

EMERALD HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

STUDENT/CHAPERONE - INTEREST LETTER AND FORM NEW YORK / CARNEGIE HALL APRIL 2026

April 4th, 2025

Dear Emerald HS Band Orchestra Families,

I am collecting information to travel to New York to perform in the National Band and Orchestra Festival in Carnegie Hall for our grades 9-11 band and orchestra students. This overnight trip will take place from **Thursday, April 2nd, 2026 - Tuesday, April 7th, 2026**. We will work with WorldStrides to plan this trip. Students will be absent from one minimum day of school and they are expected to submit any missing classwork/homework late. This will be an excused absence and will be marked as an "activity" in attendance. More refined details about this will be sent out in the first week of the school year.

- The New York trip is not 100% guaranteed. It also requires board approval.
The purpose of this letter and interest form is for Mr. Tran to identify if this trip is viable. Please complete this form by Friday, April 18th 5PM.
- Mr. Tran, in partnership with WorldStrides, will plan the main details over the summer.
- We are primarily planning on taking members of Band 3 (Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble) and Orchestra 3. If there is room, then we will consider students from the other music classes and programs.
- In terms of how many members we can bring, we have two options. These options are based on the minimum requirements Carnegie Hall has in addition to ensuring this trip is affordable for our school.
 - OPTION 1: This trip is limited to 52 students, 2 staff, and 2 chaperones. Students who are not in either of these groups are eligible to participate if spots are available and instrumentation needs. Mr. Tran reserves the right to select who can participate.
 - This group would be a combined band and orchestra to form SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

- **OPTION 2:** This trip is limited to 100 students, 2 staff, and 5 chaperones. Students who are not in either of these groups are eligible to participate if spots are available and instrumentation needs. Mr. Tran reserves the right to select who can participate.
 - This would be two groups. 50 minimum for band and 50 minimum for orchestra.
 - If we do not meet the minimum requirements for either ensemble then we will combine band and orchestra to form SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.
- Chaperones can choose to book an individual room or share with another chaperone to reduce their cost. Depending on the option above, a certain number of chaperones spots are locked in at the same price as the student price.
- Families who are not chaperones that want to attend may not travel with the group as this is a school field trip and not a vacation.
- In the first week of the next school year, Mr. Tran will announce whether we are moving forward with the trip or not. Families will receive the "Intent to Participate" form if we choose to proceed.

The total cost will depend on the number of students/chaperones that attend. The final amount will be calculated once we have set the amount of students attending. The total cost per attendee is split by how many people there are per hotel room. These costs include some (not all) meals, hotel, airfare, and select trip transportation. There will be days where we ask the students to bring some money for free days and meals not covered by the trip. If we do not receive sufficient contributions and cannot make up the shortfall with fundraising, we will not be able to move forward with the trip and we will forfeit our spot.

Here is what is included in the cost:

- Two buses airport transfers in California (Most likely, Whitecastle Tours)
- Roundtrip Flights (Most likely, United Airlines)
- 4 Nights in student-friendly hotel in Manhattan (Most likely, Marriott Marquis Time Square)
- Bus transportation to and from Carnegie Hall on performance day
- Two buses airport transfers in New York
- One bus day to go to different locations in Manhattan
- One Broadway show
- Five Meals
- Sightseeing: Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island
- Two other sightseeing locations
- Medical accident, and liability insurance coverage is included. WorldAssist: World Stride's industry leading safety team is on call, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks a

year to deal with any issues that may arise on your tour.

- Health, Dental, and Accident Insurance: WorldStrides carry health, dental, and accident insurance on EVERY traveler to ensure they receive the care they may need while on tour (pays secondary to personal insurance).
- Students can receive up to 3 college credits when traveling with WorldStrides! *[Please do not ask Mr. Tran about this. Information will be sent out later and students must refer to the information posted there. Mr. Tran is not involved with this at all.]*

Here are the ESTIMATES:

Please note these are HIGH estimates. The actual costs will be solidified as we get closer to the date and confirm the total amount of people attending.

Single (1) Rooms Per Person	Double (2) Rooms Per Person	Triple (3) Rooms Per Person	Student: Quad (4) Rooms Per Person Staff/Chaperone: Single (1) Rooms Per Person [DESIGNATED Chaperones Only]
\$6,127	\$4,695.00	\$4,195.00	\$3,895.00

Please see the communication document for the donation schedule.

As you talk with your student and make a decision about whether to participate, please keep the following details in mind:

- Although DUSD does not have a vaccination/mask policy, we are required to follow any mask policy recommended/enforced by state, county, local, venue, etc.
- You may want to see if your employer participates in matching contributions. You will be making contributions through the school's ASB account which is considered a tax deductible donation. We recommend completing this early.
- If we do not receive enough money in contributions/funds when we are required to pay for any of the expenses listed above, we will have to cancel this trip.
- Students who lose privileges during the first quarter to excessive tardies or misbehavior, may be precluded from participating at the discretion of the music teacher or principal. Families will *not* receive a refund if any of these items arise.
- Students who have two or more F's can not participate on the trip. We are using quarter 1 grades for grade eligibility. Families will *not* receive a refund if any of these items arise.
- These contributions are considered donations to the school. ([This link is for general donation information, not to donate for the trip.](#)) Once a contribution/donation has been made, a family can not request a refund unless the school/district cancels the

event. We are not accepting trip-specific donations at this time.

- The chaperone to student ratio that needs to be maintained is 1:16. Chaperones are in charge of 4 hotel room groups. Chaperones are an integral part of our trips, so if parents/guardians are interested in chaperoning then please sign up below as well. Chaperoning is easy because our students are amazing!
- The final sign up will take place in the first month of the next school year. This is an interest form to gather data so Mr. Tran knows if this trip is viable.

~~[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE INTEREST FORM.](#)~~

~~FORM IS CLOSED.~~

Please contact Mr. Tran directly if you have any questions or concerns, but we respectfully ask that you wait until the confirmation of the trip for any details pertaining to it. If you are interested in your student attending this trip, you must complete the Google Form by the deadline.

Sincerely,

Jasper Tran
Music Director
Emerald High School
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NEW YORK

April 2026

www.emeraldhsmusic.org

Jasper Tran, Music Director



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