

November 20, 2009

Dear NSU Band Parent:

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that we are able to share with you information regarding a tremendous opportunity that has been bestowed upon the *Spirit of Northwestern*. The Demon Band has been invited to participate in the 2011 New Year's Day Parade and Festival in London, England!

This is the Silver Anniversary of what has been named "the world's greatest parade" which has a street audience in excess of half-a-million and a worldwide television broadcast reaching over 220 million viewers! The prestigious and historic parade route includes Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street, Trafalgar Square and Whitehall, with a grand finale arena adjacent to The Palace of Westminster, Big Ben and Westminster Abbey. 2011 also marks the 100th anniversary of the *Spirit of Northwestern*! This will be a wonderful way to launch the centennial year celebrations of the *Best Soundin' Band in the Land*!

Each student will have to incur the cost of the trip. Below are the amenities included in the cost. We feel you will agree that it would be money well-spent!

Program Inclusions

- Round-trip economy class air travel from Houston (IAH) to London.
- Depart Houston on 12/28/2010. Return to Houston on 01/04/2011.
- Six night accommodations in a superior first-class hotel in London (double or triple occupancy).
- Continental buffet breakfast every day.
- Three dinners at local historic restaurants.
- Vouchers with a value of £10.00 (approximately US\$17.00) for local fast food outlets.
- Local travel via luxury coach.
- Full day educational tour of London's historic West End and City.
- Full day educational tour of the City of Oxford and Stratford upon Avon, birthplace of William Shakespeare.
- Evening performance of a West End theatrical production.
- New Year's Eve Gala.
- Membership for one year in the "Youth Music International Performers' Club".
- The Youth Music of the World specially-written comprehensive Travel Insurance Policy.

The total cost for the week in London is US\$ 2,900.00 (including transportation from Natchitoches to Houston and vice versa on the days of the flights). The cost for anyone wishing to provide his or her own transportation to Houston is US\$ 2,775.00. There could be slight alterations in costs due to currency exchange rates.

The Office of Financial Aid has informed us that they might be able to assist students with the cost of the trip. If a student has not requested or used his/her full amount of loan eligibility, he/she can request to increase up to the full amount of the eligibility. A meeting will be held at a later date to discuss this with students. Any questions concerning the use of financial aid should be directed to Dawn Eubanks at dking@nsula.edu.

In order to secure commitments from students, the initial deposit of \$100 is due by January 18th, 2010. The payment schedule is as follows:

Deposit Number	Amount per Person	Due Date
Initial Deposit*	\$100.00 (non-refundable)	January 18, 2010
Second Deposit	\$400.00	March 1, 2010
Third Deposit	\$500.00	June 1, 2010
Fourth Deposit	\$500.00	September 9, 2010
Final Deposit**	\$1,275.00	November 5, 2010

*The Initial Deposit is non-refundable. All other deposits are refundable until May 1, 2010. After this date no refunds will be made.

**The Final Deposit includes any variation of total cost based on currency exchange rates.

We are in the process of installing a link on the NSU band website (www.nsula.edu/demonband) that will contain all information on the trip along with updates as they occur.

This travel offer also extends to family and band alumni of NSU! The more “fans” of the S.O.N. we have with us, the better the experience for all! There will be slight increase in cost for non-NSU students. We are currently establishing that rate and will post it on the website soon and the Initial Deposit of \$100.00 will be due on January 18, 2010 for non-NSU students as well.

Please consider this excellent prospect for your son or daughter. In addition to the musical aspects of performing in another country, the historical and educational opportunities are limitless.

Do not hesitate to contact one of us with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your support of Northwestern and for allowing us to enrich the life of your son or daughter!

Warmest regards,

Bill Brent, Director of Bands
brent@nsula.edu
(318) 357-4522

Kevin Richardson, Associate Director of Bands
richardsonk@nsula.edu
(318) 357-6722

