

# 2009-Horizon Choir Retreat Information

Prescott Pines Camp  
855 E. Schoolhouse Gulch Rd.  
Prescott, AZ 86303  
928-445-5225  
www.prescottpines.org  
Mrs. Kouns cell phone: 602-625-7552

**All permission slips in this packet and the \$150 fee for retreat, must be turned in to the choir room (G105) by Friday, May 15th .** It is absolutely mandatory for all Towne Criers and Step On Stage students to attend retreat in order to participate in these classes for the 09-10 school year! If you have financial strain and need more time to extend payments etc. please contact Mrs. Kouns and arrangements can be made to suit your individual needs,

Please be in the Senior Parking Lot (Northeast of the Auditorium) **no later than 7:00am on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>**. We will be splitting up onto two busses and leaving for Prescott by 7:45am. You will receive further detailed info in the mail over the summer.

## Packing List:

- Sleeping Bag & Pillow
- Flashlight with working batteries
- Towels/Wash Rag etc.
- Toiletries (shampoo, toothbrush etc.)
- Comfortable casual clothes for daytime (*it's been getting up to the low 90's during the day so shorts are fine*)
- A light jacket or sweatshirt for the evening
- Closed toed tennis or athletic shoes (no flip flops allowed except in the shower)
- Disney Theme Costume
- Accompaniment CD or Tape to your Vocal Solo
- A Camera

## Do Not Bring...:

- fancy jewelry
- 3 outfits for each day
- lots of money (you don't need it)
- stereos, iPods, mini-dvd players, lap tops, play-stations etc. (*you're on this trip to get to know people and socialize, not to sit in your seat on the bus and be in your own little electronic world*)

If you have any questions please call me or e-mail me this summer.

Mrs. Kouns  
602-953-4179 (office) or 602-625-7552 (cell)  
kkouns@pvschools.net or [huma2n@cox.net](mailto:huma2n@cox.net)

**Retreat Theme:** In honor of our Orlando Tour this year, our retreat theme is **“Camp Disney”!** It will be a great weekend of celebrating the “KID” in all of us and remembering how to keep the “magic” alive all year. You need to bring a costume that fits the theme, but please remember, it **MUST BE APPROPRIATE**. Be creative, there are great prizes for the winning costume. Remember, Disney isn’t just cartoons...think outside of the box!

**Retreat Solo:** For those of you who have gone on retreat before, you know about this, but for your “newbies” here’s what you have to do. Each person who attends retreat has to come with a prepared solo ready to sing. It can be any song of your choice in any style or genre of music, as long as it’s not inappropriate. I recommend going down to the Karaoke Store or On-Line, picking out something you like, buying the back-up track and practicing that. You will need to bring a tape or CD of the accompaniment to your song. You will be split up into groups during retreat and each person will take turns singing their song for everyone else in the group. Don’t worry! This is a very casual performance, if you need the words, that’s okay, if you mess up, that’s okay, if you sing acappella, that’s okay, if you want to bring up your guitar and accompany yourself, that’s okay. It’s all just for fun but **EVERYONE MUST BRING A PREPARED SONG**. We will choose about 10 singers to perform their solos in an evening concert for the entire camp. Have fun and if you need help finding a song, call me at 602-625-7552.

**Cell Phones:** If you have a cell phone, you can bring it with you, but you probably won’t get service at the camp. You can use your cell-phone to call your parents on the way and tell them you’re fine and you can use it to call them on the way home and tell them you’re fine, but that’s it! We will collect cell phones when we arrive at camp and return them to you when we leave.

**Cost of Retreat, Code of Conduct, and Permission Slips:** All Retreat Permission slips are attached to this packet. Please be sure to completely fill out all of the forms. Check both sides and be sure all areas are completed. These forms must be turned in to the choir room G105 along with your \$150 check for retreat by no later than May 15th. Checks are to be made payable to “ACCENTS”.

