

Dear Students,

It's time to choose how you will spend your FREE TIME in London! You and your parents should read this letter carefully. Your response is required by OCTOBER 7.

In addition to this letter, you should have received the following.

- London Free Time Preference Form (3 yellow pages) which you must complete in full. Please return to the FREE TIME BOX in the band room by Tuesday, OCTOBER 7.
- A packet of 13 FULL DAY itineraries to choose from for Section 1 of the Preference Form.

All of these items can also be found on the band website www.amadorband.org.

IMPORTANT! The free-time choices you will be making have associated costs, which are listed within each choice. **The costs listed are approximate.** Please make choices within your own personal budget. Your choices are a commitment and you are responsible for all associated costs. Parents, please review and approve your student's choices.

Your Checklist (please do the following):

- Review the London Free-Time Preference Form.
- Complete the contact information.
- Complete Section 1: Identify your top 3 choices from the FULL DAY Itineraries.
- Complete Section 2 (page 2): From the list provided in this section, identify your preferences for how you want to spend the evening of January 1.
- Complete Section 3 (page 3): If you are NOT in Wind Ensemble I, then identify your preferences for how you want to spend the afternoon of December 29.
Note: For more information on the January 1 and December 29 activities, visit the websites listed in Sections 2 and 3, or go to the www.amadorband.org website, London information.
- Parents and students must initial and sign (page 1).
- Return the London Free Time Preference Form (3 yellow pages) to the FREETIME BOX in the band room **BY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7. Early returns are much appreciated!**
- Do not attach any payment at this time.**

Anticipated questions and hopefully helpful answers...

Can I change my mind after October 7? No. Logistics and pre-purchased tickets and admissions obligate you to your decision, so please make it carefully and in full consideration of the costs.

Are these costs separate from the London Payment due on November 1? Yes, these costs are in addition to the general trip costs. Since it is a discretionary expense, the choices available to you range from nearly no cost to about \$120. Choose itineraries that suit your interests and budget.

Why are the costs listed as a range instead of an exact cost? The range is approximately the lowest possible cost to the highest possible cost, given all known factors. Two common factors are “group rate” availability and age-based admission prices. Your final choices – collectively and individually – will allow us to determine a more accurate cost.

When do I pay for my free-time activities? When we notify you of your itinerary assignments, we will give you specific payment instructions. In general, any payment necessary for prepaid tickets, admissions or transportation vouchers will be due by October 21. Other activities will be paid at the time of the activity in London, so students should be careful to set aside funds for those activities while in London.

What if I want to be with my friends during free-time? You and your friends should then select the same itineraries in the same priority order.

What if I do not turn in my form? If you do not turn in your form, you will be assigned to one of the two NO COST itineraries (see Itinerary #1 and #2)

May I turn in my forms late? Well...yes...**BUT**...the ability to honor your choices will be **severely limited** if your form is turned in after October 7. Itineraries that include a performance event will be CLOSED after October 7, no exceptions. Other itineraries may become closed once pre-purchased admissions are completed. **IF YOU WANT YOUR TOP CHOICES, THEN TURN IN YOUR PREFERENCE REQUESTS ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 7.** Why risk it? Get your forms in ON TIME and you don't have to worry about it.

What happens next? By October 14, you will be notified **via email** of the FULLDAY and PARTIAL DAY activities to which you have been assigned and you will be given payment instructions.

Please remember ... Your choices are a commitment and you are responsible for the cost. In the event you cannot pay for all of your costs, you will be reassigned to a NO COST itinerary; however, any funds already spent on your behalf for pre-purchased tickets, admissions or transportation vouchers will be your responsibility and will be billed to your AFM account in the event of non-payment.

Thank you to the committee of parents who has worked diligently for the last month in preparing these wonderful opportunities.

If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Palowitch (contact info below).

Sincerely,
Marilyn Palowitch
925-426-7223
marilynpalowitch@comcast.net

Mr. Jon Grantham
925-461-6196
jgrantham@pleasanton.k12.ca.us