



November 12, 2021

Dear **Concert Choir** Parents,

I am delighted to be writing to you now about our upcoming tour!!! The **10th Annual Concert Choir Tour to New York City** and the surrounding area will take place from **March 9-13, 2022**. This year's tour will include performances by the Concert Choir at schools and other venues, as well as our attendance at: three Broadway Shows (we have already booked *Hamilton*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, and have one more "in request" with the box office), as well as other very noteworthy venues.

Obviously, there is substantial cost involved for our tour. **The cost for each student is \$950**. This is less than the cost two years ago, because we are receiving a steep discount from our hotel. We are sending this letter now, because we are offering the possibility of paying in **three payments of \$317 each: The first due on December 10, the second on January 21 and the third on February 17**. Checks for the amounts listed above made out to **St. John Paul II School** can be written and **mailed to my attention, please**. ***If you choose to pay in one lump sum, please have the payment to me on or before January 16***. ***If you have the ability to pay sooner than this date, it honestly helps us because we have already spent thousands on this amazing tour***. (Planning this tour has obviously been particularly tricky this year). I will share more about details in an upcoming message.

In addition to this, the Performing Arts Officers and I are working to develop **fundraising** for this tour. Our primary fundraising medium will be our **raffle**, which can reduce the cost of the tour by hundreds of dollars. In the past, for example, a few members of the choir paid for themselves, and even went beyond this to help others! I will share more about this in the days and weeks to come.

Regarding special COVID steps that are being taking for this tour, we will be having hotel rooms be double occupancy only (unprecedented in my 26 years, and normally cost-prohibitive, so our hotel deserves *many thanks* for covering the cost of this precautionary measure) and we will have a "quarantine" room ready, in case there are any cases of illness that arise. Students, as of this writing, will be required to wear masks at all times while in public, as well as on the tour bus. Please see the next page for the mandatory information that is required in order to attend this tour. We have an excellent tour faculty with us this year, and I am honestly VERY excited about living life to the fullest this year, while being safe, together (the very essence of a choir is being together!). As usual, we plan to travel with a nurse as a part of our team.

PLEASE BE SURE TO READ THE NEXT PAGE CAREFULLY, AND SCAN THE QR CODE SO THAT YOU CAN REPLY THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THIS INFORMATION. OUR SCHOOL HAS WORKED VERY DILIGENTLY WITH THE DIOCESE TO MAKE THIS TOUR POSSIBLE, SO YOUR REPLY IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED AND REQUIRED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

One final and very important note: there can be strategies to assist with serious financial problems. **Our goal is to bring every member of the Concert Choir on this tour, so please let me know now if you have any questions or concerns (I am happy to help)**. There are always a few generous individuals who offer to help with costs, so please contact me if there are any dire financial problems, **or if you would like to help with this noble effort**. We have been blessed with anonymous donations for the tour in the past, and this has helped, greatly. In the meantime, we will continue to work hard and prepare for this exciting tour experience. I can be contacted at rfish@jp.dfrcs.org with any questions you might have. Let us pray for each other, and for this tour! I am

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Fish, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Fish, Jr., Director of Performing Arts

CONCERT CHOIR TOUR 2021 REQUIREMENTS

***PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR THE QR CODE TO REPLY
THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE REQUIREMENTS.***

In order to attend this Concert Choir Tour, the following requirements must be met:

- Proof of at least one vaccination shot (this will need to be carried at all times in New York) **OR**
- A negative COVID test within 3 days of departure from students and chaperones- (See below: New York requires people to have at least one shot to be able to enjoy indoor activities, so this is largely a moot point....).
<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccines-keytonyc.page>
- If a student becomes ill, each family understands that they will need to come to New York to bring their student home, immediately.
- As seen, below, Broadway Theaters currently require vaccinations for all audience members over age 12.

Broadway Theater Covid Protocols (Shared from Broadway.com)

The Broadway League has announced that the owners and operators of all 41 Broadway theaters in New York City will continue to require vaccinations for audience members, as well as performers, backstage crew and theater staff, for all performances through the end of the year. Masks will also be required for audiences inside the theater, except while eating or drinking in designated locations. The League had [previously announced](#) that this would be the protocol through October. For performances starting January 3, 2022 and beyond, theater owners anticipate a review of policies to be determined by December 1.

Under the policy, guests over the age of 12 will need to be fully vaccinated with an FDA or WHO authorized vaccine and present a government-issued photo ID such as a driver's license or passport. Children under the age of 12 must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of the performance start time or a negative COVID-19 antigen test taken within six hours of the performance start time.

"Broadway is back, and it is exhilarating to see the energy on our stages and in our audiences once again," Charlotte St. Martin, President of the Broadway League, said in a statement. "We know that with these policies in place through the end of the year, we will continue to help our audiences feel safe and to deliver them the thrill of Broadway night after night."

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE MENTIONED REQUIREMENTS:

