East & Power Middle School 8th Grade Performing Arts Chicago Trip
April 25-26, 2019

This year's trip to Chicago is certain to provide lifelong memories! It is open to 8th grade band, orchestra, and choir students. In addition to a clinic for each group, the trip will include motor coach transportation, one night hotel lodging, seven meals, visits to the Shedd Aquarium, lunch and shopping at the Navy Pier, a "Blue Man Group" show, and a "Comedy Sportz" improv show. It's great fun!

We will leave early in the morning from East MS & Power MS on Thursday, April 25, and return around 11:00 p.m. on Friday, April 26. The cost will depend on the number of students and adults that sign up for the trip. If 130 or more sign up, **the cost per student is $332** (quad occupancy). We also need parents to join us on this fun-filled adventure as chaperones. **The cost for adult double occupancy is $382**. Chaperones from previous years have really enjoyed the trip. The more chaperones the better, so please join us! The price will go up if we have fewer than 150 total (students & chaperones). The amount may be paid in full or in four installments: a deposit of $85 by November 8th, $85 by December 6th and by January 25th, and a final payment of $77 by March 8th. For adults the $85 deposit followed by 3 payments of $99 each for adults. If you choose to take out the Refund Guarantee Protection, add $34 to the deposit. (This is highly recommended - you get your money refunded from Brightspark Travel if your plans change and your child/you can no longer go on the trip.)

Brightspark Travel is the tour company arranging the trip. Registration is easy: just go to **https://portal.brightsparktravel.com** and enter the **tour web code**: **T2U5ZJK**. It is important to sign up by December 1st so that we can get an accurate count of how many students/parents are participating. The price will go up by $10 for late registrations after January 1st. Space will be filled on a first come, first served basis. The price is determined by the date/time Brightspark receives their first payment. Students are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible in order to secure a seat. You may pay in full or in installments. There is also a great new program that Brightspark offers called "Help Me Travel" where family or friends can contribute monetary gifts towards your child's travel. See the attached Brightspark letter and "Help Me Travel" flier for more information. Registration can only be done online, please do not bring money to your teacher.

Student Eligibility Requirement

The East & Power Middle School Performing Arts Department plans trips to provide musical and educational experiences for our students and to reward them for quality effort and performance throughout the year. Unexcused absences from required performances or rehearsals or inappropriate classroom and rehearsal behavior may be grounds for exclusion from the trip.

Eligible Students Will:

- Receive no more than a total of 3 "N" (Needs Improvement) or "U" (Unsatisfactory) grades in citizenship on all progress reports and report cards in ALL classes. (when you receive your 4th "N" and/or "U" you are no longer eligible to go.)
- Have no Level 2 behavior-related suspensions (in or out of school).
- Receive a passing grade in their performing art class on their report cards.

This policy is important. It forewarns students and parents that there are consequences for improper behavior by trip participants. If a student becomes ineligible to attend this trip, there is a possibility of lost monies. Purchasing the refund guarantee protection (RGP) for the trip can ensure that almost all money would be refunded.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us by email or at 248-489-3601. Looking forward to a fantastic trip!

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