

## Grade 8 Band Trip 2020: Whistler, April 23-26

Dear Parents,

Students in the ROMS grade 8 band will have the opportunity this year to attend the Con Brio Music Festival in Whistler, April 23-26, 2020. This is one of BC's best student music festivals offering a fantastic educational experience in a beautiful setting. This has been a very successful event for many Saanich middle school groups in the past and has become a tradition and highlight for Royal Oak band students. Please visit <http://conbriofestivals.ca/> for more information about the festival.

We will be hosted by Ellison Travel and Tours Ltd. who will provide a comprehensive tour package including transportation, accommodations, festival fees, 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners, and some student activities. They will help to ensure that students are safe and well taken care of during their trip. They also take great care to accommodate any allergies or dietary concerns for all provided meals.

This year we would like to combine with the North Saanich Middle School grade 8 band in order to enter a full sized concert band with balanced instrumentation and the shared transportation and festival fees will allow us to keep the total cost down for all students. In order for our performance to be successful we will need to schedule 2-3 rehearsals in the Spring where both groups can rehearse together. We will do our best to schedule these at a convenient time for all students. More information to come on this.

The total cost per student will be \$600-650 depending on the total number of participants. Students may also use fundraising money to offset the cost. An initial deposit of \$200 per student is required as soon as possible to confirm our participation in the festival and the final balance will be due in February. Please note that this would be a non-refundable deposit so please carefully check schedules to ensure availability for this trip before committing. All students will be expected to practice regularly throughout the year in order to be able to play their part to the best of their ability for the festival and act as excellent representatives of our school and abide by school/district policies during the trip.

To confirm your child's interest in participating in this exciting opportunity please submit the **\$200 deposit** by **Wednesday, Oct. 9** and confirm with Ms. Wiltshire via email or by returning this signed notice (all cheques made out to Royal Oak Middle School) . More information about the trip including a complete itinerary and district field trip form will be on the way. Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions.

Mandy Wiltshire  
Band Teacher, Royal Oak Middle School  
mwiltshire@saanichschools.ca

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My child, \_\_\_\_\_, would like to participate in the grade 8 band trip to Whistler, Apr. 23-26, 2020.

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_