



Building Bridges Tour 2012

MadCAP Tour to Mackinaw City

MadCAP has been invited to perform in Mackinaw* City at the Roth Band Shell in Conkling Park during August 2012!

First, a little history...

Artistic Director Kjerstie Johanson grew up in the Mackinac Straits. She lived and attended school in St. Ignace, MI on the north end of the Mackinac¹ Bridge. For 8 years she performed regularly with the Mackinac Straits Area Concert Band founded and directed by Dr. Ray Roth (yes, of the Band Shell). Ray and his wife Sidney (also a music teacher) became "second chair parents" to Kjerstie and continue to be a huge influence on her life. Kjerstie also performed in the "Music In Mackinaw" program during the first years of its existence.

That's interesting, but what will WE do?

MadCAP's performance at the Roth Band Shell will be much like Company M's performances in Disney World during the tours that group takes every other year. Highlights of the tentative tour will include:

- Performance in the Roth Band Shell (downtown Mackinaw City) during high tourism season in collaboration with local students and young people
- Mini-workshop with students from Mackinaw City Schools & St. Ignace Area Schools (where Kjerstie graduated in 1994...geez!)
- Trip to Mackinaw Island to see the natural sites & visit the State Historic Park on the island
- Pizza/pool party together
- Evening light show in Mackinaw Crossing
- "mini tour" of the area where Kjerstie spent her youth at the request of students in Company M
- We'll be doing lots of other fun stuff, too, but the planning is still in the pretty early stages.

OK, who gets to go?

- **All students in Company M & Intermediate Ensemble** are featured performers and invited to travel without supervising parents (staff will oversee these two groups).
- All students in **Beginning, Junior, and Home School Ensembles** are invited to travel with us, provided there is a parent responsible for every three children (ie, entire families are welcome or parents of one family may choose to be responsible for additional children)
- We will also take a FAN CLUB of parents, friends, and community folks that just want to go along to cheer us on & participate in tour activities.

What are the travel arrangements?

Tentatively, there are a few things we have made arrangements for.

- Travel will be via coach bus and we will travel as one large group on the same bus.
- We will stay at the Holiday Inn Express at the Bridge.
- Meals will be catered, at the hotel (breakfast), and one evening banquet event. Travelers will be responsible for a few meals themselves.
- Tentative prices at this time look to be around \$275 for quad occupancy. This may change based on number of people travelling and final arrangements. I've estimated quite high, so hopefully we'll be bringing this price down a little.
- Tentative travel dates are August 12-15 with a very early morning departure on August 12 and an evening arrival on August 15.

*¹ "Mackinaw" is spelled with a "w" south of the bridge and a "c" north of the bridge. This is due to the English control of the southern territory and French control of the northern territories...I think after the War of 1812, but 5th grade Michigan History was a long time ago, and I don't remember any more. --kj