

GRADY MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS

SAN ANTONIO BAND TRIP 2016

Dear Band Parents & Students,

The Grady Middle School Bands are scheduled to perform at the Bluebonnet Classic Music Festival in San Antonio, TX on Saturday, May 14. The Advanced Band & Beginning Band will have separate performances in the Stevens High School Performing Arts Center for the festival. The festival is adjudicated and we will be in competition with other middle school bands in our classification. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to perform in a professional venue, to get feedback from highly respected college, high school, and middle school band directors, and to promote the highest level musicianship from the Grady Band students. The trip is not a graded activity. Students that attend all of the after school rehearsals, perform at a high level of proficiency, have all passing grades, and have excellent behavior are invited to be a part of this trip. Parents that would like to chaperone are invited to travel with the bands as well.

The trip will begin at approximately 6:00 AM as we depart from Grady Middle School for San Antonio in 2 or 3 Deluxe Motor Coaches. Students will be provided a healthy breakfast on the way to San Antonio. Upon arriving at the Stevens Performing Arts Center, students will unload their instruments, get into concert dress, use the restroom and prepare for the music contest. The first group is tentatively scheduled to perform at 12PM and the second group is scheduled to perform just a bit later. Lunch will be provided while we are at the performance hall. After both bands have performed, we will board the buses and travel to Six Flags Fiesta Texas for an afternoon/evening of fun. A meal voucher will be provided for dinner in the park. Later in the evening, the awards from the music festival will be presented at Six Flags Fiesta Texas. After the awards ceremony, we will board the buses and return to Grady Middle School with an approximate arrival time of 12:30 AM. The trip will go on as scheduled regardless if it is raining or not. Our performances are indoors and alternative plans will be made if the weather conditions are not appropriate for Six Flags Fiesta Texas.

Students and Chaperones can pay for the trip in 1 payment on Monday, March 31. Alternatively, students may divide the fee into 2 payments as described below. It is critical that payments be made in a timely fashion, otherwise we may jeopardize our guaranteed performance time in the Bluebonnet Classic Music Festival and risk losing our transportation reservations. No refunds can be offered after April 4, 2016.

Trip Fees:

\$140 - Students \$70 - Chaperones

Trip Payments: **Please Make Checks Payable to: Grady Middle School PTO**

Please enclose your payment in an envelope. Please turn in exact dollar amounts.

Change cannot be provided.

\$70 - Payment #1 Due Monday, March 7 (full payment for Chaperones Due)

\$70 - Payment #2 Due Monday, April 4

Trip inclusions:

- Motor Coach Bus Transportation
- Performance & Festival Participation at the Stevens Performing Arts Center
- Admission to Six Flags Fiesta Texas
- All Meals (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner)

Leif Hall
Director of Bands
Grady Middle School
lhall8@houstonisd.org