

Grade 9 Whistler Cantando Music Festival Tour

April 27th – April 29th 2018

Dear Grade 9 Parents,

As most of you are aware, we have been planning a grade 9 tour to **The Whistler Cantando Music Festival** for this spring. We are pleased to inform you that our program and ensembles have been accepted to attend this festival and we are now in the planning stages of putting the tour together with the help of “Affinity Group Tours.”

We strongly believe in the tour experience for our students and look for a number of key aspects when deciding on where we will go.

- A tour must be highly educational with several musical experiences where students will learn from great clinicians, attend wonderful concerts, and have the opportunity to meet students and musicians from other schools and cultures.
- We look for performance venues that will have large audiences and allow our students to show how great they can play.
- We look for a destination that will be exciting for our students to travel to.
- We look for tours that have proven to be successful with other strong music programs similar to the Semiahmoo Music Program.
- We do our very best to offer a tour at as reasonable a price as possible.

Beyond all of the above aspects, we truly believe that when we go on tour, each and every student in the touring ensembles should go. Each person has a key role in his/her ensemble.

Please take the time to read through the attached documents. To secure your son/daughter’s place on this tour, we must receive the following by **Monday, November 6th 2017**:

1. **Permission Form**
2. **Payment of \$315 (All cheques must have student first/last names, and students #s on them)**

Option #1	Pay amount of \$315.00 in full in one cheque. Dated for November 6 th , 2017 (Made out to Semiahmoo Music Society)
Option # 2	Option 2: Make out two cheques out to Semiahmoo Music Society (Both handed in with this package) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100.00 Dated for November 6th 2017 • \$215.00 Dated for January 15th 2018

3. **Informed Consent and Release of Liability Form (signed by student and parents)**
4. **Rules form (signed by student and parents)** One Copy is for you, the second is for the Department

If you are interested in being on our chaperone team, please read through our chaperone information sheet and follow the steps given to apply to be one of our chaperones.

Thank you, The Music Directors



SEMAIHMOO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Whistler Cantando Music Festival

April 27 – April 29, 2018

3 Days / 2 Nights

FRI APR 27 SURREY, BC / WHISTLER, BC

This morning, board your coaches and depart for Whistler, BC.

2 nights moderate accommodation at the Blackcomb Lodge - 4220 Gate Way Dr ph 1-604-932-4155

Performances: Concert Bands & Wind Ensembles, Jazz Bands and Choirs each give an adjudicated performance that becomes the basis for building on ensemble strengths in the workshops that follow the performance. Each ensemble receives recorded and written comments and a plaque with an optional gold, silver, bronze rating.

Massed Choir rehearsals – Massed voice rehearsal takes place in the afternoon.

Conducting Workshop – Teachers participate in a free conductor's workshop.

This evening, enjoy a **Festival Concert** at the **Whistler Conference Centre**.

SAT APR 28 WHISTLER, BC

Enjoy breakfast (**included**).

Performances and Workshops continue today for all groups.

Master classes – Instrumentalists participate in 50-minute classes with outstanding professional performers and educators. Vocalists participate in workshops with similar vocal clinicians.

This evening, enjoy a **Festival Concert** at the **Whistler Conference Centre**. **Mass Choir** also to perform. Directors to attend the **Directors' Reception**.

SUN APR 29 WHISTLER, BC / SURREY, BC

Enjoy breakfast (**included**).

Best Performing Groups Perform at the Whistler Conference Centre - groups are chosen by the adjudicators to perform for other students.

Most Mature Choir

Best Sounding Jazz

Best Sounding Concert Band

Festival finishes at 12:00 noon. Board your coaches for the journey back to Surrey.

Welcome home & Happy Memories!!!

SEMIAHMOO SECONDARY SCHOOL

WHISTLER CANTANDO MUSIC FESTIVAL

QUOTES:

Based on 90 paying students and 12 non-paying adults: **\$315.00 PP**

INCLUDES:

- Return transportation by 2 x 56 passenger coaches;
- 2 nights moderate accommodation at Blackcomb Hotel (or similar), with students four to a room (23 rooms in total) and chaperones two to a room (6 rooms in total), including all applicable taxes;
- Daily breakfast;
- Festival fees for 1 concert band and 2 jazz ensembles. This includes 30-minute adjudicated performance, 50-minute workshop, Master classes, Evening Concerts, Directors Workshop, Student Social/Dance; & a Directors' Reception;
- All applicable taxes;
- \$35.00 per diem for 12 adults;
- Services, planning & representation of Affinity Group Tours & Cantando Festival staff;

