

Dear Parents,

Your child will be participating in the On Tour Project in music class for the 2nd and 3rd trimesters. This is a major project that challenges students in the areas of organization, creativity, musical and general performance skills, group management, and academics. Overall, it is a culminating assessment of many of the skills developed at Elkins Park School.

Though the On Tour Project is designed to be a fun, real-life experience involving numerous subjects taught in school, it is also challenging and requires a commitment by the students. Your child will be spending a substantial amount of music class time in a self-directed group with other classmates. Behavior and focus are important. Daily class activities will be differentiated according to students' abilities and interests. However, careless use of class time or poor behavior may result in an unsatisfactory grade and removal from the project. We encourage you to periodically monitor your child's progress on Power School.

More information on the On Tour Project is on the back of this paper. This program is partially funded by a generous grant from The Cheltenham School District Foundation. Complete information can be obtained on the music department website accessed through the following link: www.cheltenham.org/epmusic.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact us. We ask that you sign below and have your child return it to his or her music teacher by December 9, 2016.

Thank you!

Elkins Park Music Department
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I have read the following information about the “On Tour” Project.

Child Name _____ Homeroom _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

On Tour Project Overview

The On Tour Project is a 6th grade general music unit that is a culminating experience for the entire 6th grade. It incorporates musical skills and knowledge gained during 5th and 6th grade through general music classes, choir, band/orchestra and the talent show. It involves cross-curricular connections including reading/language arts, math, and geography in a meaningful “real-life” context to achieve a goal.

Students are divided into groups of approximately 6-7 students. In the groups there are at least 4 students that are the artists. Two students play the roles of the booking agent and tour manager. The artists create a performance that will be performed on stage at the end of the 3rd trimester. Several groups will be selected to perform for the entire school.

Each group is offered a gig somewhere in the world. Locations include Poland, Ireland, the UK, Philippines, Nashville, Brisbane, Hollywood, and Chicago. They must decide if the money offered is enough to pay all expenses, including transportation, hotel, additional musicians, and booking agent percentage. The tour manager and booking agent do the research while the artists are developing the performance. Artists are involved in business/decision-making and the tour manager and booking agent are involved in the performance as sidemen and/or stage crew.

Sample

Summer Music Fest
Exeter, England

You have been offered a gig at the Summer Music Fest in Exeter, England. The venue holds 4,000. The promoter will charge 30 pounds per ticket and keep 10 pounds for his/herself. You are guaranteed an advance 5,500 pounds. One pound is equal to \$1.50 in US currency.

- You have 4 sidemen. They are paid \$800 for the gig and trip.
- Your tour manager gets \$800 for advancing and working the date.
- Your booking agent receives 15% of your gross pay (what you are paid by the promoter).
- Currency conversion: $n = \text{pounds} \quad n \times 1.50 = \$$
- Links: www.britishair.com

Besides the musical focus, students must:

- Understand the function of a business, including profit, expenses, budgeting, gross, net, etc.
- Make a contract to solidify deal
- Develop a bio, press release, and conduct press conference
- Conduct photo-shoot
- Perform currency exchange functions
- Understand geographical locations, time zones, and necessary modes of transportation
- Demonstrate the ability to plan, problem solve, and negotiate effectively