



Dear GCHS Band Parents and Students,

The GCHS Band has been invited to perform in the 2022 Magnificent Mile Festival of Lights Parade in Chicago, IL. This is a very prestigious invitation, and we are excited to represent Gulf Coast High School in this televised parade.

Please understand that this is not a mandatory trip, you may still be in the GCHS Band for the 2022-23 school year and not travel on this trip. We are holding an information meeting for all incoming 9th graders interested in participating in this trip on January 11, 2022, at 7:00pm in the Gulf Coast High School's band room.

Please see the attached documents regarding the trip as the first payment, copy of student photo ID or passport, and information sheet are due on February 15, 2022. Payments and reservations will only be accepted with all documents required.

If you are zoned for Gulf Coast High School and plan on being in the GCHS Band Program for the 2022-23 school year (and plan on going on this trip) you **NEED** to make these trip payments (even though you are still in middle school). **ALL** payments must be made on time for **ALL** students. If for some reason you do not come to Gulf Coast High School your trip payments will be refunded as long as you request a refund by August 1, 2022.

Please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Goff at goffj@collierschools.com or Mr. McGuire at mcguis@collierschools.com, if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Justin Goff
Director of Bands

Steve McGuire
Assistant Director of Bands



GCHS Band Trip to the 2022 Magnificent Mile Festival of Lights Parade
Wednesday, November 16, 2022 – Sunday, November 20, 2022

Payment Schedule – All payments are Non-Refundable

\$250 – February 15, 2022
\$200 – March 15, 2022
\$200 – April 15, 2022
\$200 – May 15, 2022
\$200 – June 15, 2022
\$200 – July 15, 2022
\$200 – August 15, 2022
\$200 (remaining balance) – September 15, 2022

Total cost of trip - \$1650

Payments are due on or before the above due dates. We will accept checks and cash through the “Bait Box” in the band room. Checks should be made payable to “GCHS Band-Aid Club.” Credit cards are accepted through at our credit card collection nights (see dates below). Credit cards used are charged an additional 3.5% per transaction. For questions about your student’s band account email Jeff Carney at j.a.carney@att.net. Payments may also be mailed to:

GCHS Band Aid Club Inc.
15275 Collier Blvd., #201 Box 365
Naples, FL 34119

Chaperone Information

The number of chaperones is limited to Collier County Public Schools Standards. Chaperones with the most volunteer hours are given first priority. The cost of the chaperone trip is \$500. Chaperone trip payments are not due at this time. Please email Mr. Goff at goffj@collierschools.com if you are interested in chaperoning on this trip. He will contact you with information regarding chaperoning and trip payments after the number of students has been decided. **ALL** chaperones must have Level II clearance through CCPS.

Every student/chaperone trip includes:

- Four (4) **nights lodging** at the Westin O'Hare Hotel
- A visit to **Chicago's Magnificent Mile** for shopping and sightseeing
- A visit to the **Navy Pier**
- A visit to **Millennium Park**
- A **photo op** with the Chicago Skyline as a backdrop from the Adler Planetarium
- One (1) **Spirit DJ/Dinner Cruise**
- One (1) admission to **Blue Man Group**
- One (1) admission to the **360° John Hancock Observatory**
- One (1) admission to the **Shedd Aquarium**
- Three (3) **breakfasts** at your Hotel
- One (1) **dinner after the parade**
- One (1) **Spirit DJ/Dinner Cruise** (as noted above)
- One (1) **Chicago style Pizza dinner** (or similar based on availability at the time of deposit)
- One (1) lunch at **Chicago's Hard Rock Café** (or similar based on availability at the time of deposit)
- One (1) dinner at **Dave & Buster's** (or similar based on availability at the time of deposit)
- One (1) lunch voucher for the **Navy Pier**

Special note to 8th grade parents of future GCHS Band Members

If you are zoned for Gulf Coast High School and plan on being in the GCHS Band Program for the 2022-23 school year (and plan on going on this trip) you NEED to make these trip payments (even though you are still in middle school). ALL payments must be made on time for ALL students. If for some reason you do not come to Gulf Coast High School your trip payments will be refunded as long as you request a refund by August 1, 2022.

Students Not Going on the Thanksgiving Trip

While we would love to have all of our GCHS Band Students go on this trip it is NOT mandatory for all students to attend this trip. You may still be in the GCHS Band for the 2022-23 school year and not attend this trip.

Future Flag/Dance Students

Tryouts for the GCHS Flag/Dance team will be in late March and early April. Only students currently on the team and wishing to go on the trip will need to make these payments. Any new student who makes the flag/dance team will make payments after they are selected for the team. New flag and dance students will need to be prepared to get caught up with their payments before the May 15, 2022, deadline with all fees being due by September 15, 2022. This will be in addition to uniform costs.

Refund Information

Refunds will only be issued for students who move and do not attend Gulf Coast High School. If you are currently on the dance and flag lines and fail to be selected for the 2022-23 team and have already made payments, you will be refunded all your payments. Students who meet these requirements must request a refund via email or letter to Mr. Goff at goffj@collierschools.com before August 1, 2022. All money will be non-refundable after August 1, 2022.

