

byu international folk dance ensemble



Folk Dance Ensemble

Brigham Young University
Provo, Utah USA

Nevada-California-Illinois-Nauvoo
2013

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Tour Participants

2013

Women Dancers

Nell Cunningham
Mikayla Ellison
Kaitlyn Gourley
Whitney Halford
Lisa Hepfinger
Allison Jardine
Heidi Johnson
Taylor Jones
Emily Kleinkopf
Jaymie Lambson
Danielle Murray
Lauren Piperato
Amber Shepherd
Brittany Wride

Men Dancers

Jason Allen
Sam Alva
Craig Call
Will Farnbach
Brian Fernandez
Brian Francis
Christopher Gallacher
Jay Jacobson
Nathan Kuhlman
David Lewis
Nathan Pehrson
Cody Phillips
Mike Romney
Drew Wilde

Musicians

Jordan Benson
Grace Dayton
Alina Geslison
Scott Monson
Lauren Morris
Carrie Ostler
Sarah Olsen
Lucy Tingey

Technicians

Chris Cunningham
Sarah Klopp
Doug Olsen
Tyler Smith

Tour Leaders

Jeanette Geslison
Blaine Empey
Ashlee Taylor
Mark Ohran
Jonathon Wood
Britney Wood
Colleen West
Jeff West

Artistic Director
Athletic Trainer
Athletic Trainer
Technical Director
Tour Manager
Chaperone
Tour Manager
Chaperone

Both Tours
Nauvoo Tour
Midsemester Tour
Both Tours
Midsemester Tour
Midsemester Tour
Nauvoo Tour
Nauvoo Tour



Performing Arts Management

Oliver House • Provo, UT 84602-8500 • (801) 422-3576 • Fax: (801) 422-0546 • Email: perform@byu.edu

Updated 3/5/2013

FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA **MARCH 8 – MARCH 16, 2013**

ITINERARY

<u>Fri, March 8</u>	<u>Departure/Mesquite, NV</u>	<u>(299mi/4:39)</u>
7:30 am	Load Bus at RB	
8:00 am	Depart for Mesquite, NV	
<i>Gain 1 Hour just before Mesquite</i>		
12:00 pm	Lunch-Per Diem	
1:00 pm	Load-in	
4:00 pm	Dinner out at ranch near by-BBQ dinner (<i>takes 15 minutes to get there, and the bus can go there</i>)	
6:30 pm	House opens	
7:00 pm	Performance in Virgin Valley High School (515 Seats) <i>820 Valley View Drive Mesquite, NV 89027</i>	
9:00 pm	Strike Show	
10:30 pm	Home with host families	
<u>Sat, March 9</u>	<u>Las Vegas, NV</u>	<u>(84 mi/1:29)</u>
9:30 am	Depart for Las Vegas, NV	
	Visit Hoover Dam	
12:00 pm	Lunch-sack lunch provided by host families	
1:00 pm	Load in/set up	
4:00 pm	Dinner provided by presenter at The Lorenzi Chapel @ 221 Lorenzi St.	
7:00 pm	House opens	
7:00 pm	Performance at Cashman Center (1922 seats) <i>850 Las Vegas Blvd. North Las Vegas, NV 89101</i>	
10:30 pm	Home with host families	
<u>Sun, March 10</u>	<u>Las Vegas, NV</u>	
Am	Church with host families	
	Day with host families	
7:30 pm	Fireside-Lorenzi Stake <i>221 Lorenzi St.</i>	
	Home with host families	
<u>Mon, March 11</u>	<u>San Diego, CA</u>	<u>(370mi/6:13)</u>
8:00 am	Meet at Las Vegas temple parking lot	
	Depart For San Diego	
12:00 pm	Lunch-per diem enroute	
3:00 pm	Vist Old Town San Diego	
5:45 pm	Load-in at Mission Valley Building <i>4195 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA</i>	
6:00 pm	Dinner for BYU group	

6:40 pm Final load-in and set up for FHE
7:00 pm **FHE Santee Stake YSA ward**
Home with host families

Tue, March 12	San Diego, CA	
8:00 am	Meet at Santee Stake Center <i>10052 Magnolia Avenue Santee, CA 92071</i>	
9:00 am	Depart for Lakeside Middle School (10 minute drive)	
9:00 am	Possible TV morning show taping (4 couples)	
9:00 am	Assembly-Lakeside Middle School (40 minutes/lec dem) <i>11833 Woodside Ave, Lakeside, CA 92040</i>	
11:30 am	Assembly-St. Rita's Church <i>5124 Churchward St San Diego, CA 92114</i>	
12:00 pm	Lunch-provided by elementary school	
1:00 pm	Load-in	
4:30 pm	Dinner –provided by presenter	
7:00 pm	House opens	
7:30 pm	Performance at Lincoln High School (725 Seats) <i>4777 Imperial Ave San Diego, CA 92113</i>	
	Home with host families	
Wed, March 13	El Centro, CA	(113 mi/2:00)
8:00 am	Meet at Santee Stake Center Depart for Grossmont College	
10:30 am	Performance/Lec Dem at Grossmont College-In front of their library outside (1 hour)	
11:30 am	Tear down and depart for El Centro	
12:00 pm	Lunch-per diem	
1:00 pm	Load-in-Mark and Techs	
2:00 pm	Load-in dancers	
3:00 pm	Workshop with Savapa dance Academy dancers at the high school (1 hour)	
4:30 pm	Dinner at the El Centro Stake Center <i>1280 S 8th, El Centro</i>	
7:00 pm	House opens	
7:30 pm	Performance at Jimmie Cannon Theater SW High School (1113) --735 programs needed <i>2001 Ocotillo Drive El Centro, CA 92243</i>	
	Home with host families	
Thur, March 14	San Gabriel, CA	(206 mi/3:15)
8:00 – 8:15 am	Meet at El Centro stake center	
12:00 pm	Lunch-sack lunch provided by host families	
1:00 pm	Load-in	
4:30 pm	Dinner location TBD	
7:00 pm	House opens	
7:30 pm	Performance Mission Playhouse (1386 Seats)	
	Home with host families	
Fri, March 15	Oxnard, CA	(73 mi/1:30)
8:00 am	Meet at Arcadia Stake Center <i>150 W. Duarate Rd, Arcadia, CA</i>	
10:00 am	University Charter Middle School	

12:00 pm	Lunch-sack lunches provided by host families
1:00 pm	Load-in
4:30 pm	Dinner provided by presenter at beach house
7:00 pm	House opens
7:30 pm	Performance at Oxnard Performing Arts Center (1604 Seats) --1,059 programs needed
9:00 pm	Strike Show
10:30 pm	Home with host families

<u>Sat, March 16</u>	<u>Provo</u>	<u>(701 mi/10:30)</u>
8:00 am	Meet at Gonzales Building <i>3301 W. Gonzales Rd.</i>	
	Depart for Provo	
12:00 pm	Lunch-sack lunch provided by host families	
<i>Loose 1 hour just past Mesquite</i>		
5:00 pm	Dinner	
7:30 pm	Arrive in Provo at the RB	

Friday, March 8, 2013

Provo to Mesquite

Jason and Nell

TOUR HAS BEGUN!!!!!! We left late because Scott Monson slept in and was a half an hour late. Many crusty looks ensued. The drive was pretty uneventful, but John regaled us with stories of high bus drivers. Our bus driver Steve began to swerve as the story was being told. He seems like a cool guy. We stopped in St. George for lunch and got caught in the first rainstorm they've had in 30 years! A few of us got soaking wet. Doug introduced us to Fido Fotobomber. He is a purple dog that is going to be passed around and used to photo-bomb at any opportunity available. He even has his own Facebook page where we can upload his photos. Some got all wet except for their butts. We then headed to our venue in Mesquite, Nevada. It was at Virgin Valley High School. The load in was slower than usual because the stage was really small, and they did not have many of the things the technicians needed. We went to eat dinner at the Hafen Ranch. It was an amazing steak and chicken dinner. We even got apple pie and ice cream for dessert. The show was very successful! Brian Francis forgot his costumes were on the other side of the stage so he was seen streaking in his spandex through the outside run-around squealing the whole time. Even with little hiccups here and there, the audience responded with enthusiasm. We had one of Mary Bee's original folk dancers from 1956 in the audience, and she loved the show. She said that the folk dance team has changed since she was on it- in a good way of course. After the show it took a little longer than normal to pack up but eventually we got everything done and were able to leave with our host families and get some much needed rest.

Saturday, March 9, 2013

Mesquite to Las Vegas

On Saturday morning the folk dancers and musicians woke up in their first host families homes of Mid-semester tour 2013. Many were scattered around the Mesquite area while Craig and Sam stayed with a great Colombian family who lived 40 minutes away in Logandale, a Mormon settlement in Moapa Valley on the way to Vegas. They woke up to a delicious homemade breakfast and fresh fruit with entertainment provided by the youngest daughter who recited stories for us. The rest of the team picked them up on the highway and we made our way to Vegas where we visited the impressive Hoover Dam.

