

California Tour

April 3rd-5th, 2025



When is the California Tour?

April 3rd-5th, 2025

- We will depart Pueblo at approximately 7:00am on April 3rd
- We will return to Pueblo at approximately 11:00pm on April 5th

Who goes on the California Tour?

- All 8th grade band students
- 7th grade students from Symphonic Band
- Total Students: 53
- Total Adults (including Mrs. DuPlessis): 16
 - We are waiting to hear from 3 or 4 more adults
- Bus capacity: 55 seats
- We will take two charter buses (we would only drop to one bus if we lose 18 or more students from the trip).

What educational band activities are involved?

- Soundtrack session workshop
 - Sightreading workshop with a professional in the soundtrack recording industry!
 - We put together music excerpts with animated clips from Disney and Marvel movies!
- All groups must submit an audition recording and application for performances and workshops, and ours has been accepted for a Friday workshop! We won't know the exact time until three weeks prior to the trip.

Projected Tour Itinerary (Subject to change)

Thursday, April 3rd

- 6:00 AM:** Boosters and Directors arrive at Pueblo
- 6:30 AM:** All students and chaperones arrive, check in, turn in meds, load buses.
- 7:00 AM:** Depart Pueblo for Anaheim.

There will be a rest-stop in Blythe. We will have students bring a sack breakfast and lunch for the bus.

- 2:00 PM:** Arrive at Huntington Beach for free time in chaperone groups.
- 6:00 PM:** Dinner at Old Spaghetti Factory in Newport Beach (included in fee)
- 7:45 PM:** Check into hotel: **Embassy Suites Anaheim-Orange**
400 N State College Blvd Orange, CA 92868
- 9:30 PM:** Room checks. LIGHTS OUT! GO TO SLEEP!

Projected Tour Itinerary (Subject to change)

Friday, April 4th Wear Tour Shirt Today

6:00 AM: Breakfast (provided by the hotel and awesome!)

7:00 AM: Depart the hotel for the park

8:00 AM: Disneyland opens (park hopping starts at 11:00am)

TBA: Soundtrack Session Workshop (2.5 hours)

10:30 PM: Walk with your chaperone group to the tram and take the bus back to the hotel.

11:00 PM: LIGHTS OUT! GO TO SLEEP!

Projected Tour Itinerary (Subject to change)

Saturday, April 5th

- 6:30 AM:** Bring luggage down to the bus before breakfast
- 7:00 AM:** Breakfast (provided by the hotel and awesome!)
- 8:00 AM:** Depart for Disneyland! (Park hopping starts at 11:00am)
- 3:00 PM** Meet at the designated area to go back to the bus.
- 3:45 PM:** Load buses to return home to Phoenix.
- 5:00 PM:** Dinner on the road at the Morongo Trails exit (students should plan to save \$10-15 for a fast food meal)
- 11:00 PM:** Arrive at Pueblo (students will call when we're 20 minutes away)

MAXIMUM FEE FOR THE TRIP PER PERSON - \$765.00

- Based on current participation numbers, it would be lower than the maximum price listed (closer to \$722)
- Price increased from last year due to needing a second bus and Disneyland's new ticket prices
- **FEE INCLUDES**
 - Transportation by charter bus to and from California
 - Two nights at the Embassy Suites Anaheim Orange (6 per room to keep costs down—Disneyland raised ticket prices again)
 - Full buffet breakfast Friday and Saturday
 - Dinner at Old Spaghetti Factory at Newport Beach Harbor Thursday
 - Disneyland/California Adventure two-day park hopper pass
 - California Band Trip Shirt
 - Disney workshop
- **FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE**
 - 5 Meals (\$80 to \$100 is recommended, \$10 of it kept separately for the drive home) plus a sack breakfast/lunch on the way TO Disneyland
 - Besides meals, any personal needs or souvenirs
 - Genie Plus: This can only be added once you're in the park. It will be up to chaperone groups whether this is purchased (more info on this later).

Fundraising Opportunities to Assist with Trip Costs

Product Fundraisers

Your student's profits after the first item sold go directly toward their balance for the tour (\$6 per Butter Braid, \$7 per box of cookie dough)

Butter Braids – Delivery is September 14th 2:00-4:30 in the MPR

**Cookie Dough – October 21st-November 4th,
Delivery the week of December 5th**

- * NOTE: People can also make a donation instead of ordering items by giving a check or money order made out to Pueblo Performing Arts.*
- * We are open to ideas for additional fundraisers/grants that could lower the final price for everyone. Please contact Mrs. DuPlessis and/or our boosters with ideas at puebloperformingarts@gmail.com*

TAX CREDIT PAYMENT INFORMATION

All tax credit payments are non-refundable.

You may pay the balance due (not the deposit) through the District Tax Credit page by clicking [here](#). Be sure you choose Pueblo as the school and indicate “band” for its allocation. Please forward a copy of your receipt to Mrs. DuPlessis at aduplessis@kyrene.org by March 1st. ***This payment will not be credited to your account until a copy of the receipt is received by the teacher.*

Remember, people do not need to be related to you or your student in order to donate tax credit money. Any single tax paying adult in the state of Arizona may donate up to \$200, and any married tax paying couple in the state of Arizona may donate up to \$400. Any tax credit donation payment made by April 15th, 2025 may be claimed on your/their 2024 taxes. It's the best way to pay for the trip besides the Butter Braid and Cookie Dough fundraisers.

