



Memorandum

Date: May 6, 2010
To: CYSO Parents
From: Dennis Burkhardt, 2011 Tour Project Director
RE: Chaperone Applications

The application form for those interested in being a chaperone for the CYSO 2011 tour to Hungary, Slovakia and Poland is now available. The tour dates are June 23 through July 5, 2011.

The specific itinerary is in the process of being finalized. Our current plan is to leave SeaTac on June 23 and land in Budapest, Hungary. At the end of our tour we will fly from Warsaw, Poland back to SeaTac.

The cost for chaperones of \$4400 is the same as for the student musicians. This covers airfare, ground transportation, hotels, breakfasts and dinners. Lunches are not covered.

A key role for chaperones is to work with the tour staff to monitor the health and safety of the entire tour group. We typically assign light duties to the chaperones, such as assisting students with being on time for meals, concerts and loading our bus. Chaperones also assist by accompanying the large group or smaller groups to activities and events of interest such as exploring parts of the cities we will visit. We work to build in some unscheduled times, so chaperones are not always "on duty".

One of the expectations is that the chaperones function as part of the tour group and participate on the same schedule in regard to meals, excursions, concerts and other parts of the tour. Some of the skills or qualities we look for include having the physical stamina to walk medium to long distances, help load/unload luggage, flexibility and adaptability to new or changing situations, and patience. Problem solving abilities, positive outlook and solid interpersonal skills are assets that are highly desirable. I expect that chaperones model appropriate behaviors and take responsibility to contribute to make the tour a positive event for everyone.

From my experiences on the 2002, 2005 and 2008 CYSO European tours, I can say with confidence that the chaperones all enjoyed the adventure. If you would like more details or have questions about any of this, please contact me at burkhardtd@comcast.net or call me at 206-542-7602.