The plan had originally been to take the Dam tour but as no bags were allowed to stay on the bus due to the threat of explosives. We had to stash them at a nearby casino. So up we went to Room 236 of the Casino, where we got our first whiff of smoke, a new sensation to us recently come from the Provo bubble. When we drove back to the dam, we learned the paid tour would take too long anyway, and we settled into a free walk at a scenic spot instead, while a couple of the sick members of tour stayed to rest on the bus. It was truly a spectacular sight, and we were able to go out onto a bridge facing the dam so we had an amazing view of the dam and the Colorado River below.

Soon afterwards, we arrived at the impressive Cashman Center Theater, with nearly 2000 seats before us. The side seating of the theater came out level with the floor of the stage and the balcony, split into many compartments, made for an impressive sight. At dinner we learned that this was to be a huge show, and that our hosts had worked tirelessly in promoting our event to members and non-members of the Church alike, to dance studios, and cultural groups, etc. Tracy Long and her husband were our presenters, and the 2012 SPACers of the group were ecstatic to learn that they were the parents of their good friend and fellow spacer Tanner Long, now serving a mission in Concepción, Chile. Trina, another host, was full of praise for us and had decorated the dinner tables with all sorts of sponsor-provided treats, including an awesome Las Vegas pin that flashed with lights. Trina explained that there would be more non-members than members at this show and that as Las Vegas audiences they

were to expect a lot from us (this being the entertainment capital of the world) but that she had full confidence in the light and talent we would share tonight. (No pressure!;)

The show itself was amazing and a full Las Vegas crowd loved it! Although it was by no means perfect, we were able to work through rough spots and put on a successful show. Kids came to ask for autographs and pictures with the dancers and the adults were full of praise! But more importantly, we were able to bring smiles to many faces and hope to many hearts. It was an uplifting experience for everyone.

Sunday, March 10, 2013

Fireside in Las Vegas

Today was Sunday, so besides the fireside at the Lorenzi building at night we were all with our host families. The Worthen family and many of their children live near the Lorenzi building and are terrific members of the church. 13 of the dancers, band, and technicians stayed with these few families. What a blast! These families own four houses in a cul-de-sac that we stayed in. The different families took turns feeding all of us; no small task. We got to spend a lot of time with each other and tried to help out as much as we could. We ate all three meals of the day together at their different houses. After some of the meals we had some fun jam sessions.

Later that night we had our fireside at the Lorenzi building. We met an hour early for some much needed last minute preparation.

After the fireside the cul-de-sac crew had (more!) food with the families and made Alina laugh until she cried. Ok, so we all were laughing a lot with our awesome hosts. Then we went outside and played on the playground at the end of the cul-de-sac. All of the equipment on the playground was from other playgrounds at schools etc. that was too fun (old-school and potentially dangerous) so they got rid of it. We had a terrific time and had our fill of childlike/childish fun. Some of the people watched the movie 17 Miracles.

Monday, March 11th, 2013

Las Vegas to San Diego

Today was started by meeting at the bus at eight o'clock for our drive to San Diego. We had a six-hour drive ahead of us. The time on the bus was spent in quiet time, with video clips of the day, and sleeping. We stopped for lunch in Lake Elsinor. Once we neared San Diego, we stopped at Mission Bay beach. Everyone ran around in bare feet taking pictures. Across the bay we could see Shamu's stadium at Sea World.

After getting into town at about four fifteen in the afternoon, we had an hour and a half to tour the Mormon Battalion museum and Old Town San Diego. The museum had interactive pictures up on the wall of people from the battalion that took you through the tour. They had some short films that had been made with these characters that told the story of the battalion. During the presentation, there was a clip where the battalion was attacked. As we were transitioning from one room to another, the sister missionary asked what we thought was attacking them. Someone exclaimed, "It was a man on a bufalooooo!" We also had sister missionary that interacted with them through a tour that made you feel like you were in old San Diego.

We then made our way to the stake center for our young adult activity. They fed us pizza, salad, and fresh tangelos picked that day. Tangelos are a mix between tangerines and oranges. We sang Irish Blessing for the hosts after our meal. For the young adult activity we first got into small groups with all of us performers spread out between all the groups to play 'two truths and a lie.' We then performed Mekh, Orphan Girl, and Nagada. But the dancers didn't have costumes with them so they danced in their tour clothes. We then had the young adults get up

and learn a simplified Bhangara, they had a lot of fun doing that dance. After that Jeanette taught them scatter square, Cumberland square, Heel Toe Polka, and other square dances. The band played live for all of these. After a boisterous evening of fun, we had a little testimony and spiritual thought moment. There were cookies provided afterwards.

We then got back on the bus to drive to another church to meet up with our host families.

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

San Diego

Kaitlyn and Will

Today started out with a performance at Lakeside Middle School. The stage was quite small, so we had a few run-ins and mishaps during the show. Jalisco, as Emily put it, was “warfare” on the stage. And during Hopak, half of us were dancing in the curtains. But regardless of the things happening on stage, the children loved it! They were calling us girls princesses and were mesmerized by all the “cute cowboys” on stage. While wearing a Welsh costume, Jaymie explained to a few of the kids, “You might think whales come from the ocean...but they actually come for Europe!”

After a rushed pack-up and load, we hurried to St. Rita’s Church, a Catholic school. We set-up and performed another show for the kids assembly. The children fell in love with “Wild Christopher” and we had a few laughs at the bears and wrasslin’ jokes. After the show we got the privilege of eating lunch with the children. We’ve never felt more popular than when one of us would walk in the lunch room and the children would stand up and go wild, begging us to come sit at their table. We pretty much felt like rockstars. The children’s faces lit up as we visited with them and talked about their favorite foods, classes, and hobbies. It was very touching as they left to see the smiles on their faces and they waved goodbye. I hope they never forget the sweetness and kindness we all experienced today in not only the children but also in watching our team members get down on their knees and laugh and play with the kids. We really have an incredible team!

After our 2nd show, we headed to Lincoln High School to set-up for our show. We’d been pretty nervous about the school and area (due to some of the things we had heard about the scary area being in the dangerous ghettos of San Diego) but once we got there were pleasantly surprised. The school was beautiful and reminded us much more of a university campus than a high school. After setting up we were fed a delicious dinner of Mexican tacos and some delicious salads! We also enjoyed the sunshine and warm weather!

The crowd during our show was the best we’d ever had. They clapped with everything, cheered, screamed, called out gritos during Mexican, and filled the room with energy. Us dancers never had been more pumped or motivated to keep up the energy on stage! Nothing too serious happened on stage, although Mike did manage to rip his Mexican pants and had to stay off stage for Jalisco.

Packing up the show went really quickly and we were soon off to our host families. All of us had been moved by the amazing crowd and excitement that the audience members had for our team. So many people came up to us afterwards in tears and had been so impressed by the show. The church usually doesn’t send groups to this area because of the gang activity but our team had been specifically asked to go. The lives we touched and the impressions we made were worth every minute of our sweat and hard work. We all felt extremely blessed to get to dance in this area and meet some people who we might have never seen if we hadn’t been able to go.

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

San Diego to El Centro

Dancing on a stage of molten lava
Jonathan abandoned us to die
Lunch at Albertsons/ subway/mcdonalds
Saw Mexican border
97 F at the venue.
Clouds on the ceiling of the stage
Biggest stage so far.
Lasagna for dinner at a chapel
Performance
Sunburns – band #awesome
Band makes little kids dance
Band makes the football team wish they were folk dancers
Mark was a super party pooper, not allowing the public hanging of Panda
Grossmont colledge in san diego
El centro Jimmy Cannon theatre of the SW High school.
Difficulty loading the bus
Waiting around for alina and mikayla
Albertsons for lunch – best part of carries day
Feet torching was tylers favorite part (although he wasn't dancing)
Daniel loved pulling the melted stage off her feet after indian
Kaityln's family came to the show.
Girl asked Kaitlyn if we were recruiting. College age.
Football players called the band mountain strings.
Craig loved the dancing at grossmont.
Drew loved grossmont and the fact that people thought he was a dance major
Some of the dancers gave a workshop to the high school students.
They taught Bollywood and Irish.
Lisa liked being heckled at subway.
Lisa loved sleeping with 4 cats at her host families house. She hates cats
Jayme loved grossmont. She talked to some guys afterwards that were members and loved the show.
Nell loved grossmont, and the venue of the night minus the smell of poo.
Nate P loved being super exhausted feeling like he couldn't do the nights show, then rocking it.
Jason loved that at grossmont the audience wrapped around the stage, and audience was all around.
The lighting was great! Minus missing the callus bow. #chris
Mikes favorite part was dancing on molten lava
Whitney loved performing outdoors
The panda song to the tune of tiny tim turtle
Alli loved hanging with Matts son Jason
Alli also loved the little girl in her host family. She was excited to have alli stay with them. Girl time.
Jay had a rocking host family. They went to sonic after the show for slushies.
Cody loved pooping on Amber's finger. He loved talking to the black guys behind the stage.
Amber loved burning her nose.

