



A Monthly Newsletter for Band, Orchestra, Choral and Dance Directors from your friends at Kaleidoscope Adventures!

Kaleidoscope Adventures to Host the First Annual East Coast GuitarFest in Norfolk, VA!



Kaleidoscope Adventures is proud to announce that they will be hosting the 1st Annual East Coast GuitarFest in Norfolk, VA. The festival will be held at Norfolk State University on April 15, 2011. The GuitarFest clinicians include Dr. Sam Dorsey of Norfolk State University, Timothy P. Olbrych, Professor of Guitar at the college of William and Mary, John Boyles of Woodside H.S. & Christopher Newport University and Cliff Morris, professional guitarist and recording artist.

The festival will include workshops, an adjudicated performance judged by expert guitar professionals and an awards ceremony. The team at Kaleidoscope Adventures is excited to meet the needs of the guitar education community by bringing this specialized guitar event to directors/teachers and their guitar ensembles throughout the east coast.

**For a FREE Trip Quote, call us at
(800) 774-7337
or visit us at
www.kaleidoscopeadventures.com**

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Top 10 Student Destinations:

1. Orlando, FL
2. New York City, NY
3. Washington DC
4. Atlanta, GA
5. Boston, MA
6. Chicago, IL
7. Historic Virginia/VA Beach

Space is limited. For more information about the East Coast GuitarFest, please call **(800) 774-7337** or email Lisa Scalzo at lisa@kaleidoscopeadventures.com

The Time of My Life!

By Greg Dotson – Kaleidoscope Adventures



Did anyone catch this year's Super Bowl halftime show featuring the incredible cast of dancers? Super Bowl XLV managed to break the record and become the most-watched American television program in history, drawing an average audience of 111 million viewers. These multi-talented dancers were backed up by the Black-Eyed Peas, Usher and Slash, which might have helped boost ratings *a little*. Imagine the opportunity to travel to a big city such as Dallas, NYC, or San Diego, to take part in a spectacular pre-show or halftime performance. Your group would have the opportunity to work with some of the most talented choreographers and dancers from all over the country to create a once in a lifetime performance that can be seen by a national audience. There are opportunities for dancers to take part in spectacular performances such as this every year. From college bowl games to the Super Bowl, from holiday parades to special events, **Kaleidoscope Adventures** would be happy to work with your dancers, cheerleaders and drill teams to locate the perfect performance trip. We can create a customized package for your dance group to travel to some of the top student destinations across the United States and not only be a part of an amazing performance opportunity, but experience the history and culture of a new city. Your group will definitely have the time of their life when they travel with **Kaleidoscope Adventures**!

For more information about bowl games, parades and more, contact the **Kaleidoscope Adventures** sales team at **(800) 774-7337** or email us at info@kaleidoscopeadventures.com.

February Spotlight: Chicago

8. St. Louis, MO
9. Hawaii Cruises
10. Branson, MO

Fun Fotos!

These fun fotos are of the recent Georgia Music Educators Conference held in Savannah, Georgia.



Hilde Jones, K.A. Group Travel Planner and Miranda Davis of Hampton M.S. Chorus. Thanks to Miranda for helping Hilde at the booth!



Gina Wayne of Arnall M.S. Band and Robert Burton of J.C. Booth M.S. Band! Both directors helped Hilde at the booth. Many thanks to both of you!



Chicago Skyline

Chicago, one of the largest cities in the U.S., is a city of world-class status and unsurpassed beauty. Located on the shores of Lake Michigan in the heart of the Midwest, the “Windy City” is home to world-championship sports teams, the internationally acclaimed Chicago Symphony Orchestra, renowned architecture, award-winning theatres, and much more. Chicago is also home to a multitude of student-friendly attractions, first-class museums, excellent performance venues, trendy shopping and delectable dining. Chicago offers more to see, do and experience than you and your group will ever imagine.