Credit Card Payment Dates in the GCHS Band Room

February 15 – 7:00-8:00p
March 15 – 7:00-8:00p
April 19 – 7:00-8:00p
May 15 – 7:00-8:00p
June 14 – 7:00-8:00p
July 19 – 7:00-8:00p
August 16 – 7:00-8:00p
September 13 – 7:00-8:00p

Gulf Coast HS Band
Proposed Itinerary
Chicago, IL Trip November 16-20, 2022
(Subject to availability at time of booking)
Proposed Itinerary



Day 1 **Wednesday, November 16, 2022**

- TBA** **Depart for scheduled flights to Chicago**
Note: While in Chicago, you will be on Central Standard Time
- TBA** **Check-in to your Chicago area hotel**
- TBA** **Depart for free time shopping and sightseeing on the Magnificent Mile**
- TBA** **Meet at Gino's East for a group Chicago Style Pizza Meal (included)**
Depart for your hotel

Day 2 **Thursday, November 17, 2022**

- 8:00 am** **Breakfast at your hotel (included)**
- 9:30 am** **Depart for Shedd Aquarium**
- 10:00 am** **Enjoy the morning in Chicago's famous Shedd Aquarium**
At Shedd Aquarium, you can look nature in the eye, reach out and touch it. We've been sparking compassion, curiosity and conservation for the aquatic animal world since 1930. Each day, thousands of guests come eye-to-eye with bluegills and belugas, stingrays and sturgeons, sea stars and sea otters—and so many more animals—to discover their inner aquatic biologist or underwater explorer.
- 1:00 pm** **Lunch @ Dave & Busters (included)** followed by some free time to enjoy the other cool experience of visiting **Dave & Busters** – Power Card included “Let the Games Begin”
- TBA** **Depart for your Spirit of Chicago Dinner/DJ Cruise at Navy Pier (included)**
- 10:00 pm** **Cruise Ends – Return to your hotel**

Day 3**Friday, November 18, 2022**

- 8:00 am** **Breakfast at your hotel** *(included)*
- 9:00 am** **Depart for the Navy Pier**
600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611
This is the place where all of Chicagoland and tourists from around the world have come together since 1995 to enjoy the beauty and the thrills of a day on Lake Michigan. From rides to restaurants, exhibitions to entertainment, shopping to dinner cruises and tour boats Navy Pier has it all – in a location unlike any other
- TBA** **Lunch** on your own @ the **Navy Pier** *(meal voucher included)*
- 12:00 pm** **Depart for Chicago’s Famous “Magnificent Mile”**
- 12:45 pm** **Visit 360° Chicago, John Hancock Observatory** *(included)*
Enjoy 360° Views, 1000 FT above “The Magnificent Mile”
- Free time for sightseeing and shopping in small groups on the Magnificent Mile-**
Chicago’s premier shopping center along Michigan Avenue
The Magnificent Mile includes 3,100,000 sq ft of retail space, 460 stores, 275 restaurants, 51 hotels, and a host of sightseeing and entertainment attractions to more than 22 million visitors annually. The American Planning Association selected The Magnificent Mile as one of the 10 Great Streets for 2007 through its Great Places in America program. In recent years, The Magnificent Mile has added trees and flower-filled medians to reflect the changing seasons
- TBD** **Dinner on our own on the Magnificent Mile**
- 7:00 pm** **Depart for the Briar Street Theatre (Blue Man Group)** *(included)*
313 N. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60657
- 8:00pm** **Blue Man Group Show Begins**
- 10:00 pm** **Show ends – Return to your hotel**

Day 4**Saturday, November 19, 2022**

- 8:00 am** **Breakfast at your hotel** *(included)*
- 9:00 am** **Load all parade equipment/instruments and depart for a photo op with the Chicago skyline as a backdrop**
1300 S Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605
- 10:45 am** **Depart for Millennium Park** *(205 East Randolph Street, Chicago, IL 60601)*
To get a taste of Chicago's lively urban atmosphere, visit Millennium Park. Take in picture perfect skyline views, the colorful Crown Fountains and the unique reflections of the Bean while soaking up the atmosphere in the heart of Chicago



GCHS Band Trip to the 2022 Magnificent Mile Festival of Lights Parade
Wednesday, November 16, 2022 – Sunday, November 20, 2022

This form is due along with the first payment and a copy of the student's state issued photo id or passport on February 15, 2022. (Please write legibly in blue or black ink and provide only active emails that you can check on a regular basis for trip information and updates.)

FULL Student Name (as it appears on your ID) _____

Student Grade for the 2022-23 school year _____

Marching Section _____

Parent(s) Name(s) _____

Parent(s) Cell Phone(s) _____

Parent(s) Email(s) _____

I understand that all of my payments are non-refundable unless I move out of the Gulf Coast High School District or do not make the GCHS Flag or Dance lines for the 2022-23 school year. If I move out of the GCH District and choose to attend another high school I must request a refund by August 1, 2022. It is my responsibility to request the refund and I understand that refunds will only be granted for the above reasons if requested before August 1, 2022. The cost of this trip could rise up to 10% based on the price of fuel for bus companies. If this happens, families will be notified before August 1, 2022. Students will be required to present a copy of photo identification (driver's license, valid passport, military ID or state ID) with this form.

Parent Signature

Date