Per usual we were scheduled to meet at 8:00 am at the stake center. Naturally, the bus was late, and we ended up tapping our feet until it arrived. Upon arrival Steve welcomed us aboard and we headed out. While on the bus John and Brittney Wood taught us a lovely little ditty that Brittney used to sing to her son while he was taking a bath. It goes something like this:

“There was a little Turtle
His name was Tiny Tim.
We put him in the bathtub
To see if he could swim.
He drank up all the water,
He ate up all the soap.
And now he’s sick in bed
With bubbles in his throat.
OOOOOOOOOOHBBBBBBBBHHHHHHHHHHHH
Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble
Bubble, bubble, bubble bubble, POP!!!

At the end of the song we were instructed to throw our heads back and laugh. It was all great fun, but in the back of the bus, devious minds were at work...

We made our way to the College of Mounting Grossness(aka Grossmount College) for our first performance. After unloading the bus, we had a bit of a wait while the band set up and the sound was checked. Luckily, there were rocking tunes playing while we waited, so naturally, we had an impromptu dance rave, with a special guest appearance from the One Direction Folk Dance Boys! By the by everything was made ready, and we commenced the festivities (aka, we started dancing).

The stage was outside and it was a warm day to say the least. Things were going more or less according to plan until we got to the Indian Drum-Beating dance (aka Nagada). I don’t want to be dramatic, but it was kinda like dancing on a hot griddle. No! No! It was like dancing on Sheets of Molten Lava in the pits of Mount Doom. Performance was made impossible when we realized that every step was like taking a step into the fiery chasms of HELL. Needless to say, the stage was HOT, but did we shirk? Did we shun the fight? Did we throw in the towel? YES! We were going to tough it out until Amber decided that there is only so much a body can take. She jumped off that stage quicker than the costume change from classical indian to gypsy. Once Amber had taught us the value of the phrase “I Quit”, we all followed suit and got us hence.

Thursday, March 14, 2013 **San Diego to San Gabriel**

Today was a beautiful day. It was as if the weather had been preordered just for us. Our host families packed us lunch, but because the weather was so inviting, we decided to stop at a park for lunch. It was wonderful to feel the sun and wind on our faces. Naturally the band brought their instruments. And once again, Steve impressed us with his intense bus driving skills with his U-turns and backing up.

The venue in San Gabriel was breathtaking. It looked like an old Spanish mission. The venue, the Performance Mission Playhouse, was celebrating its 100th anniversary since opening. It really was a pleasure to perform there. The inside had several big “chandeliers” resembling the Phantom of the Opera. And there were beautiful rugs hanging as decorations. Wow! Dinner was brought to the theater because apparently the area isn’t very safe. Since we had dinner catered, there was no one to sing to so we had time to take pictures outside in front of the theater. It was nice and warm. And Jeanette’s hunt for her panda finally came to an end when she caught Will with him. Needless to say, Jeanette was happy.

The stage was enormous!!!! We actually had 40-ft to perform on with even more space backstage. We were spoiled this night. The dressings rooms were upstairs one or two floors, so luckily we had a lot of room on the sides of the stage. Ashley took us upstairs to do warm ups. It was a long hallway that would have been per-

fect. However, someone cut the cheese... This cheese was incredibly stinky and we all just about passed out!!!! And no one fessed up...still L That better not happen again. Luckily, we opened the doors and were able to finish our warm up.

San Gabriel was about 70% Asian so there were several Asians in attendance. There were so many that Craig was able to translate the introduction of our show. It took a LONG time, but it was cool! Unfortunately, we started late and then the intermission was extra long too, however; we still managed to get out of the theater on time. We are good!!! The reason being is that this show was an outreach event for the church. Members had been encouraged to bring non-member friends. During intermission, three Mormon messages were shown, one in English, one in Spanish, and one in Mandarin. It was different, but it set a nice tone for the second half of the show.

Overall, it was a good day.

Friday, March 15, 2013 **San Gabriel to Oxnard**

Friday was one of our most exciting days on tour! We started our eventful day at a Spanish immersion elementary school, where "Wild Christopher" made another appearance. Both faculty and students sat mesmerized as they watched this tall, skinny, "wannabe cowboy" with a terrible accent tell them about "wrastling" buffalo and playing kickball with an "armadilla." It's always a blast performing for and interacting with the kids.

After packing up the show, we piled back onto the bus and headed to the beach!

Unfortunately, our ONE day at the beach was the ONE day without sun. As we pulled up to the beach, the excitement on the bus was unmistakable. Before the bus even came to a stop, Emily and Taylor had already stripped down to their bathing suits ready to jump into the water. Not even 50 degree weather and freezing cold water temperatures could stop them. The plan was only to go knee-deep, but with the assistance of Brian Francis and Nate Kuhlmann, they were able to have the full-body experience of the Pacific Ocean. They played in the waves, and Brian even ventured out to the end of the pier, which then took an additional 30 minutes to get back to shore against opposing currents. Thankfully, they all survived, but ended their beach day with at least 20 minutes of violent shivering and a physical therapy session from Lauren Morris. The rest of the team enjoyed playing in the sand and singing along to live music from the band. With or without sun, the team wasn't going to miss out on a day at the beach!

We soon arrived at our venue to set up and perform our FINAL SHOW of tour at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center. We set up in record time, and spent the rest of the time napping, relaxing, and exploring in the nearby neighborhoods. We were then fed a fabulous dinner from our awesome presenters at the local stake center and felt recharged and ready to go for our last show! Before the show began, Taylor received a mysterious delivery from a secret admirer. She didn't think the bouquet of scary stalker flowers were very amusing, but it was definitely the gossip of the night in the girls' dressing room.

Overall, it was a strong show with high energy. It was a great stage with some awesome floodlights backstage, otherwise known as black lights that made our costumes glow. That sure made for entertaining costume changes. We got through the show with little to no mistakes, but definitely had a few memorable bloopers that made it amusing. Highlights include Taylor's "solo" in hoedown during the men's fight scene, Christopher's suspender issues, Danielle's gypsy/Indian costume mishap, and Mikayla's flying beads during her Hopak solo. The men counted down as they performed their final presadkas, and we all felt a rush of relief after making it through our LAST SHOW. Way to go team, 6 shows in 8 days, done and DONE!



Performing Arts Management

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Colleen West: 801-598-2326

Folk Dance Ensemble

St. Louis May 31 – June 4

Nauvoo

June 4-June 16, 2013



President and Sister Condie
Nauvoo Temple President



President and Sister Gilliland
Nauvoo Mission President

Friday, May 31st

Provo, UT

10:30 am

Bus/Group meets at RB

10:45 am

Depart for SLC Intl Airport

11:50 am

Arrive at SLC Intl Airport

Check-in

Lunch - Per diem (in-flight or in-transit)

1:50 pm Delta flight 1832 to St Louis Airport

Arrive at St Louis Airport

5:49 pm

Bus

6:00 pm

Depart for O'Fallon Stake Center

Dinner – per diem

6:30 pm

Meet host families at O'Fallon Stake Center

255 Fairwood Hills Rd

O'Fallon, IL 62269

Bus driver released

Performing Arts Management

Jonathon Wood

Cell: (801) 360-8951

Work: (801) 422-3575

Saturday, June 1st**O'Fallon, IL**

	Breakfast with host families
9:00 am	Bus /Group meet at O'Fallon Stake Center
	Sightseeing in St Louis, MO
	Sightseeing options: Gateway arch (<i>group picture</i>), St. Louis LDS Temple, Forest Park, St. Louis Science Center, Kemp Auto Museum, St. Louis Arts Museum, Missouri Botanical Garden, walk the Del Mar loop
11:30 pm	Lunch-per diem
1:00 pm	Load-in, set-up
4:30 pm	Dinner-provided by presenter - location TBD
7:00 pm	House opens
7:30 pm	Performance-Belleville East High School Performing Arts Center <i>2555 West Boulevard, Belleville, IL</i>
9:15 pm	Strike, load-out
10:15 pm	Depart for O'Fallon Stake Center to meet host families (bus is needed for this) <i>*Note: As you depart for the stake center, students should call host families to let them know they are coming. The boys at the Croshaw's will be the only ones to not travel back to the stake center on the bus.</i>
10:40 pm	Meet host families at O'Fallon Stake Center Bus released

Sunday, June 2nd*Bus not needed this day***O'Fallon, IL**

	Breakfast with host families
	Church with host families
	Lunch with host families
	Dinner with host families
6:00 pm	Meet at O'Fallon Stake Center for warm-up and rehearsal
7:00 pm	Fireside-O'Fallon Stake Center Home with host families

