



LIONS OF MICHIGAN ALL-STATE BAND  
**2024 Tour to Melbourne, Australia  
and Los Angeles**

## Participant General Rules and Contract

### REHEARSAL SCHEDULE AND ATTENDANCE POLICIES

**March 23, 2024** - 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Full group rehearsal, sectionals, uniforms fitted (if applicable), Lakeville High School

**May 18, 2024** - 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Full group rehearsal, sectionals, performance at Lions of Michigan convention, Grand Rapids

**June 15—17, 2024** – MANDATORY Pre-camp

Location TBC

**June 17, 2024** – time TBC

Friends and family concert showcase, rehearsal site

**June 18—29, 2024**

Tour to Melbourne, Australia and Los Angeles, California

### Importance of Rehearsal Attendance

Band rehearsals are kept to a minimum to eliminate conflicts with school band activities; therefore, a great deal is covered at each rehearsal session. Students who are absent from rehearsals not only miss personally important preparation time and music handouts, but also create problems for other band members by their absence from formations and drill.

#### **Excused Absence Procedure**

Band members may be excused for limited reasons, **but only on request directly to the Music Director**. Requests must be emailed at least one week in advance, giving the reason for the absence, late arrival, or early dismissal. The Music Director will contact you only if the absence is unexcused. Telephone contacts will be honored only in the event of a true emergency. The email address and telephone number for the Music Director are listed on the back of this brochure.

**Attendance at the pre-tour band camp is mandatory in order to participate in the Lions Band tour.**

#### **Conflicts with Home Band or School Events**

The staff of the Lions of Michigan All-State Band recognizes the essential role that a band member's school music program plays in his/her musical development. It is our goal to strengthen local music programs by virtue of the high-quality experience that individual band members bring back to their school. We fully expect Lions Band members to return to their local school band ready to contribute in a positive manner.

It is the policy of the LMASB that in the event of a conflict between a scheduled Lions Band activity and an activity in the member's school music program, the school event will take precedence. (Members must still submit written notice to the Music Director as noted above.) School events outside of music may not necessarily be included in this policy. Applicants for Lions Band who have significant conflicts with other activities should consider this carefully before deciding to seek membership in the organization.

Our rehearsal schedule is very tight, so we ask you to make every effort to participate in as much of the rehearsal as possible in the event of a conflict with a school function (sporting event, prom or theatrical performance). Distance and drive time from the rehearsal site will be taken into consideration.

## TOUR ELEMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS OF BAND MEMBERS

The 2024 tour officially begins on Saturday, June 15 with check in at pre-camp. It concludes on Saturday, June 29.

**Meals** - All meals during pre-camp from June 15-17 and while on tour from June 18-29 are provided as part of the tour fee. Lunch and dinner are provided during rehearsals.

**Travel Uniforms** - To provide uniformity of appearance for performances, a means of quick identification, and to reduce individual differences based on personal wardrobe, band members will wear the official travel uniform of the Lions of Michigan All-State Band while on tour. This travel uniform consists of the official travel shirt, blue pants/shorts, name tag, and low-cut white socks. In addition:

- Each student must provide his/her own **all white**, low-cut, lace-up athletic shoes to wear with the travel uniform. The shoe must **not** have visible labels or other markings that are other than white.
- The travel uniform consisting of one (1) long-sleeve travel t-shirt (Australia), one (1) short-sleeve travel t-shirt (California), one (1) pair of navy pants, and one (1) pair of navy shorts are provided as a part of the tour cost. Additional travel uniform pieces are available for purchase.
- Returning band members may wear the previous year's travel uniform as long as articles fit properly, and are not in faded or worn condition.
- White t-shirts may be worn under the travel or polo shirt, provided that they are v-neck style or have a crew neck that does not show outside the shirt.

**Parade Uniform** - Band members will wear the parade uniform of the Lions Band in the parade at the Lions Clubs International Convention. This shall consist of navy blue pants, LMASB polo shirt, low cut white socks, and all white, low-cut athletic shoes. In addition:

- In the interest of uniformity, all members of the band are encouraged to wear their hair no longer than the top of their shirt collar. Students with longer hair must be able to braid or otherwise put it up.
- One (1) long-sleeve performance polo (Australia), one (1) short-sleeve performance polo (California), one (1) pair of navy pants, one (1) pair of navy shorts, and one (1) full-zip hooded sweatshirt are provided as a part of the tour cost. Additional uniform pieces are available for purchase.
- No jewelry or sunglasses are to be worn during band performances.
- Parade attire for members of the visual ensemble will be determined after auditions. VE members must purchase shoes as prescribed.

