

TO: Members of the Vicksburg School Board

FROM: Troy Smith, High School Media Teacher

RE: Spring 2015 trip to Italy

DATE: October 8, 2015

In order to expand our horizons of culture and filmmaking, I am proposing a 9-day trip to Italy during Spring Break (April 1-9), 2016.

Trip Details

I have been working with Education First Tours, the oldest and largest educational travel company. They guarantee the lowest price, have insurance for any tour problems, offer 24-hour English-speaking tour guides and include everything except lunches and tips. For every six students that go, they include one chaperone to go at no expense. We will be holding an informational meeting, Oct. 13 at 6:30pm in room 30 at the High School.

Itinerary

Day 1: Fly overnight to Italy
Day 2: Milan and Venice
Day 3: Venice
Day 4-5: Florence
Day 6: Assisi and Rome
Day 7: Rome
Day 8: Cinecitta film studios, Rome
Day 9: Depart for home

Rationale

Italy has a strong history in film. In addition to immersing in the Italian culture and gaining amazing life experiences, we will be observing Italian cinema sites. The main film experience we will have is spending a day at the world-famous Cinecitta (translated as "Film City") near Rome. Cinecitta is an enormous studio with large sets for Italian and International films. We will tour the studio and are also hoping to film there as special guests.

Cost and Payment

This trip normally would cost over \$8000, but the student cost is \$3350 excluding spending money, passport fees, etc. We will be doing fundraising opportunities, and students will be directed to apply for grants. Payment plans are available. Additional adults will cost \$3685.

This is an amazing opportunity for the students to experience, and student/parent interest has been strong. I ask the Board of Education to support this opportunity for Vicksburg students to travel and study abroad in Italy.

Thank you,

Troy Smith
Media Arts Teacher
Vicksburg High School