Monday, June 3rd**Travel to Nauvoo**

	Breakfast with host families
7:45 am	Bus arrives
8:00 am	Host families drop students off at O'Fallon Stake Center
	Depart for Nauvoo
1:00 pm	Lunch – per diem Arrive in Nauvoo/ Bus released <i>Nauvoo Villas: 2372 North County Road 900 Nauvoo, IL</i>
2:00 pm	Load-in at outdoor stage
	Rehearsal
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
6:00 pm	Ice Cream Social at Mission Home w/ President & Sister Gilliland
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL (weather permitting) <i>Outdoor Stage</i>
9:30 pm	Load Out

Performing Arts Management
Shane Wright
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Tuesday, June 4th**Nauvoo, IL****7:00 am Breakfast at Condos**

7:45 am	Devotional
8:00 am	Load vans
10:00 am	Rehearsal at Outdoor Stage
	Rehearsal at Indoor Stage
	Watch "Remembering Nauvoo" (20 min)
12:00 pm	Lunch at Condos
	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites (possible rehearsal)
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:30 pm	Prep for Show
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load Out
<hr/>	
<u>Wednesday, June 5th</u>	<u>Quincy/Nauvoo, IL</u>
7:30 am	Breakfast at Condos
8:00 am	Temple Baptisms (session starts at 8:30)
8:30 am	Temple Endowments (session starts at 9:00)
	Devotional
9:00 am	Free time to visit historical sites
(9:30 indoor stage rehearsal time if needed)	
<i>10:10 am</i>	<i>Doug Olsen, Sarah Klopp, and Tyler Smith depart from Burlington airport -Pacific Wings(LW) 2633- Flight routing is Burlington to St. Louis, Frontier Airlines to Denver and then Salt Lake.</i>
	<i>**Note: They will need dropped off by someone with a van.</i>
11:00 am	Travel to Quincy
12:00 pm	Lunch provided by sponsor
1:00 pm	Setup
2:00 pm	Outreach Performance - Quincy, IL
	Quincy Senior Center
	639 York St., Quincy, IL 62301
	* 30 minute program for senior citizens and day care children; 100' by 75' recreation room, no sound or lights, restrooms (dressing rooms) available. Stage surface – vinyl on top of cement.
2:30 pm	Load out
3:00 pm	Return to Nauvoo
4:00 pm	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites
4:10 pm	<i>Colleen West arrives at Burlington airport-Pacific Wings(LW) 2626</i>
	<i>**Note: She will need picked up by someone with a van.</i>
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:30 pm	Prep for Show
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load Out

<u>Thursday, June 6th</u>	<u>Nauvoo, IL</u>
8:00 am	Breakfast at Condos
10:00 am	Depart for Rand Park in Keokuk
	16 Miles/ 30 Min
Sack Lunch	
11:00 am	Arrive & Setup

12:00 pm	Brown Bag Lunch Program – Keokuk Rand Park Pavilion (water provided) North 17 th & Park Lane. Electricity available, no dressing rooms.
1:00 pm	Strike and return for Nauvoo <u>16 Miles/ 30 Min</u>
2:00 pm	Wagon Ride (Group A– up to 12 people each)
2:00 pm	Free Time (Groups C and D – up to 12 people each)
2:15 pm	Carriage Ride (Group B – up to 12 people each)
3:00 pm	Wagon Ride (Group C – up to 12 people each)
3:00 pm	Free Time (A and B – up to 12 people each)
3:15 pm	Carriage Ride (Group D – up to 12 people each)
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:00 pm	Rendezvous
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load out

Friday, June 7th

8:00 am	Fort Madison, IA/ Nauvoo, IL Breakfast at Condos
9:00 am	Devotional
10:30 am	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites
11:00 am	Depart for Fort Madison <u>11 miles/18 min</u>
12:00 pm	Arrive & Setup Outreach Performance (water provided) (warning: tight performance space) Old Fort Players Theatre (oldfortplayers.com) 725 Avenue G Fort Madison, Iowa 52627
1:00 pm	Lunch provided by sponsor
2:00 pm	Depart for Nauvoo <u>11 miles/18 min</u>
4:00 pm	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:30 pm	Prep for Show
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load Out

Saturday, June 8th

8:00 am	Nauvoo, IL Breakfast at Condos
8:45 am	Devotional
9:00 am	Depart for Hamilton <u>10 Minutes</u>
10:00 am	Arrive and setup Outreach Performance (Beverages and light snacks) (Dressing rooms) Montebello Nursing Home 1599 Keokuk Street Hamilton IL 62341
11:00 am	Load out & depart for Hannibal <u>70.6 Miles/90 minutes</u>
12:30 pm	Sack Lunch from condos
2:00 pm	Arrive in Hannibal Outreach performance (bottled water provided) Central Park 4 th Street and Broadway, Hannibal MO, 63401 Covered, gazebo-style octagon that is 25' by 25'. Load out
3:00 pm	Depart for Nauvoo <u>70.6 Miles/90 minutes</u>
3:30 pm	Arrive in Nauvoo
5:00 pm	Free time

6:30 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:30 pm	Prep for Show
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load out

Sunday, June 9th **Nauvoo, IL**

8:00 am	Breakfast at Condos
10:00 am	Church with 3 rd Ward—Nauvoo Stake Center
11:10 am	<i>Jeff West arrives at Burlington airport-Pacific Wings(LW) 2622</i>
	<i>**Note: He will need picked up by someone with a van.</i>
1:00 pm	Lunch at Condos
2:00 pm	Watch “Joseph Smith Prophet of the Restoration”
3:00 pm	Free Time
6:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
6:30 pm	Prep for Sociable
7:00 pm	Sunday Sociable (60 min)
	Nauvoo Stake Center
	*60 minute fireside in the Chapel.
8:30 pm	Fireside with President Gilliland at Mission Home

Monday, June 10th **Nauvoo, IL**

8:00 am	Breakfast at Condos
	Devotional
9:00 am	Hand Cart Trek (3 miles)
11:30 pm	Lunch at Condos
12:30 pm	Anna Amanda (cultural hall)
1:00 pm	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites
2:30 pm	High Hopes and Riverboats
3:40 pm	Trail of Hope & Pioneer Memorial
4:30 pm	Free time to visit historic sites
6:30 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:30 pm	Prep for Show
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load out

Tuesday, June 11th **Nauvoo, IL**

7:00 am	Breakfast at Condos
	Devotional
8:00 am	Martyrdom Trail Tour Group A & B (Two groups, 2 hours each tour – up to 24 people per group) *Two BYU vans; commentary given at stopping points.
8:00-10:00 am	Free time (Groups C and D – up to 12 people each)
10:00 am	Martyrdom Trail Tour Group C & D
10:00-11:00 am	Free time (Groups A and B – up to 12 people each)
11:00 am	Wagon Ride (Group B – up to 12 people each)
11:15 am	Carriage Ride (Group A – up to 12 people each)
12:00 pm	Sack Lunch from Condos

1:00 pm	Wagon Ride (Group D – up to 12 people each)
1:00 -2:00 pm	Free Time (Groups A and B – up to 12 people each)
1:15 pm	Carriage Ride (Group C – up to 12 people each)
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Tour historic sites
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load out

Wednesday, June 12th Nauvoo, IL

8:00 am	Breakfast at Condos
	Devotional
11:00 am	Travel to Macomb <u>50 miles/60 minutes</u>
	Arrive in Macomb and set up
	Sack Lunch from Condos
12:00 pm	Outreach Performance—Macomb, IL (water provided)
	Chandler Park
	1406 N Randolph St.
	Macomb, IL 61455
	*30 minute brown bag concert program; Gazebo is about 15x15 ' in diameter, grassy surface 30x30, sound system, no dressing rooms.
12:45 pm	Load out & depart for Elms Nursing Home (5 minute drive)
1:45 pm	The Elms Nursing Home (Macomb)
	Room for 15-20 dancers in the dining room
2:00 pm	Return to Nauvoo <u>50 miles/60 minutes</u>
	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load out

Thursday, June 13th _____ Nauvoo, IL

8:00 am	Breakfast at Condos
8:00 am	Temple Baptisms (session starts at 8:30)
8:30 am	Temple Endowments (starts at 9:00)
12:00 pm	Lunch at Condos
1:00 pm	Joseph Smith Sites
3:00 pm	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites
5:00 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:00 pm	Sunset by the Mississippi
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
9:30 pm	Outdoor Stage
	Load out

Friday, June 14th **Springfield/Nauvoo, IL**

7:00 am	Breakfast at Condos	
	Devotional	
8:00 am	Travel to Springfield	131 miles/2 hours 45 minutes

