

FUNDRAISERS—OUR FINAL TWO FUNDRAISERS BOTH BEGIN TOMORROW

PIZZA: This fundraiser will run for two weeks—unused cards and one check will be due on January 31st. Pizza cards sell for \$10 with \$8 profit going to the seller—AWESOME! Know **tomorrow** how many cards you want—they will be given out in groups of 10 cards each. Thank you, Jodi Hubert and Mary Doherty!

CANDY BARS: Need to be ORDERED by next week. Order form and info are ATTACHED. Thank you, Jennifer DePaolo!

TRIP PAYMENT

Somewhere our trip payment calculations were mistaken, causing a disparity between info in parent letter #9 and last week's #18. *Parent letter #9: "Initial down-payment was \$225. Remaining payments of \$300 are due November 1st, January 17, February 24, and March 13."* We now estimate the trip at \$1500, but if you only have the \$300 budgeted for January 17th, that works and I apologize for sending out different information without an explanation.

Please keep track of your fundraisers and trip payments. According to Treasurer Susan Foery we have MANY who have already made/paid OVER the trip. At the end of the year there are no refunds, you can only transfer funds to another singer who needs them, so keep accurate records (hopefully better than I do.....).

TRIP INFORMATION

There are STILL singers and chaperones who have not completed the registration online (one of our requirements for chaperones was that they be people we could count on to meet deadlines....) No registration, no airline tickets, hotel room, etc.

Also, only TWENTY singers responded to our t-shirt request last week. ALL singers AND chaperones must order their Festival t-shirts through Susan. The T-shirts are child size (they do not have adult sizes....so think BIG, chaperones!) and run from S, M, L, XL, XXL, to XXXL. Please email singer (and chaperone name) with sizes THIS WEEK to susan@harrymartincartoons.com.

We arrive in New York City on a Thursday night, with hotel check-in at approximately 6 p.m. Children will have been up since 3 a.m. They will be TIRED, although excited to see the city. A good chaperone choice for that evening might be dinner, then exploring and seeing the lights on Times Square. The next day is full, including the 9/11 Memorial, rehearsals, and the LION KING. Some chaperones have already made plans to see a musical on Thursday evening. This is NOT covered in the cost of the trip, and also not encouraged—we know NYC might be a “once-in-a-lifetime” for some, but our first responsibility is taking care of the children in our care. We will not say you CAN'T make

plans for Thursday night, but groups will not be determined by this, and ALL children will be chaperoned that evening, regardless of whether or not they want to pay extra dollars for another show. The only time chaperones will not be responsible for children is during rehearsals, when Marcia, Paula, and Robin will be the supervising adults.

TOMORROW-----ROOMMATES and CHAPERONES: Since the Festival needs this by Feb. 6th, we will ask students to write roommate requests tomorrow at rehearsal. We ask each singer to list 4-6 other children. Please do NOT just list a group of 3 and predetermine these groups!! (At the same time, if a child doesn't KNOW that many other singers yet, please be assured that I will do my very best to put them with a group that will work for them. Please discuss this with your child before tomorrow, but we will take time to write requests during rehearsal. (Children may "rank" their choices, and there will also be space for children to write if there is anyone they cannot have as a roommate—this information will not be shared). This is a HUGE puzzle, and I do it thoughtfully with the goal of NO CHILD LEFT OUT (NOT with the goal of a FEW children being ecstatic). Thanks!

CONTEST!!!!!!!

We will also have our OWN travel t-shirts, as we do every year. These are included in your trip cost. We need IDEAS for the motif on the t-shirt. Something to do with singing in New York City.....at Carnegie Hall.....in the Big Apple.....or the Empire State Building....or...?!

Singers, please submit your drawing/idea by 2/4. The winner will receive a \$25 Visa Card.

COSTUMES

Free (outgrown) slacks are available. Parents, please see me after rehearsal if you would like to look at these free slacks (and some shoes). Outgrown slacks are always welcome!

FEBRUARY—don't forget

"Ani ehh yeh" composer Lee Kesselman from Chicago will be here on February 4th, Saturday, 4:00-5:30 p.m. We will rehearse from 4-5, then move into the sanctuary at St. Mark's and perform the piece (not polished....) so parents can listen and dialogue with the composer. This is the piece dedicated to former Chorale singer Jason Hill.

Church tour is Sunday, February 26th. The week preceding Church Tour, please try to make both Tuesday and Thursday rehearsals since they will be at the participating church sites.

Read it, print it, save it ☺