Contact the **Kaleidoscope Adventures** sales team at **(800) 774-7337** to customize a complete travel package catered to your needs and educational objectives.

An Interview with K.A. Group Travel Planner, Debbie Baker



Debbie Baker
K.A. Group Travel Planner

This month we are featuring another member of our Kaleidoscope Adventures staff. **Debbie Baker** is one of our amazing Group Travel Planners, who also happens to work full time as a Junior High School Band Director. Debbie knows what it takes to create the perfect trip for a performance group, because she knows what she likes. She also has a tremendous passion for travel and her



Hilde Jones and Craig Robertson of Dutchtown M.S. Chorus. Thanks to Craig for helping Hilde at the booth!

We also would like to thank Steve Tyndall of Rising Starr M.S. for assisting Hilde at the booth. Unfortunately, we do not have a picture of Steve.

This Fun Foto is of the East Paulding H.S. Choir of Hiram, GA (Michelle Lokhorst, Director) on their recent trip to Orlando for Candlelight at Disney!



East Paulding H.S. Chorus in front of the Christmas Tree at Animal Kingdom.

Want to see your music ensemble in our newsletter? Send your photos to:

steve@kaleidoscopeadventures.com

Testimonials:

“Joseph, our trip planner, was great. Getting in touch with him was never a problem. Everything was very smooth all the way from contract through execution.”

- Clint LeFlam, Okeechobee High

role in the student travel industry. Recently, I checked in with Debbie to learn more about her. See what she had to say...

KA - Where do you call home?

Debbie - Opelika, Alabama

KA - Can you describe your background in Music Education?

Debbie - I am a Junior High School Band Director. I have been teaching for 25 years. My first teaching job was at Perry Middle School in Miramar, FL. Then I moved to Georgia and taught 5th grade band for two years in Henry County, GA and 18 years at Flat Rock Middle School. This past summer I accepted a new band job at Auburn Junior High School, Auburn, AL. A great program with lots of great traditions.

KA - When and how did you join the Kaleidoscope Adventures team?

Debbie - I joined the KA team the summer of 2008. My bands have traveled with KA since 1999 and I have always joked with Robin that I was going to be a tour guide when I retired. After a trip to Hawaii with a band, I joined the KA team as a part-time Sales Manager. Working for KA has been a life changing opportunity for me. I love everything about band and through KA I get to be around great band programs from around the country.

KA - What is your favorite destination to visit?

Debbie - I totally enjoyed my experience in Hawaii, but I enjoy San Francisco and New York also. I just love to travel.

KA - Why do you like working with student groups?

Debbie - I am a people person. I love sharing new experiences. I love to have fun. I love watching students do something for the first time and then listen to their excitement of what just happened.

KA - Can you tell us something interesting about yourself?

Debbie - I love to travel. I have been to the French Riviera with a National Intercollegiate Band. My family has traveled to Beijing, Paris, London, Budapest, and Prague and we have traveled all over the United States. The world and people in it fascinate me. KA is the perfect place for a job- I get to visit great places with great music people and the KA team is a fantastic group of people.

Thank you so much for all you do, Debbie! We are honored to have you on our staff. If you are interested in speaking with Debbie about planning a trip, please contact her at Debbieb@kaleidoscopeadventures.com. Look for more Kaleidoscope Adventures Spotlights featuring other members of our team in the months ahead!

School

"Karla, the tour director, went beyond the call of duty on several occasions. We were very pleased with her. We appreciate all that the Kaleidoscope Adventures staff did to make our trip a success."

-Christine Hauert, Robert E. Lee Middle School

Congratulations to the Pizitz M.S Band of Birmingham, AL, under the direction of Kim Bain, for being chosen to perform at the Alabama Music Educators Assn. Conference on January 21st! We're proud you!!!

Joseph Hodge to Run the SYTA Youth Foundation Rock n' Roll Half Marathon in San Diego!