## RETREAT – PERMISSION SLIP

Please fill out ALL of the following information:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Choir: TC SOS  
(circle all that apply)

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Other Phone Numbers: Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Pager: \_\_\_\_\_

Will your child have a cell phone or pager with them during retreat? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please provide the phone numbers: Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Pager \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Company and phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

Family Doctor (Name & Phone number) \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any health problems your child has: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List all medication that your child will use during retreat \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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I give permission for the directors and chaperones in charge of this retreat to take my child to the emergency room if he or she needs emergency medical attention at any time during this trip. I understand that I will be responsible for all medical costs incurred in this situation.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***We take your behavior and responsibility very seriously on this trip. To those whom much is given, much is expected. If you cannot follow this code of conduct throughout the retreat weekend, you will not only risk losing your tour privileges for the Spring, but you also risk being eliminated from the choral program all together.***

### **Horizon High School Choir - Retreat Code of Conduct**

All school and district policies pertaining to student behavior apply while on this trip. Only exemplary attitudes and behavior are expected of the students at all times. It is a privilege for these students to be representing Horizon High School and the Paradise Valley Unified School District. We expect the students to act accordingly. Behavior problems will be dealt with swiftly and parents will be informed by phone of any serious problems during the tour. **Any student caught violating one of the first five rules listed below, or continually disregarding any of the other guidelines will be sent home immediately at their parent's expense.**

1. Absolutely **NO SMOKING** by anyone on this trip at any time. Smoking or even possessing cigarettes is grounds for immediate expulsion from the tour.
2. Possession of or being under the influence of **non-prescription drugs and/or alcohol, or possessing drug paraphernalia of any kind is grounds for immediate expulsion from the tour.**
3. **No weapons of any kind** are allowed on tour. This includes pocket-knives, sling-shots, mace, pepper spray, etc. If any student is found possessing a weapon of any kind, it will be confiscated and he or she will be expelled from tour.
4. **No sexual liaisons** are allowed at any time. **Inappropriate public displays of affection are prohibited and no male and female students are allowed in the same hotel room with the door closed at any time.** Students are allowed to socialize in public meeting areas, but are not to be alone and unsupervised at any time during the tour.
5. **Stealing will not be tolerated!** If anyone is caught stealing personal belongings, costume pieces or money from any other student during tour, he or she will be sent home immediately. This rule also applies to shop-lifting from stores or taking items from the hotel or place that are not considered complimentary. You are never allowed to borrow, move or even touch another person's belongings without their permission.
6. **No profanity, offensive language or inappropriate behavior is allowed.** This includes rude comments to each other or members of other groups. It also includes sexual references or inappropriate humor. Please be polite and keep your enthusiasm to an appropriate level.
7. Dress Code: You are representing HHS at all times during this trip. All school dress codes apply. No spaghetti strap tank tops, no mid drifts showing, no ripped or torn jeans, no overly-baggy pants, no undergarments showing at any time, to hats or sunglasses are to be worn indoors, no earrings on men, no visible rings anywhere else on women, no odd hair color or make-up, no heels over two inches high. No t-shirts promoting alcohol, drugs, sex or containing inappropriate messages.
8. **When your directors or chaperone is talking to you and/or the group, stop talking, face them and pay attention to all announcements.** You must always be in the right place at the right time. Whenever roll is taken on the bus or any other place, please be quiet and answer only for yourself.
9. **Respect and support one another**, the people you meet, and all supervising adults. Remember your directors and chaperones are in charge!
10. **No pushing, shoving or rough play anytime or anyplace.** No camp pranks that end up with injury or damage of any kind.
11. No spitting, water balloons, stink bombs, water pistols, shaving cream, whipped cream, silly string etc. No rollerblades, skateboards or scooters.
12. Bus Etiquette: Absolutely **no singing, screaming, yelling, or excessive noise on the bus.** Stay in your seat at all times while the bus is in motion. Obey the bus driver at all times. **Don't upset the driver**, we need this person all weekend. No student ice chests. We will stop for food and drinks if necessary. No soda is to be brought on the bus. **No glass bottles of any kind.** Snacks are okay but bring them in a small bag and always throw your trash away and clean up your area each time we get on or off the bus. If even one piece of gum is found stuck to a seat or the floor of the bus, no one will be allowed to chew it for the remainder of the trip so keep it in your mouth or the trash bag.
13. **Cabin Rules:** At curfew you must be in your cabin with the lights off and the volume at pianissimo!!! Respect the other people in your cabin. If they want to sleep, turn off the lights and be quiet. Don't hog the bathroom or lock anyone out. **No one is to leave his or her cabin during the night for any reason.** If you have an emergency during the night, your chaperone will contact the director and we will come to your cabin. Leave your cabin neat and picked up when you check out. If anything is broken or missing from your cabin upon check out, every member of your cabin will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.
14. **NO CABIN, BUS OR TEAM SWITCHING OR SUBSTITUTIONS FOR ANY REASON!!!**
15. **Safeguard your valuables at all times.** Please do not bring expensive jewelry, electronics or other items that you think could "walk away". Label everything with your name and keep track of your belongings.
16. If students wish to bring cellular phones or pagers on the trip, they must provide the directors with the phone number and students are to assume responsibility if they are lost, stolen or damaged in any way.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Retreat 2009 – Tentative Schedule

