

Opelika High School

“SPIRIT OF THE SOUTH” MARCHING BAND

April 20th, 2010

TO: Parents and Students of the “Spirit of the South”
WHY: Spring Trip to Chicago, IL
WHEN: March 11-15, 2011
COST: \$750 (estimated)

Dear "Spirit of the South" Parents and Guardians,

The “Spirit of the South” has been invited to perform in the Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Chicago, IL. This is an amazing opportunity to once again showcase the “Spirit of the South” Marching Band in a major parade that will be televised nationally on WGN! We want everyone in the band to travel and participate in this incredible opportunity!

The total trip cost is estimated \$750 (based on number of travelers). This includes:

- ALL Transportation via charter bus;
- ALL Lodging (Holiday Inn Market Square, Downtown Chicago)
- ALL Admissions to Museums, Tours, Shows and Events.
- Upon arrival to Chicago, ALL meals are provided.

Students will be responsible for travel meals, snacks, souvenirs, and spending money.

Although the trip is costly, our booster organization will offer many fundraisers that will help every student raise the money to travel. A percentage of the profits from fundraisers will be placed into student trip accounts.

- 2 Fish Fries
- Pecan Sale
- Onion Sale

Please remember that balances for outstanding band fees must be resolved before fundraising profits can be applied to trip accounts. Payments for the trip begin immediately and the following schedule is required to help budget the trip:

June 1 st	Deposits Due (\$100)	
July 1 st	Trip Payment (\$100)	
August 1 st	Band Dues (\$100)	
August 15 th	Band Dues (\$100)	
September 15 th	Trip Payment (\$125)	<i>deposits non refundable!</i>
October 15 th	Trip Payment (\$125)	
November 15 th	Trip Payment (\$125)	<i>deadline for accounts to be up-to date!</i>
January 15 th	Trip Payment (\$125)	
February 15 th	Trip Payment DEADLINE (est. \$50)	

Chaperone Dues for the trip are \$400 and must be paid in full by November 15th, 2010. In order to travel, chaperones MUST have met the requirements detailed in the OHS Band Handbook. Questions concerning chaperones should be directed to Mr. Smith via email.

Please make checks payable to “Opelika High School Band.” Payments may be sent to the following address:

Opelika High School Band Boosters
P. O. Box 2295
Opelika, AL 36803-2295

Students will be required to meet eligibility requirements set forth by the school and band. Student grades, participation, attitude, and behavior are subject to review. If a student chooses to act unbecoming of a “Spirit of the South” member, the privilege of travel will be revoked.

TENTATIVE Itinerary
Chicago, IL

Day 1 Friday

Depart late Thursday (load-in 6pm, bag check, and travel by bus at 10pm)

Museum of Science and Industry Admission and IMAX Movie

The Museum of Science and Industry, the largest science museum in the western hemisphere is home to more than 35,000 artifacts and 14 plus acres of hands on exhibits designed to spark scientific inquiring and creativity.

Lunch at the Museum of Science and Industry

Check-in Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza, River North Chicago Hotel, located adjacent to the Chicago Merchandise Mart, and has the best views of all Downtown Chicago, seen from the top of the Chicago Apparel Center.

Dinner at Gino's East Pizzeria

Day 2 Saturday

Breakfast at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza

Perform in the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. This Parade is televised on Chicago's WGN.

Lunch at Magnificent Mile, Gangster Tour, and Navy Pier

Evening Dinner and Cruise aboard the Spirit of Chicago

Day 3 Sunday

Breakfast at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza

Field Museum was founded to house the biological and anthropological collections assembled for the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. The Museum has since expanded greatly and hosts many other permanent exhibits including "Sue" the most complete T-Rex fossil ever found.

Lunch at Field Museum

The Shedd Aquarium promotes the enjoyment, appreciation and conservation of aquatic life and environments through education, exhibits and research. Admission includes the Aquarium and Wild Reef sections.

Sears Tower Sky Deck, the best view and best overview of Chicago. At 1,353 feet (412 meters), the Skydeck is the highest observatory in Chicago. The view is amazing! You can see 40 – 50 miles (65 - 80 kilometers) on a clear day. Imagine seeing Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, just by walking around the Skydeck.

Meal at Ed Debevic's, American Food, Chicago Style!

Blue Man Group Performance

Day 4 Monday

Breakfast at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza

Check-out of hotel, load buses for home