11:00 am	Load In
12:15 pm	Outreach Performance—Springfield, IL
	Lincoln Library Rotunda
	326 South 7 th Street
	Springfield, IL 62701
	* 30 minute program for museum patrons; performance space about 40' by 40', no lights or sound, restrooms (dressing rooms) available
	Contact: Phil Funkenbusch
1:00 pm	Sack Lunch from Condos
1:00 pm	Load out
1:00 pm	Free Time to See Museum
3:30 pm	Return to Nauvoo
	<u>131 miles/2 hours 45 minutes</u>
6:30 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:30 pm	Prep for Show
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load out

Saturday, June 15th **Nauvoo, IL**

8:00 am	Breakfast at Condos
	Devotional
10:00 am	Free Time to Visit Historic Sites
	Travel to Memphis
11:30 am	<u>70 miles/90 minutes</u>
12:30 pm	Set up and warm up
1:00 pm	Outreach Performance - Memphis, Mo Theater - seats 240 (45 min)
	109 East Madison
	Memphis, MO 63555
2:15 pm	Load out
3:00 pm	Return to Nauvoo
5:00 pm	Testimony Meeting at 70s hall
6:30 pm	Dinner at Condos
7:30 pm	Prep for Show
8:00 pm	Load in
8:30 pm	Performance—Nauvoo, IL
	Outdoor Stage
9:30 pm	Load out

Sunday, June 16th **Provo, UT**

2:15 am	Bus arrives
2:30 am	Bus departs for St Louis, MO
6:00 am	<u>185 miles/3 hours 30 minutes (15min stops)</u>
	Bus arrives at St Louis Intl Airport
	Check-in
	Breakfast – per diem
8:00 am	Depart for SLC Intl Airport Delta #2088
10:16 am	Arrive at SLC Intl Airport
	Load bus
11:30 am	Depart for Provo
12:30 pm	Arrive in Provo

Sunday, June 2nd, 2013

Amber Shepherd

This was a very special weekend for me (Amber Shepherd) because our group went to MY HOME TOWN! Woooohoooo! The show on Saturday was even better than expected. Not only did we sell out the auditorium, but we over sold!! And the audience received us so well! They cheered so loudly for every number!

On Sunday, there were some very special experiences for me personally as well as others on the team. We were able to sleep in because we met with the YSA branch at 1:30 P.M. Our team nearly doubled the ward size and filled the chapel more than it's been for the YSA Branch. I know they greatly appreciated it. It was Fast Sunday so we were able to share our testimonies with those of the branch and vice versa. I felt the spirit strongly throughout our entire meetings. After church, we had a break the fast with the singles. It was great because I feel like everyone (including the YSA singles) did a great job of interacting with people they didn't know. Dinner was delicious and made a group of really happy young single adults. After dinner, we went into the relief society room to practice and prepare for our fireside.

Our fireside was very successful as well! The chapel was filled and the compliments I received about the group afterward was incredible. Carrie, Will, Sam, and I were the speakers during the fireside. Again, I felt the spirit so strongly throughout the fireside. It was cool because I had a nonmember friend who came to it! And she was so impressed and just wanted to be friends with every single member of IFDE. It was so fantastic.

Overall, our Sunday was a very special one, and I'm so grateful that we were able to come to O'Fallon. I will never forget this experience.

Monday, June 3rd, 2013

Lauren Piperato

1. Drove to Nauvoo, ate yummy sack lunches (really, they were the best sandwiches ever), and stopped at Walmart to stock up for the week.
2. We rehearsed on the outdoor stage...which didn't suck too bad since we had really nice weather. It was hard though, because the stage was slanted and wasn't centered with the audience.
3. Ate ice cream at President Gilliland's house and he asked us to be missionaries to the people we meet.
4. Had our first show. It was pretty good, but Jeanette was a little disappointed because it didn't come off very well as an outdoor show...

That's pretty much it.

Tuesday, 4 June 2013

Mike Romney

- . So.... We rehearsed a bit, well, quite a bit. We had to run our outside show as well as our indoor show.
- . Jason's grandparents came to visit. They were really nice and very funny! Wonderful people to be around.
- . We had a lot of free time, A LOT of free time.... So people split up and visited the sites in Old Nauvoo.
- . Then we had a wonderful dinner at the condos, as usual
- . We then carted off to the outdoor stage to do our first B show. It went pretty well, I thought, but Jeanette didn't really like the flow of the show and it was too long, so she cut it up and reorganized it for the next time. That was fun...
- . The End

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Heidi Johnson

Important Events:

- Our wonderful tech crew had to leave us.
- We went to the temple for baptisms and endowments
- We drove out to Quincy, Illinois for an outreach show at a senior center.
- A woman at the senior center donated square dance costumes to our program. They filled the entire back of the van.
- We were joined by Colleen West
- Because of rain we performed our first show in the visitor's center. It went very well in spite of the extremely small stage

Thursday, June 6, 2013

Jay Jacobson

Dearest Diary,

Ugh! Canceled?!? We were supposed to go to Keokuk to do a show in the park, but they didn't even think 15 people would show up. Hello!! We are the BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble; people pay money to see our show and we can't even get people to come to a free one? Oh well, we got to sleep in (which was totes awesome anyway, what what). So in my free morning I went down to old Nauvoo and saw some of the sights. I went to the brickyard and got a brick, the blacksmith shop to get a prairie diamond, the family living center to make rope and eat bread and the bakery for a ginger cookie! There are so many things to do and see in old Nauvoo.

This afternoon was also pretty fun; I got to go on a wagon and carriage ride! The wagon ride took us through old Nauvoo and the Sister told about all the homes that we were seeing. We also went by the Joseph Smith sites as well. Did you know that Wilford Woodruff built his home and put 8 fireplaces in it?!? Looks like someone hates the cold as much as me!! On the carriage ride we went north of old Nauvoo and talked about the saints, especially the ones who came from Wales and their faith. Drew almost fell out of the carriage as he fell asleep!! We also looked out at the Mississippi and it was so peaceful.

After dinner we went and saw Rendezvous in Old Nauvoo, the show that the senior missionaries put on. It was fantastic. My good friends Elder and Sister Allen were in the show. Elder Allen was the main man telling the story and he did such a great job. Sister Allen had her debut as one of the 'buggy riders' and was such a hoot! I love them so much and it has been a real treat to spend time with them in Nauvoo. The cast was all so cute and I could tell that they were nervous that the BYU dancers were there; one Sister had to start a whole seen over she was so nervous! They loved us though and said we were the best audience they have ever had and wished we would come back. We loved them and it was so wonderful to show our appreciation to them.

Afterwards we raced to do our show. We were a little rushed setting up, but we got everything and only started a few minutes late. Jeanette was so worried that we wouldn't get out in time, lol! Well I am loving Nauvoo and can't wait for tomorrow's adventure.

Sincerely yours,

Jay

Saturday, June 8, 2013
By Nate Kuhlmann Esquire

We woke, a normal morning,
Except Taylor lost her guts.
We should have gone to Hamilton,
But our show got cut.

Instead we drove to Hannibal,
The hometown of Mark Twain.
We checked out Tom and Becky's cave
And we'll never be the same.

The calcite spotted walls
And the stories of the past,
A chesterfield of stone
And the puns that came so fast!

We exited to find our lunch.
Joanna is superb!
We tossed her daughter Katie
And she flew just like a bird.

We headed into Hannibal
To see what was downtown.
And since there were no ads
We got to parade around.

The show was great as always,
But the part that's best of all,
Our dressing rooms were special,
They were right in the town hall!

After the show we all split up
As 3 vans came back home.
Personally I stayed in town
So that's the story we'll know.

A carriage ride with Nathan
And we sang to all the peeps.
We even saw a pirate ship
Which gave us all the creeps (not really, but it rhymes).

That's all I really have to say,
The day continued fine.
I could keep going on and on
But I have to draw the line.

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Emily Kleinkopf

It was another beautiful day in Nauvoo, mostly because we were able to finally sleep in. Hurray! We went to one of the Nauvoo family wards and boy were they packed full of visitors, but I mean come on there are around 40 of us. So usually a ward announces each visitor to make them feel welcome. Well since there were so many of us, they just had us all stand up and in relief society, they actually had all of the ward members stand up because we outnumbered them so much. After church we had Papa John's pizza, which was great. We then all went to Joseph Smith the Restoration at the visitor center and wow is that a very powerful video . After the video, we had some free time. Some took naps, some went into historic Nauvoo, and others just chilled at our apartments. Then we had dinner!! Of course, it was fantastic. We had a pot roast, mashed potatoes, green beans...I just love food so much. After dinner, we headed over to the fireside or sociable. We had a pretty good size crowd even though they only invited singles 30 and over. The talks for this fireside were Cody, Taylor, David and Danielle. They all did a very good job and added to the overall spirit of the meeting. The songs that the team and small groups sung were also very good. It turned out to be an awesome meeting and everyone in the audience seemed to really enjoy it. After the fireside we went to the Mission President's house again and they fed us...wait for it....drum roll... fruit!! We were all very excited for this. The Mission President and his wife both shared messages with us. The Mission President talked about the importance of the temple while his wife shared a story about giving up your "pearls" to Heavenly Father and he will give you much more in return. We headed back home after this and had the rest of the night to do what we pleased. It definitely was a very good day!