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup>

7:00am Meet in the Senior lot and load luggage  
7:45am Everyone departs for camp on two school busses  
10:00am Busses arrive  
10:15am Opening Activities  
12:00pm Lunch  
1:00pm Indoor group activities  
2:00pm TC – Group work with the guest clinician, Paul Gulsvig  
SOS – Musical Rehearsal  
3:00pm TC – Musical Rehearsal  
SOS – Group work with the guest clinician, Paul Gulsvig  
4:00pm Combined Activity with Paul Gulsvig  
5:00pm Dinner  
7:00pm Officer Led Games & costume contest  
8:30pm Evening Activity with Paul  
9:30pm Dance  
10:30pm Senior Meeting  
11:00pm In Cabins – Lights Out!

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup>

8:00am Breakfast  
9:00am Morning Large Group Game  
9:30am SOS - Choreography Rehearsal  
TC – Musical Rehearsal  
11:00am Group games and activities with Paul  
12:00pm Lunch  
1:00pm Break up into solo groups  
Free time when you're done  
3:00pm TC – Time with Paul  
SOS – Rehearsal  
4:00pm SOS – Time with Paul  
TC – Rehearsal  
5:00pm Dinner  
6:30pm Evening Recital  
7:45pm Mush Talk  
8:15pm Eye To Eye  
9:45pm Campfire and snacks  
10:15pm Group Activities before bed  
11:30pm Bedtime

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>

8:00am Breakfast  
9:00am Large Group Game  
9:30am Final Rehearsals with groups (Paul – clinic work with TC)  
10:30am Final Activities with Paul  
12:00pm Lunch  
1:00pm Clean out cabins and clean up the camp grounds  
1:30pm Final Activity  
3:30pm Load the busses, depart for Phoenix

**Congratulations!**  
**2008-2009 “Towne” Criers & “Step On Stage” Students**

You have been selected to be a part of Towne Criers or Step On Stage for the 2008-2009 school year. Along with this honor comes quite a bit of responsibility and commitment. The information in this packet is very important and you need to be familiar with all of it.

Please note that because our annual Choir Retreat is on the weekend before school starts, the cost of retreat is due from each choir member by May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Participation in this event is mandatory for all TC & SOS students. We have to collect the money before the summer so that we can pay the camp, reserve busses, book clinicians and buy supplies.

All other fees described in this packet will be due at walk-through in August. Please be prepared to pay these fees at that time. If you have a financial need situation, we are willing to work with you but we must have a detailed letter of explanation from the student’s parent describing the reason for assistance. We also request some sort of monthly commitment from you to help with the cost. We can assist your child with fundraisers and payment plans, but each child must make a financial commitment to pay some of the costs for themselves.

It is very important that the summer information sheet, and all Retreat permission slips are filled out completely and returned with the retreat payment by May 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be contacting you over the summer to inform you of more detailed retreat plans etc. We will also be mailing you the choir handbook with more details for the year. If you have any questions over the summer, please contact Mrs. Kouns. Once again, congratulations! I know it’s going to be a great year.