**Pre-Tour Concert** – A pre-tour concert will be held during pre-camp; time will be announced closer to performance.

**Luggage** – Each member of the band is restricted to **one** checked suitcase, **one** carry-on bag and **one** personal item (purse or backpack) for the trip. Instruments will be considered as carry-ons and must be transported as such, with the exception of sousaphones, percussion and large brass instruments which will be shipped as baggage. Small instruments may fit inside a carry-on bag or backpack and will not count as a separate item.

**Cell Phones**- Cell phones may be carried by students while on tour; however, they must be turned off during performances. They must also be turned off during other times designated by the staff. Failure to comply with the rules set forth by the staff may result in the phone being taken away from the individual and returned at the end of the tour. PLEASE NOTE: cell coverage in other countries can be very expensive. Please check with your student's cell provider for information on international plans, if interested. There will be no need for students to have international cell phone coverage, unless it is a family's preference. ***The LMASB will have two chaperones with international cell phone coverage for the duration of the trip; these phone numbers will be distributed to all family members prior to departure and may be used at any time for both incoming and outgoing calls. We want everyone to feel comfortable knowing they can reach their student.***

**Chaperones-** The Lions of Michigan All State Band staff will act as chaperones while on tour. They will conduct room checks during band camp and while on tour. The ratio is one chaperone per 10 students. Chaperones are both male and female staff members and at least one medically trained individual.

**Room Checks** – While on tour, a chaperone will check band members’ rooms each night. Each room is to be in neat and proper order. At the time of the room check, band members are to be ready to retire for the evening. Room check times will be announced as the band arrives at its housing facility for the evening. After room check, lights are to be out, electronic devices turned off, and silence observed. Unless there is an emergency, students are not to leave their rooms until the designated time in the morning.

**Instruments and Accessories Provided by the Lions All State Band** – The Lions of Michigan All State Band provides flags, poms, f-horns, sousaphones, baritones, and percussion gear. (However, students must provide their own mouthpieces and sticks). Other performers must provide their own musical instruments and accessories. Students are held responsible for LMASB equipment. Careless handling will cause a band member to be assessed for repair or replacement costs.

**Items provided by Band Members** – The following items are to be furnished by band members and are not the responsibility of the LMASB:

- All white, low-cut, laced athletic shoes (all band members)
- All white, low-cut socks
- White, V neck t-shirt for under travel Polo
- Visual Ensemble shoes and stockings, as prescribed
- Instruments or accessories not listed in previous paragraph

### **Financial Considerations and Policies:**

The Lions Clubs of Michigan support the band program in many ways. Some donate to the administrative cost of the program so the LMASB doesn’t have to charge students for expenses other than their personal tour costs. Other clubs give financial support to individual band members or to groups of students from their community or Lions District. Band members will receive a contact list of clubs in their area, along with a sample solicitation letter. Local Lions and Lioness Clubs are **not** obligated to extend financial support to band members.

Tour Cost - The established cost for the **2024 Tour to Melbourne and Los Angeles is \$6,299** per band member. Payment of this amount, in accordance with the payment schedule, is the responsibility of the individual band member. Typically, band members seek and receive financial support from a great variety of sources, and they should make contact with local clubs and organizations of all kinds to seek help. If contributions from other sources are received in the member’s name, they will offset the member’s own tour payments. Contributions may be tax deductible under IRS rules.

Tour payments from sources other than band members should be sent directly to the Lions of Michigan All State Band as indicated below. All payments received on behalf of a student will be listed in their online account at Bob Rogers’ Travel within 2 weeks of receipt of the check at the Lions of Michigan office. Band members are encouraged to send thank-you notes to donors and to offer to present programs at Lions Clubs after the tour.

#### **Payment Schedule:**

First Payment of \$1,000	Due by February 1, 2024 & insurance premium (if selected)
Second Payment of \$1,250	Due by March 1, 2024
Third Payment of \$1,250	Due by April 1, 2024
Fourth Payment of \$1,250	Due by May 1, 2024
<b>Final payment of balance due</b>	<b>Due by June 3, 2024</b>

Make checks payable to: **LMASB Charities, Inc. OR Lions of Michigan All State Band**

Mail checks to: **Lions of Michigan All State Band  
5730 Executive Drive  
Lansing, MI 48911**

When sending checks for a student's account, make certain that his/her name is written on the memo line.