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Jaymie Lambson

Today began bright and early! Well at least for some of us it did... Groups A and B left at 7:30 to go on the Martyrdom trail tour with Brother Dunn. It was one of the most interesting tours we had taken yet. We learned so much more about what happened in the last days of Joseph Smith's life. We learned about the political conspiracy and the great sacrifice the prophet made so that the saints would be able to finish the temple. Although some of the early goers might have had a difficult time staying awake, it was a very neat experience.

The rest of the day consisted of C & D groups taking their tour, finishing up Carriage and wagon rides, and free time. Some people spent time in old Nauvoo and the sites, others took a little nappy-nap, and a small group went for the pleasurable yet athletic bike ride around town.

Our show was nice and hot. As the bugs started to thicken, Christopher thought he would try one during Gypsy – only to spit it into poor Brittney's mouth – oops. And the heat must have been too much because Jaymie decided to drop her skirt right in front of the audience in Plauri. But no worries, the show was yet another success. After the show Colleen promised groups A & B custard to make up for the lack of leaders in the early morning tour – those lucky ducks. Late night festivities consisted of – but not limited to – sleeping, showering, eating, card games, and stocking spying. As we lay down to sleep we dreamt of a day when a costume piece would not be forgotten.

Wednesday, June 12th, 2013

Scott Monson

Today we got to go to Macomb (?) for an outreach show. We had a pretty large crowd gather for our show which was at a park. The show went well but it was very windy! We were supposed to do a second outreach show that afternoon but we ended up cancelling it and heading back to Nauvoo because the weather forecast was calling for some severe storms to be rolling in. Dark clouds gathered but it never ended up storming that afternoon. Our

evening show also ended early, ending Hopak with no tag ending because there was lightning and we needed to get all the equipment put away before it started to storm. We headed back to the condos but again, the clouds cleared out and gave way to a beautiful, cool summer night. This was actually one of my favorite memories from tour so far: we could stand outside and see thousands of stars over head, while way off on the horizon the sky was being lit up by the thunderstorm. There were fireflies all around and we even saw several shooting stars go by. It was just a really amazing experience to see all these beautiful things that testify of the power of God together at the same time.

Thursday, June 13, 2013

Lauren Morris

After an extremely long drive to Springfield (capital of Illinois), we arrived at the Lincoln Museum for our outreach performance. We had a great show and the crowd was lively! The Lincoln Museum was amazing! There were extremely realistic scenes of Lincolns' life. Some of the parts felt like a Disneyland ride with all the music/sound, lighting, and displays.

When we came back from Springfield we had a short time to prepare for our outdoor show. It looked like it might rains so we hesitated to unload when we went to the stage. In the end though we decided that the show must go on! Well we got through a few songs with no rain but by the time the band sang Orphan Girl, our instruments were pretty wet. But we kept playing and dancing! When the band went back stage while the dancers were performing Nagada, Jeanette told us we needed to do one more band number, Hopak, and then end the show. The dancers told us Nagada was a little crazy because the stage was drenched in rain. The band decided to play David's Jig. It was EPIC!!! We were rocking out with the rain pouring down on us and thunder rumbling around us. We should have filmed it and made it a music video. It was awesome! Then Jeanette cam out (when the song was over) and announced we needed to end the show now. We all scrambled to get all the expensive sound equipment out of the rain. One of our quickest takedowns ever!

The best part of the day came after we went back to the condos and had notes. It was Jordan Benson's birthday and we had a surprise birthday party for him. It was an absolute blast! We had cake, opened presents, and played tons of games. The most exciting game was sushi tag (or "Sticky Frogs" as Jeanette decided to call it), which was basically a big wrestling match. It was hilarious! Especially when the girls tried to attack the boys and ended up riding on them like a baby monkey. I'm pretty sure we all got bruises from dragging or being dragged by each other in the grass. Thankfully no one was injured in the game. We laughed and laughed and didn't want it to end. The last game we played was catch phrase where the boys somehow beat the girls (probably rigged). Then we went to bed.

Friday, June 14, 2013

Nathan Pehrson

The morning started off with a beautiful trip to the Temple. The group that did baptisms left at eight and the men that joined were actually able to help baptize the sisters this time (the previous group was not able to based on YPM policy). After baptisms, they went to do a service project that Emily Kleinkopf had organized with the suggestion of a ward member that she met on Sunday. The project was to help a couple move out of their home and into a trailer. Because of severe health complications, the house was in complete disarray; mice poop in the kitchen and junk everywhere, to put it nicely. While the project made a dent in the move, there was still much to be done; nonetheless, the couple was grateful, and the group was able to grow closer as they served together. The guys (Jay, David, , and) noticed, interestingly enough, that they were all part of the same trek family that they

had on Monday and they were side by side, serving together still.

The other group doing the endowment session left at 8:15 and the Temple President generously allowed for us all to rent the temple clothing for free. The workers were all pleased to host us, the famous folk dancers in town, and we were all equally pleased to be there serving. Many of us commented how close we felt to heaven as we enjoyed time together in the Celestial room.

After the temple, and before lunch one of the vans took the liberty to go back into town and pick up some more fudge from the factory. Will Farnbach suggested that the factory become an official sponsor; "providing energy to folk dancers everywhere."

After lunch we all went to the Community of Christ visitors center for a tour of Joseph Smith's properties. Our tour guide, Lochan, was fantastic. He remembered a few of us from last time and even related how he had helped sand bag the Nauvoo House against the flooding Mississippi. In the upper room of the red brick store, and after he finished his tour, we sang our traditional Irish Blessing. Lochan responded with gratitude and then said, "I'm confused, I thought you were dancers, not Vocal Point!" And in all honesty, we've gotten pretty good at that song, especially when the acoustics are just right in rooms like those.

We then had free time before dinner, which often happens in the afternoons, and various activities were pursued. A group rented bikes and capitalized on the wind to cool themselves off as they rode all around old Nauvoo. Another group toured more houses and of course, there was a group taking advantage of air-conditioned condos to relax and nap.

When we loaded in to the stage, we arrived early enough to watch the entire Sunset by the Mississippi, rather than the last ten minutes that has been the norm. Our energy in the audience probably doubled the amount of applause that they're used to. We cheered for the YPMs that we knew and even louder for "Grandmother's Apron" as we sung along.

We have yet to go to the show without someone forgetting costumes and having to drive back with much haste to the condos to get what was needed. When it becomes too late to drive back, substitutions are made with similar costume items that for the most part blend in well. However this time, Jeanette noticed Nathan Pehrson's Texas pants in Gypsy which he thought he could hide, but it was "obvious" according to a few.

And of course the evening finished with a couple of vans stopping at Annie's Custard. Marilyn met us there and will be joining us for the rest of the tour. And there you have another great day on tour!

Saturday, June 15, 2013

Danielle Murray

We didn't need to leave for our outreach show in Memphis, Missouri until 10am. A group of about 12 students went into Historic Nauvoo at 8am and rented bicycles. They were able to have a nice quiet ride around the historic streets before the hustle and bustle of Saturday tourism began.

The drive to Memphis was nice. It was a short 45 minutes in the cozy 12 passenger vans. When we arrived in Memphis it appeared a carnival of sorts was taking place outside the theatre. Once we set up in our small yet much appreciated air conditioned indoor venue, some dancers went outside to the carnival to recruit audience members. There were roughly 130 audience members present in the 240 seat theatre. A highlight of the show was our artistic director, Jeanette Geslison, and our tour director, Colleen West, playing the role of the donkey on stage during our new Bulgarian piece, The Gorgeous.

Before our show, we were fed lunch by our sponsor in Memphis. I am not sure if our sponsor was the Memphis Methodist church, but that is where we ate. It was a delicious meal, potluck style, with the best mango salsa I have ever had.

After our show we headed straight back to Nauvoo. We had 1 hour of free time in which students hurried to see the last few historic sites on their to-do lists. It was the last hour of free time for our entire trip. At 5pm we met at the Seventies Hall for a team testimony meeting. It was a lovely meeting. There was a special spirit in the seventies hall. It was lovely to think that we were meeting in the missionary training center of old Nauvoo, only to go out and be performing missionaries (of sorts) for the university. Time was limited and not everyone was able to share their testimonies. It was still one of the tender moments of tour.

Joanna Miller had once again created a culinary masterpiece for hungry bodies. It started raining at dinnertime, so we prepared for an indoor show at the LDS Nauvoo Visitors' center.

