



MACY'S FAQs (1/18/13, Updated)

When will the Marching Band deposit be due for the 2013-2014 school year?

1/15/13, after that a \$50 late fee will apply.

Why will the deposit be due so early?

Because each member will be measured for his/her own new, personally fitted uniform on 1/8/13 which will be purchased at considerable expense. The \$150 deposit is necessary as a commitment to the season. The deposit will be applied to the \$550 participation fee. This deposit will be **NON REFUNDABLE**. Your new uniform will **NOT** be ordered until your deposit is paid.

What if I missed measurement day?

We will either use last year's uniform size as a guide or we will have a "make up" day to measure.

When is the Macy's trip planned?

Students will depart 5am Monday November 25, 2013 and return Saturday November 30, 2013 in the afternoon.

Will students miss school?

Yes, Monday and Tuesday 11/25 and 11/26.

What is the cost of the trip?

Currently the payment schedule is \$950; however, we will use fundraising money to bring the final cost down. Any fundraising money will be deducted from the last 1-2 trip payments.

Where is the band staying?

The band will be staying at the Sheraton Lincoln Harbor Hotel, 500 Harbor Boulevard, Weehawken, NJ 07086

What will be on the itinerary?

The itinerary is posted on the band's website. <http://www.lakotawestbands.org/finances/macys-trip-payments/>

Who will chaperone?

You must have a student in the band and on the trip to be a chaperone. Chaperones will be selected based on interest, previous chaperone/volunteer experience, director input, special qualifications (e.g., medical), passing a background check, etc. You do not have to be your student's chaperone, however, that is your choice. Women can act as chaperones for boys, but men can only chaperone for boys, not girls. We typically keep a ~12-1 ratio. Depending on band size and the split between M/F we anticipate needing 21-24 chaperones. If you are interested please contact Dave Bubash at parade@lakotawestbands.org as soon as possible. We need to finalize this list by late January/early February.

What is the cost for a chaperone?

Basically the same as the student cost, ~\$950. The only possible variable is the number of people per room.

When do chaperones need to commit?

We need you to express interest as soon as possible. Chaperone lists need to be finalized so background checks can be started and final head counts and room counts can be given to Gateway in February.

When will payments be due?

The first student trip deposit is \$50, **NON REFUNDABLE**, and due 1/31/13. Monthly payments follow at the end of each month. The payment schedule is on the website. It is your responsibility to go to the website and make your payments. We will also need to choose Broadway shows the first week of February to order tickets so making your first deposit on time is important in order for students to get their choices on the trip.

Can I start making small payments now?

Yes, individual trip accounts have been set up in Charms for this purpose for current juniors, sophomores, and freshmen that have registered in Charms. The trip accounts have been set up with an estimated cost of \$900. The final cost may change. If you intend to make the trip to Macy's you may begin to make payments of any size of your choosing now by logging in to Charms. If you have forgotten your login you can contact Monica Siegert at membership@lakotawestbands.org You can also follow this process for Branson. Once in Charms:

Click **FINANCES** (you should see your trip balance, if you are in Winds, the Branson amount will also be there)
Click the blue box **MAKE TRIP PAYMENT**
In the drop down box, click the arrow to select trip to pay, select **MACY'S ESTIMATE**,
put the amount you want to pay in the box, Click green **START PAYMENT** box
This will connect you with the Paypal login page to complete your payment.

What if I am a freshman and I am not in Charms and I want to start making payments?

Any freshmen that have not yet registered in Charms that would like to make payments need to register. Please follow this link to register and set up an account in Charms: <http://www.lakotawestbands.org/finances/band-camp-registration/>

Will there be a "followers package" available?

There is a sign up for a followers package on the website. As long as we get 40 people's deposits by **1/15/13** we will have a followers package. We have met the 40 person minimum.

What is a followers package?

This is a package that provides transportation (buses separate from the band), hotel (separate from the band, but nearby), and some shared activities with the band. The buses and hotel are separate to keep the band focused on their tasks and taking undistracted direction from band staff while traveling.