Purchases of photographs, additional travel uniform pieces, jackets or logo-imprinted goods are the responsibility of the individual band member and funds donated on their behalf may **not** be used for these expenses.

Due to cancellation penalties imposed by the travel agency, students who have not paid at least \$2,250 by March 28, 2024 are subject to dismissal from the band.

***The full tour cost must be paid by June 3, 2024.*** If payment in full has not been received by this date, the Lions of Michigan All-State Band reserves the right to cancel participation in the tour and withhold from any refund the applicable administrative and cancellation charges as described below. Participant will be responsible for any money due to organization that was paid on the participant's behalf that is not recoverable by the LMASB.

**Cancellation Penalties:** The travel agency pays for our reservations in advance. As such, some of these charges are not refundable and may result in a cancellation penalty if a student drops prior to the tour departure date. If unpredictable circumstances necessitate cancellation by a band member, full refund of monies paid will be given if **written cancellation** is received and if the money paid to the travel agency can be recovered. The following cancellation penalties apply:

**Prior to May 31, 2024 – refund of all personal funds paid to date**  
**After May 31, 2024 - No refunds will be made**

The Lions of Michigan All-State Band reserves the right to remove any participant from the program. If a participant is removed prior to departure, the sole liability shall be to refund any monies paid to the program. If the participant is removed from the program after departure, no refund will be issued and transportation costs for his/her return travel are to be borne by the participant.

#### **PERSONAL INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT INSURANCE**

Instruments or equipment personally owned by students or their schools must be insured by the student or school. The band insures only instruments and equipment owned by the LMASB and assumes no responsibility for theft or damage to instruments or accessories not owned by them.

#### **MEDICAL FORM:**

Authorization for the staff to act on behalf of the parent **must be given**. If parents do not wish to give permission for treatment, they must indicate their wishes on the Medical Form by deleting and initialing the pertinent section(s). Each student must provide written proof of hospitalization and medical insurance coverage by either: 1) carrying a health insurance card with them on the trip; or 2) submitting a photocopy of a health insurance card with the medical form.

Each student must return the completed, signed Medical Form to the address indicated below **by May 1, 2024**. Please scan and email completed medical forms to: [allstatebandmi@gmail.com](mailto:allstatebandmi@gmail.com).

#### **GENERAL RULES**

**AUTHORITY:** The CEO of the LMASB, under the direction of the Board of Directors, is vested with full power and authority over the organization, including appointments and discipline of the Lions of Michigan All-State Band members and staff.

**EQUIPMENT:** Band members are responsible for the proper care and use of LMASB property issued to them. Members will be held personally liable for any damage to or loss of LMASB issued equipment.

**CONDUCT:** Band members are expected to maintain a professional manner in thought, word and deed. Likewise, they are expected to be personally responsible for their actions and completion of tasks and duties assigned. They represent themselves, their families, their school, state, nation, and the Lions Clubs of Michigan.

The **following behaviors**, whether specific or in intent, **shall be considered violations** of this Performance Contract and can result in severe levels of discipline, including dismissal:

- Willfully leaving the group without permission.
- Band members of the opposite sex occupying the same hotel room or dorm room at the same time.
- Use of tobacco products, including marijuana products or vapes.
- Use and/or possession of intoxicating beverages or controlled substances (drugs).
- Engaging in sexual misconduct.
- Violating laws, including shoplifting or stealing from other band members or staff.
- Flagrant disruption, disrespect or fighting or flagrant disregard for authority.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION: In the event that any of the above rules are violated, the band member will be subject to disciplinary action. These include (in order of application):

- The Music Director and Band CEO will investigate, confer with witnesses and make decisions regarding the rule violation.
- Parent or guardian of the band member will be contacted.
- Band member will be dismissed from the band immediately (or as soon as physically possible).
- Band member will be returned home at the expense of the parents or guardian.
- All tour fees will be forfeited.

### **INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM**

The tour cost is based on agreements, tariffs and taxes in effect. The total cost varies according to the destination and length of the tour. The following services are included in the tour cost:

TRANSPORTATION: Includes round trip transportation from the Michigan departure city and all scheduled program activities during the tour using air, rail, ship, chartered bus or motor coach transportation.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Carefully selected hotel or university accommodations will be used. Whenever possible, rooms with private baths or showers and toilets will be furnished.