Because of accounting policies, do NOT go to the Kyrene District Office to make ANY payments. Payments made at the district office will not go toward your student but to the general fund.

Payment Schedule

- We are using the local tour company Accent Concerts
- **\$150 deposit: Due by Thursday, September 19th**
 - This deposit is NOT tax credit eligible
 - This deposit is non-refundable (we need to make hotel and bus deposits early to secure the trip)
 - Butter Braid earnings may be applied to this balance.
- **Next \$350: Due by Friday, January 24th**
- **Remaining Balance: Due by Friday, February 21st**
- Payments can be made via cash, money order, check (make money orders and checks to Pueblo Performing Arts), or online at www.puebloband.com (3% fee)
- The initial \$150 is not tax credit eligible, however the remaining \$485 is!
 - Remember that any tax paying adult in the state of Arizona can make a donation of up to \$200 for a single person and \$400 per married couple. They DO NOT need to be related to the student!

Cancellation Schedule

- Per person, non-cumulative
- \$150 non-refundable starting September 20, 2024
- \$400 non-refundable from January 25, 2025 through February 28, 2025
- Full trip cost non-refundable from March 1, 2025

Student Eligibility

- Students must be eligible in order to travel on the California tour. Students may not earn an F on any of their report cards for Quarters 1, 2, or 3. Students who earn one or more D's on a report card will be placed on probation and may be ineligible for the trip if their grades do not improve in time for the trip.
- Any student who receives any out-of-school suspension at any time during the school year will be ineligible to travel, as determined by the performing arts teacher and school administrators.
- Students with multiple ISI (in-school suspensions) or serious behavior concerns in any class or on campus, on a school bus, or on a field-trip, may also be ineligible to travel, as determined by the performing arts teacher or school administrator. Students may become ineligible if they earn ISI more than two times within the school year.
- Any student with an unexcused absence from a required performance throughout the year may be ineligible to travel.

Chaperone Information

- Chaperones must be at least 21 and hold a current fingerprint clearance card through the AZ Department of Public Safety (this is an additional fee for new applicants). It is not necessary to start this process until after you have paid the initial \$150 deposit.
- Parents/Adult Guardians are preferred.
- Chaperones must be in good health, must be able to do extensive walking in the parks, and must travel on the charter buses both to and from California.
- Chaperones are assigned a group of students that may include their child and up to 5 other students.
- The Chaperone fee is the same as the students. Chaperone fees are **not** Tax Credit Eligible. They may be paid to Pueblo Performing Arts Boosters with cash, check (made out to Pueblo Performing Arts), or online at www.puebloband.com.

Chaperone Information Continued

- Chaperones share hotel rooms with one other adult and may be able to request a roommate choice from the paid chaperones.
- There will be a **mandatory** chaperone meeting in April prior to the trip (the date will be announced when it has been finalized).
- This is an inclusive trip. Chaperones are not allowed to choose their group members.
- Students will sign up for their 3-6 person walking groups in March.
- Chaperones will be able to meet face to face with their students at the Spring California trip meeting (early April—date TBA), and walking groups will not change after this meeting.
- Multiple chaperone groups may travel together, but students are not allowed to switch groups during the trip due to district liability policy.

Hotel Information

Embassy Suites Anaheim-Orange
400 N State College Blvd Orange, CA 92868

- 6 same sex students = 1 hotel room (all have access to a bed: 2 queen size beds and a sofa bed)
- Hotel roommates will be determined in March.
- Students are only allowed to be in their own hotel room.
- No students leaving hotel unescorted.
- At night, chaperones do a head count from the hotel room door and students are not permitted outside their rooms until morning. We put tape on the door handle to monitor whether students left their room (they may of course contact their chaperone/director with any emergencies).
- Chaperones hold keys during the day so students don't lose them.
- No swimming pool/hot tub time.

Dress Code

- Students must adhere to the Kyrene dress code at all times while on this trip.
- Students must wear close-toed shoes (preferably athletic shoes) at all times while in Disneyland.
- Students will wear the Pueblo Performing Arts tour shirt in the park on Friday, April 4th (included in trip price)

Frequently Asked Questions

- Are students ever alone on the trip?
 - **No!!!** Students are with a chaperone or buddy at ALL times throughout the trip.
 - Chaperones walk with their student groups through the park at all times.
 - In case of emergency or illness, the directors can be contacted at any time.
- May anyone take my student away from the trip (i.e. to have dinner)?
 - **No:** Due to district liability policy, students must be with their chaperone groups until the end of our time in Disneyland on Saturday, April 5th. At that time, you may take your child with you if they are not returning on the bus. You will need to complete a waiver for this, and that information will be emailed in the Spring.
- Does my student have to ride the bus on the way there?
 - **Yes:** All students must travel by charter bus with the group on the way to California.
- Do chaperones have to ride the bus?
 - **Yes:** All chaperones must ride the bus to help monitor their students.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Do we accept Zelle as a form of payment?
 - **No:** Our website is currently set up to accept credit/debit cards as well as PayPal.



Questions?

Contact me anytime!

aduplessis@kyrene.org

**Thank you so much for attending
tonight's meeting! 😊**