



16 August 2018

Dear Parents

**Proposed Dramatic Arts, Engineering & Graphics Design, Mathematics and History Tour to the USA April 2019**

Following very successful tours in 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017, the departments of Dramatic Arts, Engineering & Graphics Design, Mathematics and History are delighted to announce plans for a tour to the USA during the Easter Holidays of 2019. The proposed tour is open to boys in grade 11 and 12 in 2019, studying Dramatic Arts, Engineering & Graphic Design or History and potential grade 12 Mathematics boys. Please refer to the attached flyer and itinerary.

This will be an incredible experience for the boys who will be able to live and breathe these subjects for 15 days. I hope that the information in this correspondence serves to illicit a positive response from those parents who would like to provide this once in a lifetime opportunity to their sons. As this is a self-funded tour the College will not allow any fundraising drives. We are looking at embarking on a 15 day tour departing on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 and returning 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

The interest from the boys in this tour has been overwhelming and as a result a committee comprising of representatives from each department involved, a representative from finance, discipline, sport and academics were allocated the task to choose boys who were eligible to participate in the tour. At this stage we need a commitment from interested boys as the tour is limited to 50 students – 25 EGD, 15 Drama and 10 History.

Yours sincerely

Ulaetha Singh  
Head of Dramatic Arts

Dean Moodley  
Head of EGD

Neil Peacock  
Head of History

Vanessa Govender  
Head of Academics

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**Next Pages:-**

**References from those who were on tour, or whose sons and daughters were on tour.**

## **SPECIAL INTEREST BESPOKE SCHOOL GROUP REFERENCES**

### **Nombeko Nhlapo – Parent – St Anne’s School – USA Tour 2019**

Thanks, Calvin for all your help and logistical arrangements my daughter had an awesome trip. Stay blessed.  
Nombeko Nhlapo

### **Jennifer Forrest – Head of Science - St Anne’s School - USA Tour 2015 & 2017**

Dear Calvin,

Wow! What an absolutely amazing trip! The itinerary you set up, flowed so well from one day to the next. Sandra and I are both suffering from jet-lag, which we have never experienced before, but are still amazed at all we managed to see and do in our short time in America.

Our Science girls were stars and took everything in their stride. The girls enjoyed each and every one of theatre shows. They were all different in some way and each appealed to the teenager heart! Well chosen!

We enjoyed all the interactive workshops. Sandra's best was definitely the polymer workshop at the NY hall of Science. She managed to give the girls a twenty minute lesson on polymers while our host learnt the chemical names of all the substances she was using.

The museums in America are magnificent! Our favourite was looking into the past at the Newseum! Each museum had something of interest for each of the girls despite the really busy crowds in New York. In future we would try to avoid the week after Easter, as all the children were on holiday and this just added to the chaos in NYC!

Thank you again for setting this trip up with such attention to detail! It has truly been a wonderful experience! And just long enough as we were all really happy to be coming home last Thursday!

Kindest Regards, Jen

### **Jennifer also sent this message and photo to Nick Adams, our DC guide:**

Dear Nick,

Thank you for a wonderful tour of Washington! We all really enjoyed seeing the sights with you. Until next time,

Jen



Nick & the St Anne’s Group members at Arlington Cemetery in Washington, DC

**Sadly, Nick passed away in July 2018.**

### **Dean Moodley - Head of EGD - Kearsney College Durban – USA Tour April 2015**

Dear Calvin,

Finally, some time to breathe!! Sorry for the late email! Thank you very much for such a wonderful tour. It keeps getting better and better.

The hotels, shows and workshops were 1<sup>st</sup> class.

The boys thoroughly enjoyed this experience and have made many wonderful memories.

You are a master at what you do – keep up the magnificent work!!

We will definitely try to go again in 2 years, using your expertise.

Thanks a million!!

Kind Regards,

Dean Moodley

### **Russell Untiedt - HOD Drama – St John’s College - Edinburgh Festival Tour 2013**

Dear Calvin-

Thanks so much for organising our 2013 Drama and Art tour to Edinburgh and London.

All-in-all, we had a fantastic time and the tour ran very smoothly.

The hotel in Edinburgh was absolutely wonderful and we couldn't have asked for a better locality for a hotel in London!

