

TO: Members of the Vicksburg School Board

FROM: Melissa Sparks, International Thespian Society Director

RE: ITS trip to Stratford

DATE: May 16, 2019

On June 27-29, 2019, 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 ***Billy Elliot***, ***Little Shop of Horrors*** and ***Othello***. In addition, we will attend a ***Stage Combaat*** workshop taught by members of Shakespeare Festival's elite company as well as take tours of the costume, props and set warehouse, and continue our own discussions in our mini workshops within the hotel. Last year, our students were able to take an almost identical trip to Stratford and it became a highlight of many student's high school career. I hope to provide a similarly enlightening experience this year to get a chance to be exposed to and grow in the performing arts. The cost for each student is \$300; this covers transportation, hotels for two nights, all meals, tickets to the performances, workshops, and tours. Participation on this trip is optional. All travel will be carpooling (hopefully using the school vans again) 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 27, 2019

6:00am – Meet VHS Teacher Parking Lot (East side) Drive to Stratford, ON.

12:00pm – Lunch

2:00pm – Othello

5:00pm – Dinner

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

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

June 28, 2019

8:00am – Breakfast in Hotel

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

12:00pm – Lunch

2:00pm – Billy Elliot

5:00pm – Dinner

8:00pm – Little Shop of Horrors

June 29, 2019

8:00am – Breakfast in Hotel and check out

11:00am – Stage Combat Workshop

1:00pm – Lunch

3:00pm – Drive back to Vicksburg

6:00pm – Dinner

11:00pm - Arrive in Vicksburg

Pictures from our 2018 Trip

