

# OKEMOS BAND

To the Okemos Public Schools Board of Education,

Thank you for your time and consideration for the OHS Band to travel to Hawaii in 2025 from March 20th until the 27th. After traveling 3 previous times to Hawaii with the Okemos Bands, I know the students are in for a trip of a lifetime!

After obtaining 3 bids for the trip, I have selected ExPloR travel. The proposed itinerary is attached. As of now, we have over 80 travelers and will have enough chaperones to be a 1:4 ratio of parent to student. ExPloR travel provides night time security in the hotel so our chaperones can get rest and the parents back home can have peace of mind that their students are as safe as possible when in the hotel at night.

Not only are we traveling to Hawaii to showcase the talents of these amazing student musicians, but to take in the welcoming culture of the Hawaiian people. Two performances will be scheduled: one at Pearl Harbor and the other at the Ala Moana Shopping Center. Both venues attract audience members from around the world. The opportunity to perform on such sacred ground as Pearl Harbor is incredible, powerful, and quite emotional. Our students will also pay their respects to the men and women who lost their lives on December 7th, 1941 when they visit the USS Arizona memorial.

From the moment we land, the students will be thrust into the culture of the Hawaiian people. Several activities on the itinerary center around the band learning more about the Hawaiian people and the cultures of the Polynesian Islands. Our students will learn songs, dances, and even a bit of their native language. Also, it goes without saying that they will get plenty of time at the beach!

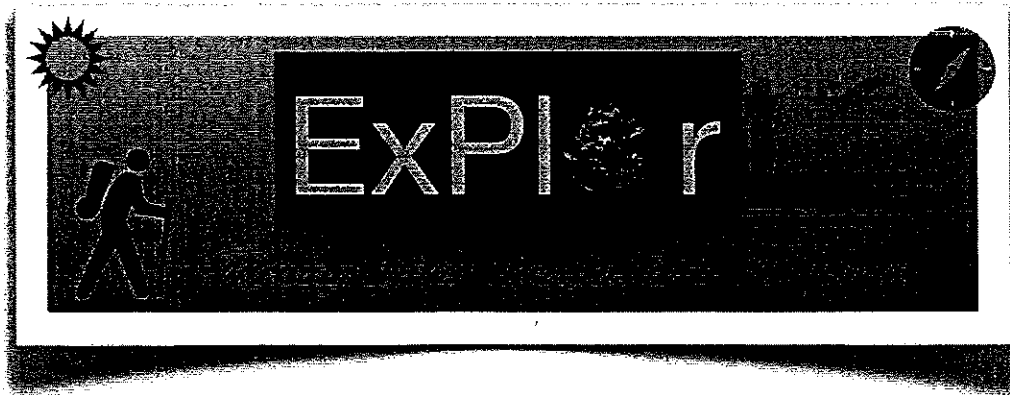
I look forward to your approval to take the band back for a 4th time to Hawaii under my direction. The cost of this trip is four to six hundred dollars below the other two bids and is even two hundred dollars below the cost of the 2022 trip per student.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you again for your time and

ALOHA!



Mark D. Stice  
Director of Bands  
Okemos High School  
[mark.stice@okemosk12.net](mailto:mark.stice@okemosk12.net)  
(517) 706-4946



*Educational Tours to the  
Hawaiian Islands  
Gregory A. Forton M.Ed. - CEO*

We thank you for the opportunity to offer a proposal to assist you with your group travel to Hawaii. Below is an "Agreement for Services" covering the requirements for your group's Hawaii trip. Once again, please keep in mind that all is subject to modifications.

**AGREEMENT for SERVICES  
Okemos High School Band  
2025 "Trip of a Lifetime"**

This Agreement dated April 23, 2024 between **Explor Travel** and the **Okemos High School Band** includes the following terms and conditions:

1) ExPlor will provide the following:

- **Six (6) Nights in Twin Fin Waikiki or similar**
  - **In 03/20/25      Out 03/26/25      Home 3/27/25**
- **Daily Buffet Breakfast**
- **Traditional Fresh Flower Lei Greeting**
- **Aloha Welcome Orientation Briefing and Dinner**
- **Local Entertainment and Hula Lessons**
- **Grand Ali'I Polynesian Tour with Secret Island – Buffet Lunch Included**
- **Pearl Harbor Visitor's Centers – U.S.S. Arizona and U.S.S. Bowfin Submarine**
- **Pearl Harbor "Remember the Heroes" Concert Performance**
  - **Fresh Flower Wreath and Trophy Presentation**
  - **Sack Lunch Included**
- **Honolulu Highlight's City Tour**
- **Local Style Picnic Dinner at Queen Surf Beach**
- **Ala Moana Centerstage Performance Arrangements**
- **Barefoot Beach Catamaran Sail**
- **Snorkeling at Queen Surf Beach**
- **Silent Disco DJ Dance Cruise**
- **North Shore Tour with Stop in Haleiwa**
- **Polynesian Cultural Center with Buffet Dinner and HA Show**
- **Music Clinic with University of Hawaii Director**
- **Dinner at Local Restaurant**



**Day 5 / MON / MAR 24 / (B/L/D)** – Breakfast at Hotel, Roundtrip Chartered Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation (allotted trans: 13 hours), Central Oahu, North Shore Tour, brief stop at Dole Plantation, Lunch in the Historic Haleiwa Surf Town (\$15 lunch cash back), Polynesian Cultural Center complete package with daytime admission, Alii Luau Buffet and HA: Breath of Life evening show.

**Day 6 / TUE / MAR 25 / (B/L/D)** Breakfast at Hotel, Roundtrip Chartered Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation (allotted trans: 7 hours), Diamond Head Crater Hike, (\$15 lunch cash back included) Snorkeling at Queen’s Surf Beach, Dinner at a local restaurant and Silent Disco Dance Cruise!

**Day 7 / WED / MAR 26 – (B/L/D)** – Breakfast at hotel, (\$15 lunch cash back included) Leisure time in Waikiki, Deluxe Airport Transfer from Local Hotel (allotted trans: 2 hours), (\$20 dinner cash back) Departure from the Hotel on a Red-Eye Flight

**Day 8 / THU / MAR 27** – Early Morning Arrival Home

3) The above prices are based on minimum of 80 persons traveling. This participation may decrease by as much as 10% without Agreement revisions. The prices will be guaranteed upon receipt of signed Agreement and deposit - based on airfare not to exceed \$1200. Prices based on travel in 2025.

**4) Payment Schedule:**

Date:	Deposit Amount:
Initial Deposit	\$150 per person
Monthly Payments on Group Collect	
60 Days Prior to Travel	Complete Balance Due

5) **Cancellation Policy:** All cancellations will be responsible for any charges imposed by airline or suppliers at time of cancellation. After initial deposit, any cancellation will be charged a minimum of \$50.00 per person administrative fee plus any charges imposed by hotels and other suppliers at time of cancellation. Any cancellation within 180 days will be charged a minimum of \$150.00 per person administrative fee plus any charges imposed by hotels and other suppliers at time of cancellation. Any cancellation within 60 days will be charged a minimum of \$250.00 per person administrative fee plus any charges imposed by hotels and other suppliers at time of cancellation. Any cancellation within 30 days could be subject to full package penalty.

6) **Concession:** Two (2) complimentary packages for group leaders (based on double occupancy)

7) **Baggage Allowance:** Each group is responsible for any/all charges imposed directly from airlines. Please check with your booked online for the current luggage fees. During the Hawaii ground portion of your tour, one standard sized suitcase and one carry-on is allowed per person. Travelers may be responsible for expenses for ground transportation and/or storage of oversize luggage/equipment.

8) **Air Manifest and Rooming Lists:** Once agreement and deposit are received, a detailed schedule will be sent to your attention outlining specific requirements regarding air manifest and rooming list. Any changes to name or room list within 45 days of departure may incur a \$75.00 fee per change. A final rooming list is due with final payment.

9) ExPlor reserves the right to alter any portion of the tour itinerary if necessary or advisable.

10) This group has been designated as a student/youth group.

11) ExPlor and Cooperating Agents are the principles and are responsible to the **Okemos High School Band** in making arrangements for the services and accommodations offered in connection with this tour as outlined in this Agreement, except that ExPlor and Cooperating Agents shall not be responsible in the absence of negligence on their part, for personal injury, loss, inconvenience, accidents, delay, irregularity, or property damage arising out of the act of negligence of direct air carriers, hotels, sightseeing or transfer companies, or other persons rendering any of the services or furnishings, any of the accommodations or facilities in connection with this agreement.

NAME OF GROUP \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

(PRINT) Name of Director

Signature

Date

RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_

ExPlore

Date

Please sign and email all pages of this agreement to: [forte555@yahoo.com](mailto:forte555@yahoo.com)