

TO: Members of the Vicksburg School Board

FROM: Melissa Sparks, International Thespian Society Director

RE: ITS trip to Stratford

DATE: May 7, 2018

On June 20-21, 2018, I would like to offer Vicksburg International Thespian Society members (the honorary Theatre Society) the opportunity to visit the world-renowned Stratford Festival to experience some of the best theatre, especially Shakespeare theatre, the world has to offer. This includes, a production of ***The Music Man*** and ***The Tempest***. In addition, we will attend a ***Song and Dance*** workshop taught by members of Shakespeare Festival's elite company, take tours and meet with company members of the production of *The Tempest* for further analysis and discussion of this quintessential Shakespearean Fantasy story. As a high school student, I remember embarking on an almost identical trip with my International Thespian Society and it was a life changing experience. I hope to provide a similarly enlightening experience for these students to get a chance to be exposed to and grow in the performing arts. The cost for each student is \$200; this covers transportation, all meals, tickets to the performances, workshops, and tours. Participation on this trip is optional. All travel will be carpooling with myself or a parent chaperone driving. Stratford is 5 hours from Vicksburg High School.

Enclosed is a copy of the itinerary, which is included on the permission slip. I ask the Board of Education to continue to support this opportunity for Vicksburg students to further their growth in the performing arts and education in all that the theatre has to offer. Thank you for your support!

Best Wishes,

Melissa Sparks

STRATFORD ITINERARY

June 20, 2018

5:00am – Meet VHS Teacher Parking Lot (East side) Drive to Stratford, ON.

11:00am – Song and Dance Workshop

12:15pm – Lunch

2:00pm – The Music Man

5:00pm – Dinner

7:00pm – Workshop in the Park/Hotel with Sparks as Instructor

9:30pm – All Students in rooms – lights out.

June 21, 2018

8:00am – Breakfast in Hotel

10:00am – Warehouse Tour of Costume and props storage at Stratford Festival

11:00am – Prologue workshop with cast of *The Tempest* and stage tour

2:00pm – The Tempest

4:30pm – Dinner

5:45pm – Drive back to Vicksburg

11:00pm – Arrive at Vicksburg High School

VICKSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

Field Trip Permission Form

As a member of the International Thespian Society, your student has been invited to attend a field trip to Stratford, ON. While in Stratford, students will attend two performances: the musical production of *The Music Man* and the Shakespeare Play, *The Tempest*. Both performances at the Stratford Festival. They will also attend a **Song and Dance** Workshop, a tour, and a talk session with company members from *The Tempest*. The total fee of \$200 includes admission to performances, workshops, tours, hotel lodging, food and travel costs. Travel to and from these locations will be a mix of carpool driving by adults, walking, as well as public transit. All travel will be completed as a large group with Melissa leading at all times.

This is an opportunity for growth in the understanding, appreciation for, and love of theatre and the performing arts.

<i>Date</i>	June 20-21	<i>Time</i>	Meet at VHS at 5:00am on June 20, return to VHS at approximately 11:00pm on June 21
<i>Location</i>	Leaving from VHS for Stratford, ON, Canada		
<i>Cost</i>	\$200		
<i>Transportation</i>	Carpool, Subway, Walk		
<i>Notes</i>	Students need to bring clothes they can move in as well as their dress up clothes for the theatre.		

Please return this permission slip by: Friday, May 18 with the \$100 deposit. The remaining \$100 is due by June 12.

I give permission for my child to attend the field trip to Stratford, ON from 5:00am on June 20-11:00pm on June 21.

_____ As a parent of an ITS member, I would like to come along!

_____ I would also like to bring a guest (sibling or other parent)

Guest name(s) _____

I am willing to drive and can drive _____ # of passengers not including myself or my child (and guests)

Enclosed is \$ _____ to cover the cost of the trip. (Exact cash or check made payable to school.)
(guests who are not taking the dance class attend for \$180 per person)

In case of an emergency, I give permission for my child to receive medical treatment. In case of such an emergency, please contact:

Name _____

Phone _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____