Our show was splendid! We converted the men's and women's restrooms into dressing rooms. The men were a little more crowded in the dressing room for this show than the first show we performed in the visitors' center. The first time we performed in the visitors' center, the wind was not blowing very hard, so the men were able to change outside on a patio without their costumes getting wet. However, the storm today was horrendous. It was impossible to walk anywhere outdoors, covered or not, without getting wet. Therefore, all the men changed indoors tonight.

There were more guests than seats at the show. The mission president opened the second theatre in the visitors' center for patrons and broadcast our show into it. We hope those audience members enjoyed the broadcast. Because it was the last show for several graduating dancers, we lingered after the show a while to take pictures. In fact, we lingered so long that the security alarm went off. The church security office in Salt Lake City, Utah called the Nauvoo visitors' center asking who was still in the building. It was truly comical. Fortunately, we were able to vacate the building before the security guards from Utah could reach the visitors' center.

We did not get back to the condos and finish notes with Jeanette until approximately 11:20pm. At that time everyone returned to their condos to pack their costumes and personal luggage. We were given a deadline of 1am to have our entire luggage packed. The luggage needed to be packed onto the cargo truck before 2:15am when the coach bus came to drive us to the St. Louis airport. Fortunately, some people finished packing early and the truck was loaded and ready to go well before 2:15am.

The coach bus came 15 minutes early at 2am. Most of the students pulled an all-nighter due to packing. There wasn't much use sleeping before the bus came. However almost everyone received a few hours of shut eye on our 4 hour drive to the St. Louis airport.

Quotes and Thoughts About Performances

March 8, 2013

-Our bus driver, Steve, watched the show and was super impressed. He said multiple times that it was fantastic and was astounded how many people came in “little old Mesquite.”

-There were a lot of little goofs in the show: late costume changes, missed steps, lighting. But I was impressed by how little it mattered. We had a fantastic show, and our families and audience were still impressed. We did what we came here to do.

-A cute little hispanic couple sat in the front row, and at the end of the show they couldn’t stop smiling from ear to ear as they told us how much they loved our show. They were so truly happy!

-Picture this: A superb boysenberry pie topped with vanilla ice cream, sweet thick crust with a gooey fruity filling. It was heaven sent, perfect, exquisite.

-Old woman in the audience said it was “sprinkled” with an old tap/clog group who had an average age of 70! Said they loved the footwork!

-Old man said we must take a million energy pills before every show.

-Bus Driver Steve: “This show was so good. I’m going to try to get you guys to come to Anaheim.”

-An 80+ year old Colombian lady from Logandale came with her grandchildren and kept hugging one of the dancers she knew, effusive with praise. Her grandchildren loved it so much.

March 9-10, 2013

-We were able to talk a lot with our host mom, and she opened up to us about difficulties with her son and how she and her husband have endured the trial together. We had an incredible time with her and learned a lot about the gospel and how it blesses families. When we were leaving, she invited us back and said it felt like we were literally family.

-I was able to stay with Steven and Margaret Terry, who served with me in Ghana. It was a combination of all the things that make me me, with folk dance and my mission. Jordan’s amazing Lisping and old Folk Dance Stories with the Worthens was the best.

-There was a non-member at a fireside who wouldn’t stop raving about all the talent on our team. She said we were living a dream that most people could never reach, and complimented us on our abilities and manner.

-I loved Jordan’s devotional about his grandma and giving that performance to her. It made the performance a lot more meaningful, and it was awesome that he was willing to tour with us.

-In Las Vegas, Danielle and Will both stayed with senior missionary couples from their respective missions. Will served in Ghana, and Danielle served in D.C.

-Nell and Chris Cunningham, Danielle, and Grace ate dinner with foreign exchange students from Norway and China Sunday evening. They had a true international meal.

-Heidi and Jay got mobbed by fans wanting to take pictures with them while they were trying to sell merchandise.

-A Juilliard trained dancer said our show was one of the best she’s ever seen. Boo Ya!

-A Russian woman brought four kids of varying ages to our show at the Cashman Center. The kids were all aspiring dancers and artists and were elated to be at our show. The Russian woman was excited to find out about summer folk dance camp and sounded like she wants those kids to attend.

-Several members of the team got to stay with the legendary Worthen family in their cul-de-sac. We all ate together and enjoyed learning about their family. They made us feel as though we were part of their family.

-While Lauren and I were at the merchandise table during intermission at the Cashman Center, we met a woman from Guatemala. She and her husband took English classes with the missionaries. She, her husband, and her son really enjoyed the show. She expressed how important it was to her that her son saw the diversity of the show. I felt so lucky to meet her and speak to her about Guatemala, where I will be serving as a missionary in a couple of months- Carrie.

-Funny conversation with a lady after the fireside:

Lady: "So, are you married yet?"

Me: "No. . . all these girls are difficult!"

Lady: "There are other girls besides folk dancers."

Me: "But they're the best!"

Later. . .Lady: "Good luck finding your Folk Dance Queen!"

-During intermission, I had a middle-aged gentleman start talking to me. It came up that he had been a folk dancer, and I asked him what years he had danced. He told me, and I asked my mom if she knew him. She asked what years he had danced, and I told her '73-'78. I didn't realize that she was only 9 years old in 1973. Whoops!

-In Mesquite when I asked the audience members what their favorite part of the show was, they all said, "The whole thing! I can't choose one part!"

-In Las Vegas at the fireside, an older man came up to the band and said, "You guys almost resurrected me last night!" Not sure what that means, but I'm pretty sure it's a good thing.

-Brian Francis and David went to the strip with their host family. We drove down the strip in a convertible! We got to the Las Vegas sign to take pictures, and the guys behind us were a bunch of drunk Canadians. They were hilarious. One guy pointed at a plane that was passing by saying, "I like that. I really like that!" As we were leaving four of them were facing the main road while cars were passing, peeing into the street. It sure was funny! Before they got back into their limo, they asked us if we were Mormon. I guess the matching clothes gave it away?

-13 of us stayed in a cul-de-sac with some families. There was a playground, and we spun each other around on it and got funny pictures of people spinning really fast. And we thought of funny words to say with a lisp, like snorkel and sasquatch. "The Sasquatch squished my snorkel!"

March 11, 2013

-St. Rita Catholic School: Little second grader while playing with her at recess- "Please tell me you aren't leaving. And can you come back tomorrow please?" Adorable.

-Speaking to children during pre-show: "Some people think whales are from the ocean, but they're really from Wales." -Jaymie Lambson

-Jay was eating lunch with kindergartners Thomas, Noah, Ryan, Mark, and Cody. While chatting about various things, they asked him if he was a dad. After saying no, the kids then asked "Are you a dad with no kids?"

-The kids called Drew Batman because he was the coolest guy ever.(I wonder who wrote this :))

-Little girl at lunch didn't say anything the whole time, but when I (Lucy) asked her what kind of dance is her favorite, she said, like it was totally normal, "Break dance."

-Two little girls told Lauren Piperato that they were vampires. And then they said, "Our moms don't even know that." But they were the good kind of course.

-Will and Jordan played basketball at St. Rita's school with the kids. Epic highlight reel.

- "Who's the man?" "Jesus!"

-We tried saving some shrimps at the beach, but right after we returned them to their home in the sea by chucking them, some evil seagulls swooped down and ate them!

-Two Mexican audience members were whooping and hollering during the Mexican suite and told us afterwards they felt the number was just for them.

-After the show talking to a family:

Performer: "How did you enjoy the show?"

Parents: "It was wonderful, splendid, amazing. Your group is so talented!"

Performer turns to their 6 year old and asks: "Did you enjoy the show?"

6 year old: "Hell yeahhhhhh!"

March 12, 2013

- During our outdoor show, a lady said the following during Hopak: "Now that's how you mess up your knees and land in rehab."
- A lady explained to her kid that we must be super heroes because no one else can change that fast! Also Bollywood Hell with coal-floors...
- Burning hot stage! Amber's a hero!
- Jason was a hero at the Catholic school. They all screamed and jumped up and down when he walked into the cafeteria. They all wanted him to sit with them at lunch.
- Nate Kuhlman did Hopak at Grossmont in red socks instead of boots!
- I loved doing Nagada on the burning hot stage and seeing everyone do their best to dance. Great memories! :)
- Old missionary at family home evening said that what we did was amazing. The kids there always just stood against the wall in groups and never mingled, but by the end of our activity everyone was dancing and talking together. She said we will never know what a difference we made.
- Two Mormon guys at our college show gave a huge thank you. They said, "Thank you for doing this. It gives us way more mission opportunities at our school with so many non-members!" They really enjoyed it.
- A group of six or seven black guys came and sat by the band in the grass during the dances. They were big and tough but LOVED the show, especially Mountain Strings and Hopak!
- Lots of audience members at our show at Grossmont College.
- Two women from Chile came to our show at Lincoln High School. They were just visiting the U.S., and they were absolutely thrilled with the show. They were heading back to Chile the day after the show.
- A man named Andy told me after the show at Lincoln High School that his non-member mother saw our team perform in Modesto in 2011. She loved the show so much, and it has made her gain an increased sympathy for the LDS Church.
- The family I (Will) stayed with in El Centro is the daughter of the family I stayed with in Mesquite. Also, I straight up crushed a floor mic during Hopak.
- Grace and Alina's fiddle playing skills made our host dad's (Bob) day, especially Orange Blossom.
- Jason and Jaymie:

Jaymie: "I've never done anything to you!"