Joseph Hodge,
K.A. Group Travel Planner

"8 Miles and counting! That's where I am in my training for the 13.1 mile San Diego Marathon. 5 miles to go and I need your help!"

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am writing to share with you a very special event in which I will take part. I'm running for youth! On June 5, 2011, I will take to the streets of San Diego and run the Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Marathon/Half Marathon. As a member of the SYTA Youth Foundation program, I will be participating in this event as a symbol of endurance and hope in order to raise funds for needy kids across North America who lack the funds necessary to participate in their schools' travel experiences. Travel enriches a child's education in ways that no classroom can deliver. But, not every child can afford to travel... even when their school or youth group gives them the chance.

Now, I am asking you to help me meet my goal with a generous contribution to help much needed student travel scholarships. Any amount will be greatly appreciated, but please consider contributing \$5.00 – \$20.00 for each mile I run; (I am running the half marathon-13.1 miles). All donations are tax deductible for the 2011 tax year.

There are two ways to contribute:

- 1.) Mail your check or money order made payable directly to SYF, (SYTA Youth Foundation). Send to: Joseph Hodge, Kaleidoscope Adventures, 7131 Grand National Drive, Suite 101, Orlando, FL 32819
- 2.) Use your credit card (Visa/MasterCard, Amex) at my website profile page: www.sytayouthfoundation.org/running-for-youth You can also check this site for progress on my training!

Please pass this letter along to anyone else whom you think would be interested in contributing to this cause such as your friends and colleagues at work. You can even check with your employer to see if they have a matching gift program.

With your help, we can “bring the classroom to life” for students in need.

Thank you for your support and generosity,

Joseph Hodge
Group Travel Planner
Kaleidoscope Adventures

Having Trouble with Rehearsal Engagement? Try This!



While the everyday model for rehearsals is so predictable; students play or sing a brief section of music followed by a conductor critique, there are alternatives to reduce student inattentiveness. Try these:

Band/Orchestra Directors: Try a seat rotation system including moving the front row musicians to the back rows and vice versa. All of a sudden, the back row dweller will be required to be more focused when sitting up front by the conductor. Moreover, one can vary seating by mixing up instrumentation without regard to the type of instruments. This mix and match approach will allow students to hear their ensemble from an entirely different point in the room.

Choral Directors: Similarly to the above-mentioned idea, mix up your voice parts sporadically to allow students to hear the ensemble from a different vantage point. Furthermore, one can divide the choir into two equal choirs (rather than the voice parts) to help students understand the concepts of ensemble and

blend.

By employing these techniques, rehearsal engagement and musical maturity should improve by means of a heightened level of watching, listening and adjusting to a new and temporary seating arrangement.

Scruggs, Bernadette. "Constructivist Practices to Increase Student Engagement in the Orchestra Classroom." Music Educators Journal June 2009: Volume 95, Number 4.

Freer, Patrick K. "A Constructivist Approach with Choruses." Music Educators Journal June 2009: Volume 95, Number 4.

Kaleidoscope Adventures can customize a complete travel package catered to your needs and educational objectives to any of our **40+ destinations**. We will assist you with hotel accommodations, transportation, attraction tickets, meals, sightseeing, shopping, special events, and unique performance venues plus more.

**For a FREE, no-obligation quote, please call our
Kaleidoscope Adventures Sales Team at**

(800) 774-7337



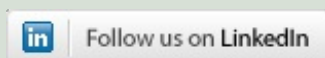
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You can also find us on LinkedIn at:

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Thank you for taking time to read Shop Talk. We look forward to your comments. We encourage you to forward

this newsletter on to other music directors.

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Tel: (407) 345-4899

Toll Free: (800) 774-7337

Fax: (407) 345-2890

Email: info@kaleidoscopeadventures.com

Website: www.kaleidoscopeadventures.com

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7131 Grand National Dr.
Ste. 101
Orlando, FL 32819
US

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