What will the followers package cost?

The cost of the follower's package, along with everything that is included is posted on the website. The cost is based upon the number of people in the room and the cost listed is **PER PERSON**. The deposit required is **PER PERSON**. Quad occupancy is \$955/person. Double occupancy is \$1,225/person. This is **without** transportation. See [transportation information below. http://www.lakotawestbands.org/finances/macys-followers-payments/](http://www.lakotawestbands.org/finances/macys-followers-payments/)

Does the package include "parade seating/viewing?"

No, seating is "on your own." **Seating can not be reserved or purchased.** The hotel is about 4 blocks from Macy's where the band will do the "performance" portion of the parade route. That is why the hotel was chosen for this package.

What Broadway shows will the followers see?

Not yet determined, but if possible we will try to get tickets to the same shows the students are seeing (hopefully Lion King, Phantom, Spiderman). This is availability permitting. We'll contact followers for choices the first week of February.

What is the followers bus schedule?

Still being finalized, but the current plan is for the followers bus to leave Lakota West HS on 11/25 at 6am arriving in NY around 6pm and departing the Westin Grand Central 7pm on 11/29 and arriving Lakota West around 7am 11/30.

What is the cost of the bus and who can sign up?

We are canvassing for interest in a motor coach at approximate cost of \$120-165/person. We will provide a bus. The more people that sign up for the bus, the cheaper it will be. [We have opened a second bus due to interest.](#) A **NON REFUNDABLE** payment will be collected separately. [You don't need to sign up for a followers package to sign up for the bus option, however, priority for seats may be given to followers.](#)
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090548AF29A46-interest>

I am confused by the followers package payment site, if I have a Quad room, how do I do this right and how many people am I paying the deposit for (what is the right total)?

If this is your first time with us it can be confusing. You are identifying all 4 people in your room. IF YOU ARE ALL RELATED you will want to pay for everyone at once. There are cases where unrelated people may be staying together and paying separately. We will start with the first case. Choose the QUAD option, payment #1. Fill out the information and hit "Add to Cart."

FOLLOWERS PACKAGE - 4/ROOM \$955 PER PERSON

Payment #1 \$240 due by January 15, 2013Please list the names of the 3 people you will be sharing a room with.

Name	<input type="text" value="Sue Tanner"/>
Phone Number	<input type="text" value="513-123-4567"/>
Sharing Room With #1	<input type="text" value="Woody Tanner"/>
Sharing Room With #2	<input type="text" value="Tim Tanner"/>
Sharing Room With #3	<input type="text" value="Sam Tanner"/>

This takes you to the Paypal cart. Here the easiest thing to do is to change your Quantity to 4 because you need to pay the deposit for ALL 4 PEOPLE in your family for payment #1. Change quantity to 4 and hit the Update button

Description	Item price	Quantity
Macy's Follower Payment #1 - Quad Name: Sue Tanner, Phone Number: 513-123-4567, Sharing Room With #1: Woody Tanner, Sharing Room With #2: Tim Tanner, Sharing Room With #3: Sam Tanner	\$240.00	1 Update Remove

Your screen should look like this now. Four deposits of \$240 total \$960. This is your first payment. Proceed to check out.

Description	Item price	Quantity	Amount
Macy's Follower Payment #1 - Quad Name: Sue Tanner, Phone Number: 513-123-4567, Sharing Room With #1: Woody Tanner, Sharing Room With #2: Tim Tanner, Sharing Room With #3: Sam Tanner	\$240.00	4 Update Remove	\$960.00

If you did not "do it right" the first time, just go back in and pay for the number of people you missed initially using the same occupancy option in payment #1. You can use the "add special instructions to seller" to explain what you are doing and why just before you pay

[Pay Now](#)

Shipping address  [Change](#)

Susan L Tanner
6075 Taylor Ridge Dr
West Chester, OH 45069
United States

Add special instructions to the seller: [Add](#)

Add special instructions to the seller

I forgot to pay the deposits for the other 3 people in my room when I paid the first time. Paying now.
Thanks. Sue

139 characters left

[Save](#) [Cancel](#)

You'll get the chance to do it right on the next 3 payments. 😊

If you are not related and sharing a room, follow the above instructions and pay for the appropriate number of people in the room that you are responsible for. That is why we asked for names, so we could match payments to room mates. List all people in the room. You can write a clarifying note as to whom you are paying for in the "note to seller" as necessary.

