

2026 Becker High School Choir and Band Trip Proposal

The Becker High School 11-12 grade Choir and Band, under the direction of Gretchen Bordson and Justin Frerich, are seeking permission to travel to New York City from March 19th -March 24th, 2026. This timeline utilizes a weekend and a “no-school” Friday to alleviate some missed school days. The estimated cost of the trip is \$1500 per student, which includes air travel, hotel, all trip activities and many meals throughout the trip.

Trip Purposes:

The purpose of the trip is multidimensional in nature and include but are not limited to:

- Performances at St. John the Divine Church and the Intrepid Sea Air and Space Museum - Choir and Band will be preparing for these performances throughout our school year
- A tour of Radio City Music Hall - Home of the Rockettes and many famous musical events
- Attend a Broadway Workshop and see a Broadway Show - learn music and dance from cast member of the Broadway show they will attend
- DJ Dinner/Dance Harbor Cruise - see the Statue of Liberty while riding aboard a cruise ship
- Experience Central Park, Times Square, Little Italy, Greenwich Village - learn the diverse culture Manhattan has to offer
- Tour the 911 Memorial Site and Museum - Learn about that historic, tragic event that changed our nation forever.
- The responsibilities of traveling help prepare students in small steps for life outside of high school.
- Continued building of a strong, vital choir and band program at Becker High School.
- Traveling helps recruit and retain members and increases commitment in the choir and band programs.

Destination:

The students will be traveling by motor coach. The following is the proposed itinerary. Everything is included in the price as well as several meals, which are marked on the itinerary.

Becker High School Band & Choir New York City Tour March 19 – 24, 2026

Day 1 Thursday, March 19th

- 5:00 pm Load coaches. Don't forget to pack everything you need for the night – toothbrush, medications, change of clothes... We will not have access to luggage underneath the bus while enroute.
 Depart for NYC stopping for dinner enroute 18 ½ hrs + driver change and meal stops).

Day 2 Friday, March 20

- 4:00 pm Breakfast and lunch stop will be made on your own.
 Arrive and check in to your hotel.
 LaQuinta Inn & Suites
 265 Route 3 East, Clifton, NJ 07014
 973-778-6500
- 5:00 pm Depart for Top of the Rock for 6 pm reservation. Go to the top and view the City.
- 6:30 pm Walk to Times Square for dinner on your own.

Day 3	Saturday, March 21 st	8:30 pm	Depart for hotel.
		7:00 am	Breakfast at hotel <i>Included</i>
		8:00 am	Depart to walk across Brooklyn Bridge.
		9:30 am	Depart to Chinatown & Little Italy for shopping and lunch on your own.
		1:30 pm	Depart for 911 Memorial Site.
		2:15 pm	Line up for 2:30 entrance Visit 911 Memorial Museum (<i>entrance to 911 Memorial Museum Included</i>)
		5:00 pm	Depart for 5:30 pm boarding on the DJ Dinner Cruise. <i>Included</i> Cruise under the Brooklyn & Manhattan Bridges, Seeing Manhattan & The Statue of Liberty from the cruise deck is breathtaking!
Day 4	Sunday, March 22 nd	8:30 pm	Depart for hotel.
		7:00 am	Breakfast at hotel <i>Included</i>
		9:00 am	Depart for 10 am Broadway Rehearsal or Q&A Workshop (<i>60-90 minute workshop</i>)
		11:30 am	Lunch on your own.
		12:30 pm	Depart for Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum – self-guided tour of museum.
		TBA	Meet to prepare for Band performance.
		TBA	Becker High School Band Performance on the deck of the Intrepid (<i>based on availability</i>)
		3:00 pm	Depart for Times Square for free time.
Day 5	Monday, March 23 rd	5:00 pm	Dinner at John's Pizzeria <i>Included</i>
		TBD	Broadway Show – TBD
			Following show, depart for hotel.
		7:00 am	Hot breakfast at hotel <i>Included</i>
		8:00 am	Depart for St John the Divine Choir Performance (<i>30 minute performance</i>)
		9:30 am	Becker High School Choir Performance
		10:15 am	Depart for walk through of Central Park walking by Strawberry Fields, Bethesda Fountain, Lower Central Park Band Shell Poets Walk, Sheep's Meadow and Skating Rink. Walk down 5 th Avenue to Rockefeller Center. Free time and lunch on own at Rockefeller Center. Visit St. Patrick's Cathedral, shops on 5 th Ave, FAO Schwartz Toy Store.
		1:30 pm	Guided tour of Radio City Music Hall (<i>in 3 groups 15 minutes apart</i>)
Day 6	Tuesday, March 24 th	3:00 pm	Depart for New Jersey or Brooklyn area Nursing Home/Care Facility for Band Performance (<i>based on availability</i>)
		TBD	Dinner on own (<i>location to be determined based on band performance location</i>)
		8:30 pm	Depart for home (19 hrs + driver changes and meal stops).
		Approx. 8:30 pm	Arrive at Becker High School. Welcome Home!

