



August 31, 2007

As a member of the 8th grade class your child will have an opportunity to visit historic Savannah, Georgia. The 8th grade social studies curriculum covers United States History , and as such, we have planned an exciting trip entitled, “The American Journey”, on **Wednesday, November 28 through Friday, November 30th, 2007**

Students will travel to sites and historic landmarks that they learn about in class. Being able to see in real life what they learn in class, will make for a “real” connection to their textbook and classroom instruction.

Aboard an air-conditioned coach, students will travel to Savannah, Georgia spending three days and two nights with deluxe accommodations, all meals, attractions, and activities. Because space is limited, students will be enrolled on a first come, first served basis beginning Friday, August 31, 2007. The trip cost is **\$560.00**. The first payment of **\$280.00** is due on **Friday, September 14, 2007**. The final payment of **\$280.00** is due on Friday, **October 19, 2007**.

We hope that your child will be able to join us on this exciting “American Journey”.

Please send in the enclosed permission slips and check, payable to the City of Aventura with your child to their Homeroom teacher.

Attached you will find the itinerary for the trip.

The deadline for payment is **Friday, September 14, 2007**.

Aventura City of Excellence School
Field Trip Permission Form

Student's Name _____ Telephone _____

I authorize my child to utilize the type of transportation identified below for this field trip

School Bus _____ Charter Bus Private Vehicle _____

1. Field trip destination: **Savannah, Georgia**
2. Departure Date/time: **Wednesday, 11/28/07 5:30 AM**
3. Return date/time: **Friday, 11/30/07 8:00 PM**
4. Cost **\$560.00**

Emergency Contact

In case of an emergency, I may be reached at:

Telephone/Beeper/Cell _____

In the event I cannot be reached, please contact:

Name of Establishment/Person _____ Telephone: _____

Health/Accident Insurance

My child is covered by twenty- four (24) hour students' accident insurance or family insurance:

Insurance Company _____

Policy Number _____ **or** I have attached a photocopy of my insurance identification card.

_____ I do not have insurance; however, I will pay any and all medical bills for emergency care of my child.

Signature of Parent/ Guardian Date

Savannah, Georgia “The American Journey” Intinerary

Day 1

Departing early, we board our air-conditioned coach and head north, stopping for breakfast along the way. As we make our way across the Florida border to beautiful and historic Savannah, Georgia, our six-hour journey ends with spectacular views of the saltwater marsh ecosystem as we enjoy lunch at the **Crab Shack**. A local favorite, the restaurant is poised on stilts and offers us an opportunity to survey the wildlife of this natural area. After lunch, we head into town to explore two of Savannah’s many historic buildings. At our first stop, the **Jepson Center for the Arts**, the future meets the past as we explore the arts place in the world over three floors of interactive exhibits. After honing our critical thinking skills, we’ll head to the historic **Owens-Thompson House** and explore the lavish home and gardens built by one of Savannah’s first cotton merchants in 1819. After checking in to the **Historic Savannah Doubletree Hotel**, we’ll set out to stroll along the **riverfront** where we find an open market with local vendors to explore. After dinner, we join our guide for a walking **ghost tour** of the legendary streets and shadowy squares of what locals claim is one of the most haunted cities in America!

Day 2

After breakfast, we get acquainted with Savannah’s unique network of streets and squares on our **walking tour of the city**. Planned and built by Ogelthorpe in the 1800s, Savannah was the first city of it’s kind in this area. Our morning offers us a chance to explore many of the cities important sites including the **Savannah History Museum** and the **Roundhouse Railroad Museum**. The **Civil Rights Museum** explores the history of Georgia’s oldest African American community and their settlement in Savannah. We visit the **First African Baptist Church** and then move on to discover another early cultural settlement in the city. Visiting the historic **Mickva synagogue**, established in 1735 and housing a 200-year old torah, we learn of the largest group of early Jewish colonists who, five months after Savannah was first settled, administered to the health needs of the city. After lunch, we discover two historic landmarks, the **Juliette Gordon Low** birthplace where we learn the family story of this Girl Scout founder, and the **Davenport House Museum** which dates from the 1820s. Our day’s exploring wraps up with a **murder mystery dinner** hosted by the professional actors of the Savannah Community Theater at the Pirate’s House- a perfect end to our historic day.

Day 3

After breakfast, we head out to **Old Fort Jackson**, Georgia’s oldest brick fort, where history comes alive while we watch how Civil War soldiers fired the forts cannons. For the fort, we head down the longest live oak driveway in the world to discover the ruins of **Wormsloe**, Savannah’s legendary colonial estate. After a picnic lunch on the grounds, we say goodbye to the rich history and unique architecture of Savannah, Georgia. Arriving home after a dinner rest stop, we are full from our experience discovering one of our nation’s most interesting cities!