Jason: "You break my heart every day I look at you, and you aren't mine!"

- Our host mom said, "The dance with the beautiful red dresses was so wonderful it made me cry." Way to go Volyn!

-Lucy, Sarah, and Alina were playing in the lobby, and this guy comes up to them and says, "I've seen shows in New York, London, and Las Vegas, and your show tonight was just as high of caliber as any of those shows."

-There were about six girls that were absolutely in love with Brian Fernandez. They insisted on Kaitlyn and I going to get him. As he approached them, they started freaking out . All of them wanted pictures with him. One girl even put it as her screensaver on her phone.

March 14, 2013

-After our show in San Diego, a group of men from Belarus enthusiastically exclaimed, "We are from Belarus, not Ukraine, but your Ukrainian dancing was incredible. It felt like a homecoming for us even though we're not from Ukraine! You were so wonderful!"

-We (Danielle and Amber) stayed in a historic home built in 1910. It was so beautiful. Also on the way to the bus, our mom took a right too early and ended up taking a 5 minute excursion to make our way back to the church.

-At our show in San Gabriel, the house audio guy came up after and said, "I didn't think I was gonna like it. But that was a great show!" He then raved non stop until we left about how much he liked us and wanted us back anytime.

-Show at San Gabriel Mission Playhouse: Warming up in the tiny hallway (very close, closed proximity) when someone had a bit of a gas problem, and we all about died!

- “Ever in the palm of his hand” shiz boob :)

-Mikayla, Lauren M, Lisa, and Alli got to stay with the Mayor of Duarte. On the way to the bus in the morning there was an accident, and a lady died. Since we were with the mayor, she knew all the back streets and got us to the bus in record time.

-On Tuesday after the show, I was talking with a lady, and she was telling me how much she loved us. She told me that she has been doing her family history and was tracing one of her lines in Ireland. She came to a standstill in the line and didn't know where to look for more information. She didn't know how to continue. She prayed for help. At our show during the Welsh suite, she felt a strong impression that she should continue her search in Wales. It was an answer to her prayers. -Brian Fernandez

-Referring to the bread in Hopak:

Little girl: “How did you get the pie out so fast?”

Emily: “We have an oven in the back!”

Little girl: “I knew it! I knew you had an oven back there!”

Emily: “Just kidding... it's fake.”

Little girl: “Ohh... it made me so hungry.”

March 15, 2013

-Hoedown disaster: Taylor, Christopher . . .

-Indian to Gypsy changing: one piece of Danielle's Classical Indian costume wouldn't come off, so she wrapped it around her waist and put her Gypsy costume on over it. It was ingenious, and made her look pregnant! After the dance, Carrie and Brian Fernandez cut off the Indian costume piece.

-During intermission, a young lady approached me and was very emotional. She explained how she was a single mother of two teenagers and how she had been praying for a way to help motivate her children to do right things. Our show did that for them. She explained how little there is for children in that community, like musical arts programs. She was grateful that we had uplifted them. And she herself said she was more motivated personally from the energy of the show.

- Everyone: “What's a nerf?”

Taylor: “A stripper mermaid.”

Jaymie: “What's there to strip on a mermaid?”

-A lady and her two daughters talked to me after the show. They had driven three hours from Fresno to see us perform. Her youngest daughter was in a Folklorico, and she wanted her to see what she could do if she stuck to it. The mother had also seen us at a USO show 30 years ago.

-Also our host dad served in Jeanette's hometown mission and had taught some of her best friends.

-At San Gabriel, the band was playing in the lobby, and a lady wanted to take a picture with us. Within the same five seconds, Jordan got the neck of his banjo stuck in Sarah's hair and the body of his banjo stuck on the lady's shirt. It was hilarious!

-On the drive home, we stopped at a gas station. A woman came up to us and said she knew we were a BYU group because we were all so nice looking and clean-cut. She's a member of the Church from Albuquerque, and they were in California for her father-in-law's funeral. She said it brought a lot of peace to her to see us and helped her feel better about everything.

-As we got back on the bus after a rest stop on the way back to Provo, Steve stood at the door of the bus just smiling at each of us students. He said, “My life is gonna be really boring tomorrow without all of you.”

-A woman brought her three daughters (Alanis, Alaysia, and Aliana) to our Oxnard show. She kept emphasizing to them that they could be like us dancers and musicians if they work hard in school and continue to pursue the arts. The girls seemed really excited at the prospect of becoming touring performers someday.

May 25, 2013: Ephraim Show

- David ripped Mike's pocket before Steppin'
- Will ripped his pants in Scandi (really bad :))
- Craig was able to catch up with a friend from the mission [Taiwan Taichung Mission]/ [Brigham Blackham], and they talked in Chinese for like half an hour on stage.
- Lauren met Donny Osmond's deaf brother and even though he couldn't hear any of the music or footwork, he said that what we do is "rare and beautiful" and that he loved it!
- Jason and others talked to a 93 year old lady who was super cute. She absolutely loved it! She said it was the best show she's ever seen!
- Nell couldn't keep her vest closed during Welsh due to pregnancy-related issues.
- One man said after the show that we were "the best show that has ever come to Ephraim." He was serious.
- Jordan put a jacket inside of his shirt so he looked fat during Mehk.
- After the show, an older man started dancing to the band's music.
- Alina wore one of the platform skirts as her skirt for the show! It looked great.

June 1, 2013

- "My kids were like, 'Why are you taking us to this?' before we got here but then they saw the show and got so into it! My son even used the word 'epic'!"
- "My mouth got sore from grinning so much!"
- Jason got hit on by sister missionaries :)
- The band busted out "Somebody to Love" during "I Don't Love Nobody." Sweet!
- Awesome merchandise night. We sold 27 CDs and more shirts than on all of mid-semester combined!
- Doug demanded that the band ask the audience three times to stand up and move to the middle. No one moved an inch and it sounded like cricket chirps.
- One lady at our show told us that she had just seen the Rockettes in concert and said we were better.
- Brian Francis (dressed in Welsh) says, "I am a hobbit, come dance and be my hobbit spouse!" Said to Danielle, not even his partner Alli.
- "The tickets were \$10, and someone said that was expensive. Twice that would be cheap!"
- "The group's behavior left a wholesome impression on the community." "Not only was the performance wholesome, but the students' behavior was wholesome." -Pres. Greenfield
- "Watching your performance last night made me so happy. It gave me a glimpse of what eternity is like." - Sis. Stevens

June 2, 2013

- Jeanette at fireside, "We have dance majors, music majors, MDT majors, and the rest are just really talented."
- One of the most amazing testimony meetings I have ever experienced! There is a very special feeling here.
- We met Daniel Sorenson's #1 fan, next to his wife :)
- We got to talk to a less active member whose sons are being taught by the missionaries, and they LOVED the show!
- This show made possible by Amber and all the Mormon kids who made good choices growing up.
- David, Jay, Doug, and Craig watched "Hercules" with Alina, Brittany, Heidi, Whitney, and Sarah O. The movie got fuzzy, and Craig snapped his magic fingers to get it back to normal.
- This is a good place.

June 12, 2012

- "Hope, pray, don't worry!" - cute old lady at Macomb Park Performance
- Little girl: "Wow you dance good, your face is wet, there are a lot of bugs. Do they fly in your face?"
 - Brian: "Nope, they don't bother me because I ate a bug. They leave you alone if you eat the big ones."
 - Girl: "Oh, that's gross."
 - Brian: Talking with parents and then seeing girl about to put a June bug in her mouth- "Wait, wait, wait!"
 - It only works with salt and pepper. If you don't then they will only swarm your face more."
 - Girl: "Mom, do you have any salt and pepper?"
- Mom: "Will you take a picture with my daughter?"
 - Will: Picks up the little girl.
 - Girl: Gets a sour face and says, "You are really sweaty!"
 - Will: "Yeah! I just worked really hard!"
 - Girl: "It's like you peed."
 - Will: "Uh..."
 - Girl: "It's raining on your face."

-Hannibal Performance: A little boy says he loves to dance ballet, hip-hop, jazz, etc. and says he gets made fun of at school. His mom was so grateful that they came to see all the boys dance so that he could see that dancing is cool and that manly boys do it

















