



OUNDLÉ

School

December 2011

Dear Parents

We are organising a joint Sixth Form Art Department/Drama Department trip to New York during the October holiday 2012, and would like to invite your son/daughter to take part.

The trip will include visits to the Museum of Modern Art, Metropolitan Museum, the Guggenheim, the Frick Collection, the Lincoln Centre for Performing Arts, with further opportunities for theatre visits. You will, of course, be provided with a detailed itinerary as soon as arrangements are finalised. Apart from its general educational value, the trip will be of considerable help with the preparation of Art and Drama AS and A2 examinations.

We plan to depart from Heathrow on Saturday 13 and to return on Thursday 18 October. The cost should not exceed £1000, based on 30 pupils taking part, but factors such as fluctuations in the exchange rate and increases in airport taxes may affect this. The cost will be added to the Trinity 2012 bill.

The price will include:

- Outward coach travel from Oundle to Heathrow Airport
- Return flights
- Airport transfers from New York airport to the hotel
- 5 nights' room only accommodation in New York
- Entrance to all museums, galleries and theatres etc (Theatre shows at extra cost)
- Insurance

Pupils will be responsible for buying their own breakfast, lunch and supper and will also need some money for entry fees, catalogues, postcards etc. As a guideline \$350 would seem adequate for these expenses (more may be needed for shopping!).

Please note that as relatively few pupils return to Oundle, the trip ends at Heathrow Airport on 17 October and you should make your own arrangements for pupils to travel home from there.

Parents of pupils who wish to take part in this trip should email Heather Oakes in the first instance (ho@oundleschool.org.uk) to register interest, and then return the School Consent and Medical Form, found on the School's website www.oundleschool.org.uk/noticeboard/trips/index.php to the Trips Secretary.

These documents **must be** accompanied by a copy of the pupil's passport page containing name and photograph. It will be necessary for us to pass on details from the passport to European Study Tours, the company which is arranging the trip, to relay to the airline.

Additionally, all travellers to the USA now have to apply online for Electronic Travel System Authorisation (ESTA), for which passport information is also needed, and payment of \$14 made at the time of application by credit card. This link provides further information and access to the form: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta>

Pupils must provide me with evidence that this has been done on return to School, after the summer holiday at the very latest.

Details of Insurance Cover are provided in the Consent and Medical Form. Parents are, of course, free to take out further insurance cover if they wish.

The trip will be supervised by Jeremy Oddie and Kathryn Francis. Whilst we will make every effort to ensure behaviour is of the highest standard at all times, it must be appreciated that pupils will not be constantly under our direct guidance. During their 'free time' they are expected to be mature and responsible, and are to stay in groups of at least four.

Although next October seems a long way off, I have been advised by our travel company that time is of the essence in securing bookings and favourable prices. For this reason, it is essential that we know how many people will be travelling as soon as possible and, therefore, I would appreciate it if you could return the documentation by Monday 16 January. If we do not have a return by this date, we cannot guarantee a place.

This is a particularly stimulating trip which, I hope, will be an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Kathryn Francis and Jeremy Oddie

Ms K A Francis, Head of Drama

Mr J D Oddie, Head of Art