MEALS: Three meals per day will be provided while on tour, including the pre-tour band camp. Lunch and dinner will be provided on Saturday of rehearsal weekends.

TRANSFERS: By chartered bus or motor coach from piers, stations, or other terminals to accommodations, meetings and scheduled events.

TIPS AND TAXES: All tips and taxes levied by hotels, restaurants, and local governments are included. Additionally, tips to guides and drivers are included.

BAGGAGE: Participants are responsible for their own carry-on luggage. In certain situations, it may be necessary for participants to handle all of their own luggage.

### **NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM**

INSURANCE: Health insurance coverage is required for each participant, but is not included in the cost of the program. Trip cancellation and baggage loss insurance coverage are recommended but not included. Your local insurance agent or the band's travel agent can furnish details upon request.

TRANSPORTATION WITHIN MICHIGAN: The cost of round-trip transportation from the participant's home to the band camp location/departure city is not included in the program cost.

In addition to the items mentioned above, the tour cost does not include cost of beverages and snacks not on regular meal menus, souvenirs or items of a purely personal nature.

## **TERMS AND RESPONSIBILITY**

**DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS:** Students are responsible for payment of their own tour fees according to the fee schedule listed prior. If Lions Clubs, businesses, individuals, or other organizations contribute funds directly to a student's account, those amounts can be deducted from the student's overall balance amount.

If the participant is removed from the program after departure, his/her return to Michigan will be on the first available flight and no refunds will be given. Additional transportation costs incurred are to be borne by the participant.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The LMASB acts as "agent" for the participants for the rendering of services and accommodations offered as constituting the tour, provided that in the absence of negligence on the part of LMASB, LMASB is not responsible for personal injury or property damage arising out of the act, omission, or negligence of any direct air carrier, hotel, restaurant, or other persons rendering any of the services or accommodations being offered. LMASB reserves the right to change the itinerary of the tour without prior notice to the extent that such accommodations and services offered cannot be supplied due to delay or other causes beyond the control of LMASB and that no refunds will be granted when LMASB's best efforts cannot supply such services and accommodations. In the event the tour is canceled by LMASB for any reason, including insufficient number of participants, LMASB shall have no liability beyond the refund of all deposits made and money paid to LMASB by participants. LMASB shall not be or become liable or responsible for any loss, injury, or damage to person or property otherwise resulting, directly or indirectly, from acts of God; dangers incident to the sea; fire; breakdown in machinery or equipment; acts of governments or other authorities, de jure or de facto; wars, whether declared or not; hostilities; civil disturbances; strikes; riots; theft; pilferage; epidemics; quarantines; medical or custom regulations; or from any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visa, or other documents, and that LMASB shall not be or become liable or responsible for any additional expense or liabilities sustained or incurred by participants as a result of any of the foregoing causes. Unless the participant files a claim with LMASB within thirty (30) days of termination of the tour, LMASB shall be relieved of all liability to such participants.

LMASB shall not be responsible in any way for loss of or damage to participants' baggage. The liability of the transportation company for loss of or damage to participants' baggage shall be limited to actual value of such baggage, not to exceed their posted maximum, unless higher value has been declared with respect thereto and additional payment made.

## **CONTACTS FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

Most questions that arise in the course of preparation for the Lions Band are addressed during rehearsals with additional written materials. Questions occasionally arise, however, for which there appear to be no answers readily available. If this happens, please direct your question to the staff member listed below who would seem most likely to have an answer.

*(Lions Contact, Funding and Band Policies)*

*(Music, Attendance)*

Deb Davis, CEO  
Lions of Michigan All-State Band  
616-723-1178  
allstatebandmi@gmail.com

Jason Russell, Music Director  
Lions of Michigan All-State Band  
810-342-9118  
trumpet\_fan01@yahoo.com

For additional information about the band, a copy of this form, or the medical form, please visit the Lions of Michigan All State Band's website at [www.lionsmiband.org](http://www.lionsmiband.org).

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

We acknowledge receipt of the Orientation Information and General Rules for the **2024 Lions of Michigan All State Band** and we have reviewed and understand the requirements outlined therein.

Signature of Parent or Guardian:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Participant:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Participant's name:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Return completed Acknowledgement form by April 30, 2024 to [allstatebandmi@gmail.com](mailto:allstatebandmi@gmail.com) or mail to:**

Lions of Michigan All State Band/Deb Davis

2365 Aaronsway Drive NE

Belmont, MI. 49306