Can we add/subtract people to/from our followers package later?

Yes, if plans change for some reason you can add or remove people to/from your room as long as we meet our minimum and there is a followers package. It will change your room occupancy and your **PER PERSON** trip cost, which we will adjust by the end of the payment plan. As long as it does not change the number of rooms we are fine. [Changes made after 4/1 may incur penalties.](#)

If we change our mind can we sign up for the followers package later, after the 1/15/13 deadline?

Yes, as long as we meet our 40 person minimum by the 1/15/13 deadline the band can continue to add people/rooms to the package plan. There will eventually be a deadline, but we don't know what that deadline is yet. When we are told the "drop dead" deadline we will communicate it. After that deadline there may be a "financial penalty" to make changes that cancel plans. Please do not procrastinate. If you do sign up "late" you will be asked to pay all payments previously scheduled **PER PERSON** at the time you sign up. The package rate is **NOT GUARANTEED** after 1/15/13. It is almost certain that the cost of the package will increase the later you sign up due to the room rate going up. The people and number of rooms have been submitted to Gateway. [For certain things the number of people may affect pricing. Please finalize your plans ASAP as changes could affect the pricing of the entire package.](#)

If we don't want to book the followers package and want to travel on our own, will there be a block of rooms at the follower's hotel available for Lakota parents to book?

You are welcome to make your own arrangements. The followers will be staying at the Westin Grand Central, 212 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017. 866-539-0036 We will ask if Gateway can block a group of rooms at the follower's hotel for parents traveling on their own. Not sure why anyone would want to do this and not get the package, if you are

interested in this please contact Dave Bubash at parade@lakotawestbands.org immediately. The biggest issue is holding rooms. The hotel does not want to hold rooms. You either need to book now or take your chances with higher rates or available space later.

If we don't want to book the followers package because we can save money on hotels and other things with hotel points and rewards plans, but there are activities in the followers package we would really like to do with the band (Thanksgiving dinner, Broadway show) is there a way we can pay to do that?

Unfortunately there is not. This is an "all or nothing" package and there are no ala carte options. Gateway prices these things together to get us the deal they do and it would become impossible for Upbeat to manage payment plans for individual items for every person wanting a personalized plan. **Some of these things are absolutely not permitted to be sold outside of the package even if we wanted to, the Thanksgiving dinner is one of them.**

If we have family or other plans and want to leave early with our student for NY and meet the band OR stay longer in NY and not have them ride the bus home can we do that?

Yes, we had families do that for our Disney trip. You will need to inform Mr. Snyder and your student's chaperone of your plans as the time gets near to make arrangements. The most likely exchange points will be at the band's hotel at check-in and check-out times. This will not change the cost of the trip as the bus costs the same whether there are 49 or 50 people on it and it is generally Upbeat policy not to prorate trip costs or offer "ala carte" pricing.

Does Macy's take/offer an official parade picture of the band for purchase?

Yes they do, more to come on that later. Other bands that have attended the parade have had picture "packages" offered to families to be (pre) ordered at a price.

When will fall marching band color guard try outs be held?

Currently scheduled for February 2nd and 4th 6-8pm at Lakota Plains cafeteria. Keep checking the website and email for information. If you intend to march in the fall 2013 season, you **MUST** attend the meetings and auditions regardless of prior participation in any previous season.

<http://www.lakotawestbands.org/2013/01/marching-firebird-fall-color-guard-auditions-begin-february-4th/>