Mrs. Kathrine Kouns

602-953-4179 school

[kkouns@pyschools.net](mailto:kkouns@pyschools.net) (school e-mail)

602-625-7552 cell

[huma2n@cox.net](mailto:huma2n@cox.net) (home e-mail)

**Towne Criers and Step On Stage – Time Commitment**

Daily Rehearsal

Reviewing, practicing and memorizing music outside of class

Sectional or dance rehearsals when necessary at lunch or before or after school

Retreat (August 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008)

Department concerts and performances including Broadway Under the Stars (Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>)

Spring Tour (San Francisco, CA, April 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009) - Approx. \$600 per person

SOS Only – All-State Show Choir Auditions (Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007)

TC Only – Regional Choir Auditions and Solo & Ensemble Auditions (January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008)

Awards Night (late May, 2008)

Graduation Performance

Participation in Fundraisers

Musical and personal leadership in the choir department

**Towne Criers and Step On Stage – Financial Commitment**

Activity Fee (required by the district) - \$100

For participation in state festivals and competitions

Class Fee (required by the school) - \$30 per class

Costume Fee – SOS \$125 for various costumes throughout the year

TC \$25 per person for dress or tuxedo rental

Accompanist Fee - \$15 per class

For concert, in-class and recorded accompanists throughout the year

Retreat Fee - \$150 (due by May 16<sup>th</sup>)

Covers transportation, housing, all meals, supplies, guest clinician and all activities

Tour Deposit - \$100 (total for tour will be approx. \$600) payments of \$100 per month Aug. – Jan.

Secures hotel and transportation reservations

T-Shirts - \$15

Broadway Fee – To Be Determined depending upon costume requirements (approx. \$10-\$20)

Optional:

Hanging Bag - \$25 (only required if a student doesn’t have one for their costume)

**The Basic Breakdown:**

Due May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Retreat Fee \$150 payable to “ACCENTS”

Due at Walk-through in August:

Class Fee \$30 & **Activity Fee \$100** payable to “Horizon High School”

**Costume Fee \$25 for TC** payable to “Horizon Choir Club #614” & \$125 for SOS payable to “ACCENTS”

**Tour Deposit \$100** payable to “Horizon Choir Club #614” (can be a tax credit)

T-Shirts - \$15, Broadway Fee - \$15, Accompanist Fee \$15 (total \$45) payable to “ACCENTS”

(items in bold print can be paid with AZ State Tax Credits)

## Towne Criers / Step On Stage Summer Contact Information Sheet

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Choir: TC SOS 08-09 Grade: Fr. Soph. Jun. Sen.  
*(Circle all that apply)* *(circle one)*

Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*\*If different from above\**

Summer Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*(where we can reach you over the summer)*

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

***Very important that this information is printed clearly and accurate:***

Student E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Parent E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Mom Work Phone : (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Mom Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Dad Work Phone : (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Dad Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *Place a **star** next to the name of the parent or parents or guardian you live with*

Parent's Occupations: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(this is so that when we need parent helpers or volunteers we can call the appropriate people to help)*

T-Shirt Size: Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large  
*(adult sizes)*

Have you ever taken piano lessons? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, for how many years? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you play any other musical instruments and if so which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently taking private voice lessons? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, for how long and who is your teacher? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you taken dance classes? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, for how many years and from which studio? \_\_\_\_\_

Check any of the following areas in which you feel you are exceptionally skilled:

Computers \_\_\_\_\_ Photography \_\_\_\_\_ Scrap-booking \_\_\_\_\_

Sound Tech \_\_\_\_\_ Sewing \_\_\_\_\_ Web Page design \_\_\_\_\_

Art / Publicity \_\_\_\_\_ Money/Bookkeeping \_\_\_\_\_ Choreography \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*The paper is due to Mrs. Kouns by May 16<sup>th</sup> along with your \$150 retreat payment payable to "ACCENTS"