NOT INCLUDED:

- Lunches or dinners;
- Gratuities to coach drivers;
- Tips or Gratuities to anyone, besides breakfasts;
- Parking fees, phone calls, Items of a personal nature;
- Optional sightseeing or activities;

Call for Chaperones:

In order to run a tour, we will need to have an energetic and dedicated chaperone team. We are welcoming all parents who are interested in being chaperones to email us at the following address lee_k@surreyschools.ca. Being a chaperone is not a holiday. Our chaperone teams work long hours and there is a lot expected of them. They do however have a wonderful experience and get to see firsthand what great students we have at in the Semiahmoo Music Program. It is always a difficult decision choosing our chaperone team after the application process. There are, however some key features that we look for in our chaperones. We would ask that parents applying to be on the chaperone team address the following points in their application and what kind of experience they have. *This being said, we are aware that not all parents will meet all the following criteria, and will consider all applications.*

Key aspects of being a Semiahmoo Music Department Chaperone:

1. First Aid/Medical Experience (*On our chaperone team, we will need at least 2 chaperones with first aid certificates preferable a male and a female*)
2. Experience in working with young people
3. Involvement with the Semiahmoo Music Program (*Though chaperones are not just chosen based on this point, we like to bring parents along that we have seen interact with our students. Thus parent involvement is where we are able to see this interaction take place*)
4. Excellent people and communication skills.
5. The ability to follow and take direction from the directors.
6. Knowledge of the destinations that we are going to on tour.
7. Being available for pre tour chaperone meetings. *At this point we are looking at having our pre-tour chaperone meeting on Monday, April 16th, 2018 at 7:30pm.*
8. Being available in the weeks before the tour to contact all of the students that you will be responsible

Grade 9 Whistler Cantando Music Festival Tour
April 27th - April 29th 2018
Permission Form

Student Given First Name: _____

Student Name (If different than above): _____

Students Last Name: _____

Student Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

I _____ (First/Last Name) do hereby give permission for my Son/Daughter _____ (First/Last Name) to go on tour with the Semiahmoo music program to the Whistler Cantando Music Festival from the dates of April 27th - April 29th, 2018. My signature also gives guardianship responsibilities to the directors Kevin Lee, Dagan Lowe, and Sarah Kennedy and the chaperone team for this tour.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

SEMIAHMOO GRADE 9 WHISTLER CANTANDO MUSIC FESTIVAL

TRIP RULES AND STANDARDS

1. Members should understand that all normal school rules apply to this field trip.
2. Directors and chaperones will be given immediate and friendly cooperation.
3. Illness must be reported immediately to director or a chaperone.
4. It is the responsibility of all members to know the tour itinerary and to be able to follow it accurately.
5. Three Rule: during unsupervised periods students will always be in groups of three or more.
6. Respect must be shown to hotel staff, other guests and hotel property. Hotel protocol for all guests is for quiet after 11pm even if we arrive after that.
7. Room check: There will be a room check each night, times TBA. Expect the chaperone to have access to your room and to see all roommates. Students are expected to remain in their room after the conclusion of room check.
8. Members will not accept invitations to visit rooms of people other than our group. We will not accept visitors from other schools in our rooms either. Visit and socialize at the festival and in public areas of the hotel.
9. "Mixed rooms" within our group is permitted if the door is left "ajar". Mixed company behind locked doors will result in disciplinary action. (Mixed rooms must not be fewer than 3 students at any time)
10. At any time during an offsite tour, students will not engage in behavior that reflects poorly (including displays of affection) upon our peers, school, district, or that makes others uncomfortable.
11. Members will not accept transportation by other than our own vehicles.
12. Use or possession of drugs or alcoholic beverages will result in serious disciplinary action and may include being sent home at parents' expense.

I understand that as a participant of this Semiahmoo Secondary Band trip I am representing our Music Department, our school, and our community. Our groups receive financial support from members of our community and hope to continue doing so for many years to come.

I also understand that I have a responsibility to the group as a whole. My attitude and behavior have a direct effect on both the tone of the group and the success of this trip and those that will follow.

I have read the rules pertaining to this trip and understand that there are consequences for failing to live up to this agreement. The listed rules and consequences have been discussed and fully understood.

STUDENT NAME (print)

STUDENT SIGNATURE

PARENT NAME

PARENT SIGNATURE

Please **keep one copy at home and return the other copy signed** with parent and student signature to the forms box in the large band room.

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