally, we will not issue refunds for any unused items.**

**THE FINAL DAY TO CANCEL AN A LA CARTE ORDER IS OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup> – NO EXCEPTIONS!!! All cancellations must be confirmed in writing to the trip planner (trouvailemeetings@gmail.com).** Cancellations made by the cut-off date will be fully refunded less any processing and convenience fees incurred. Cancellations made for any reason after the cut-off date will be subject to the full purchase cost.

## **PRE-TRIP PARENT/STUDENT MEETING**

Shortly before the trip, we will hold a mandatory parent/student meeting. **Every student participating on the trip, along with at least one parent/guardian must attend this meeting – no exceptions.** At that time, we will review the detailed itinerary and trip rules and related consequences.

## **HOW DO I SIGN UP & CONFIRM PARTICIPATION?**

There are several things you need to do to confirm participation for the trip:

### **Students - ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 15, 2019**

- 1) Complete the online TRIP REGISTRATION on the band website.
- 2) Print and sign the TRIP CONTRACT (found online) to confirm your seat as a STUDENT PARTICIPANT; your parent/legal guardian must also sign this contract
- 3) Submit the required PAYMENTS – either a series of checks or credit card information

### **Chaperones – ONLINE REGISTRATION AUGUST 1, 2019**

- 1) Email Rachel Wallace (rllwallace@hotmail) to indicate your interest in serving as a chaperone
- 2) Upon receiving confirmation of chaperone selection, complete the online TRIP REGISTRATION
- 3) Print and sign the TRIP CONTRACT (found online) to confirm your seat as a CHAPERONE PARTICIPANT
- 4) Submit the required PAYMENTS – either series of checks or credit card information

### **Family Participants – ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 1, 2019**

- 1) Complete the online TRIP REGISTRATION to indicate your a la carte selections
- 2) Print and sign the TRIP CONTRACT to confirm your purchase as a FAMILY PARTICIPANT
- 3) Submit the required PAYMENTS – either series of checks or credit card information

### **Required documentation and payments can be submitted as follows:**

- **Secured lockbox in the RPHS Band Hall (not available during the months of June and July)**
- **USPS mail to- Ridge Point Band Boosters  
9119 Highway 6, Ste 230, Box #131  
Missouri City, TX 77459  
ATTN: Disney Trip 2017**

## **QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TRIP**

For questions about the trip please contact Tracy Alexandear (mtalexander91@gmail.com).

## **KEY CONTACT INFO**

Mr. Luise Saldana	RPHS Band Director	luis.saldana@fortbendisd.com
Tracy Alexander	Booster Vice President	mtalexander91@gmail.com
Christy Stephens	Trip Planner	trouvillemeetings@gmail.com

## FAQ

**What exactly will my student do at Disney/Universal?** First and foremost, they will participate in a workshop to improve their skills in a highly unique setting!! Students will also enjoy the various theme parks – rides, show, attractions – under the indirect supervision of their assigned chaperone.

**How much spending money will my student need?** All necessary expenses are accounted for in the estimated trip cost. Students wanting to purchase snacks or souvenirs will need additional money. The amount of money needed is up to each student and their parent/guardian. If you are concerned about sending cash, a prepaid credit card is a good option. Please note that directors and chaperones cannot be responsible for a student's spending money.

**My student takes medicine/has a medical condition – will you be able to accommodate them?** We will have at least one chaperone assigned solely for the purpose of dispensing meds, taking care of students with medical needs and treating students in the event of illness during the trip.

**Is my student responsible for transporting their own instrument to/from Orlando?** Most students will be able to carry their instrument onto the plane. We have also budgeted for larger instruments to be checked as luggage through the airline.

**When will we know for certain that my student is eligible for the trip?** Students are required to meet the eligibility requirements outlined in this document. UIL eligibility requirements run through the end of the first semester; all other eligibility requirements run up to the day of departure. It is your responsibility to determine if your student is going to be able to continuously fulfill these requirements. Cancellations due to eligibility infractions after October 1 will not receive a refund.

**I would like to chaperone the trip. Can I bring my student's younger sibling to join in the fun?** Chaperones are participating on this trip to ensure the safety and appropriate behavior of the RPHS Band & Guard and Orchestra students. Therefore, chaperones are not allowed to have other children with them over the course of the trip as their attention needs to be fully devoted to the RPHS Band & Guard and Orchestra students.

**We have season passes to Disney/Universal. Can we get a credit for the ticket cost and use our passes instead?** Disney requires every student participating in the workshop to purchase a corresponding park ticket; season passes cannot be used.

**We have frequent flyer points. Can we use those for my student's flights?** Unfortunately, no; Southwest requires everyone travelling with the group to be ticketed in the same manner. This also applies to chaperones.

**We have decided to make this a family trip! (1) Can we book on the same flight(s) that you will be using for the students? (2) Can our band/guard student plan to spend time with us in Orlando? (3) Can we watch the workshop?** (1) You are welcome to reserve seats on any flight that works best for your plans. That said, we will be purchasing all of the "cheap seats" on our confirmed flights. You will likely find better prices on alternate flights. (2) You are welcome to spend time with your band/guard student while in Orlando AS LONG AS YOUR PLANS DON'T DEVIATE FROM THE ITINERARY SET FOR THE ENTIRE BAND/GUARD. (3) Disney only allows the immediate band/guard directors to attend and observe the workshop sessions. Chaperones aren't even allowed to be in attendance for this portion of the trip.

**Will there be additional information provided to students, parents, legal guardians, chaperones, families?** Absolutely! The information contained here is to "get the ball rolling" on the trip. As we finalize all of the details – timing, location, cost, etc. – as well as clearly outline the rules and behavior expectations for the trip, more information will be communicated. We will also provide everyone with suggestions and advice for making the most of their time in the parks. And finally, we will hold a mandatory parent/student meeting in the days immediately prior to trip departure.