Other NYC Activity/M meal Options (*replacing another activity or adding if time allows*)

New York Improv Theater

One World Observatory

NY Philharmonics

Lincoln Center Tour

Lunch or Dinner in Greenwich Village on own

On Location NYC Tour (*on and off coach*)

Ferry to Liberty and Ellis Island

Grand Central Station

NYC Library

Hotel Information

Students will be staying in rooms grouped into 4's. The chaperone ratio will be 10:1 so the number of chaperones will be determined by the amount of participating students.

Probable Number of Students:

The trip is optional so the number of students has yet to be determined. An estimate based upon how many students have shown interest is around 60-70 band and choir students.

Transportation:

Motor coach buses: Company TBD

Travel Company and Cost:

The cost of the trip will be around \$1500 per student, which may be slightly lower or higher depending on the number of students attending. Chaperones will pay half of the student cost. The travel company handling the arrangements is Leisure Time Tours from St. Cloud, MN. The company has been handling the Becker Music department tours for nearly 30 years.

Fundraising:

Music department students have been fundraising since 6th grade and the money they raise stays in their individual accounts until they graduate. Any money accumulated throughout these years can be applied to the cost of the trip. This year there will be a few fundraisers for our music students to help offset their trip cost: Candybar sale, Wreath Sale, Coffee Sale

General Rules and Regulations

Any student not complying with the guidelines set below should expect disciplinary action. Discipline may range from a simple reprimand, room or bus confinement, to being sent home by airplane or bus at the expense of parents/guardians.

1. **All Minnesota State High School League and Becker High School Handbook Rules and Expectations apply on this trip. The police department, as well as Becker High School, will handle any student involvement in alcohol, drugs, or tobacco. Any involvement in these substances will result in the student being sent home with a chaperone. Parents will pay for the cost of the plane/bus ride for the student and chaperone.**
2. Act in a manner that will leave every person in which we have contact with a good impression. We are representing our school, community, and state on this trip.
3. All students will attend every function and tour on the itinerary.
4. You should be with at least two other students at all times. DO NOT go anywhere by yourself.
5. Always be a few minutes early. If you are late, the whole group is late. This may jeopardize our scheduled events.
6. Be courteous to the chaperones and drivers

Motor Coach Conduct

1. Food and drink may be consumed while traveling, as long as the coach is kept clean and neat.

2. Our motor coach drivers are experts in the field. Please treat the drivers with courtesy and respect, keeping in mind their responsibilities. While he or she is driving, keep the noise level low.

Hotel Rules and Regulations

1. No one will leave one's room after curfew. After curfew you will only open the door for chaperones and hotel officials.
2. Obey all rules set by the hotel.
3. Be respectful of other guests. You will be held responsible if the manager calls Mrs. Bordson's or Mr. Frerich's room because of a disturbance.
4. Do not take towels or souvenirs from your room. You will be charged for these items and any other damage to your hotel room.
5. Keep your door locked at all times.
6. At no time is anyone outside of the Becker Choir or Band allowed to enter your hotel room. Do not give out your hotel name and room number to anyone.
7. Students are not allowed to stay in a chaperone's room or a room other than the assigned hotel room.

Permission, Medical Information and Waiver Form

All Minnesota State High School league and Becker High School Handbook rules and expectations apply on this trip. Any student not complying with the guidelines set for them should expect a disciplinary action. Any involvement in alcohol, drugs, or tobacco will be handled by the Police Department as well as Becker High School. Any involvement in these substances will result in the student being sent home with a chaperone. Parents will pay for the cost of the plane/bus ride for the student and chaperone. By this Waiver, I assume any risk, and take full responsibility for my child and waive any claims of personal injury, death, or damage to personal property associated with Becker HS Choir and Band tour 2022. I understand and confirm that by signing this waiver and release I have given up considerable future legal rights. I have signed this agreement freely, voluntarily, under no duress.

***I understand, and will comply, with the statement above. I give my permission for my child to travel with the Becker High School Choir and Band to New York City, March 19-24, 2026.**

Parent signature_____

Student signature_____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Insurance Company_____ **policy number**_____

MEDICAL ALERTS

Student Name: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Please inform us of any of your child's special needs (ex. diabetic, epilepsy etc.) and also allergies, medication or prescriptions.

In case of emergency, please give us a phone number(s) in which we can reach you:

_____

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Thank you so much for the information! This information will be kept confidential and will be with Mrs. Bordson and Mr. Frerich at all times in case of emergency.