The boys benefited enormously from the tour and the events that were on offer. We look forward to organising future tours in conjunction with you.

Warm regards, Russell

### **Dean Moodley - HOD EGD Studies - Kearsney College, USA Tour 2013**

Dear Calvin

I want to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for your organisation of our tour.

It was better than the last trip in my opinion.

With regards to the ice hockey at the Madison – I feel that the guy made up for his booboo as the suites were spectacular and the gifts were thoroughly enjoyed by the boys. A bad situation was made great! None of the boys will remember the wait but they will all remember the 1 and a half periods that they watched.

Thanks again,

Dean Moodley

### **Bauke Snyman - HOD Drama, Diocesan Girls School - USA Tour 2012**

Dear Calvin,

I would like to thank you very much for an exceptional tour. This was the fifth tour I did with you and it was definitely one of the best.

Thank you, good luck for the rest of the year and I hope we will soon work together again.

Kind regards. Bauke.

### **Doug Coupleditch - Parent - Diocesan Girls’ School - USA Tour April 2012**

Just to say thank you again for putting together such an awesome visit to the USA again.

Sarah so enjoyed it and is ready to take on NYC.

Kind Regards. Doug Cuppleditch

**This was Doug’s second daughter’s tour – first daughter toured with us in 2010.**

### **Myles Delpport Kearsney College, USA Tour 2013**

Calvin

Thank you very much for all your hard work.

I know that the boys and staff who are going with will have a great time.

It is a privilege working with a professional such as yourself.

### **Jan Bayliss - Head of Drama – Crawford College Jnb – Edinburgh Festival 2012**

Dear Calvin,

On behalf of the Crawford group, we must thank you for a most amazing tour - the transport arrangements, the hotel, the booking of tickets, the taxi plans, everything was just perfect!

We were truly right in the middle of the action of the festival and were able to walk a lot and get to know the city and the weather was actually good, after all our misgivings!

Once again, you proved why so many of us are still using your services after fifteen years - there is nobody who understands we theatre types like you and every tour is an absolute pleasure because of your fantastic arrangements and planning.

Kind Regards,  
Janet and Ferosa

### **Cali Fields - Head of Drama – St Stithian's Boys' College – USA April 2012**

Hi Calvin,

We found the Shakespeare theatre, the show and the workshops all outstanding!!!!!!

Thanks for a fantastic tour per usual, the boys and aging teachers had a hectically full BUT GREAT time! I thought of you at the Udvar-Hazy Museum and wondered how you had managed to organise the space shuttle's arrival to co-inside with our visit .....you are a genius..... it was one of the highlights of the trip !

Bridget was extremely impressed especially with the notes with all the details to assist us.

THANKU THANKU THANKU!

Kind regards, Callie

### **Leigh Kleynhans – Head of Science – Roedean Girls – USA Tour April 2012**

Hi Calvin

We arrived in NY today and are on the walkabout around Manhattan.

In the Apple Istore so thought I would drop you a line. What a fantastic tour you have organized for us - we have been amazed and enthralled by everything we have seen.

Your organization has been outstanding and all has run smoothly.

Thanks so much

Regards, Leigh

### **Ed Bovijn - Parent - St Andrew's College - USA April 2010 & 2012**

Thanks very much for all the work put into these fantastic tours!

Marcel , our eldest did the Design tour in 2010 , and absolutely loved it.

All the very best for the year ahead.

Kind regards, Ed Bovijn

### **Liz Malton - Parent - Kearsney College - USA Tour April 2011**

Hi everyone!! Thank you so much for an absolutely wonderful trip to USA!! Michael thoroughly enjoyed it - it was really something!! Kindest Regards, Kevin & Liz Malton

**Annie Steinhobel - Parent - St John's College - USA Tour August 2011**

Murray arrived home on Saturday literally high on life after the most wonderful two weeks in the USA.

Congratulations for putting together such a full, diverse, interesting and inspirational tour – he loved every single minute of every single day, and was literally bursting with stories and anecdotes about everything from the galleries they visited and the food they ate to the rollercoaster rides they went on and the 'chicks' they met!

He took over 950 photos, and I know for sure that he will benefit hugely from the experience in both his personal and school life.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Annie Steinhobel

**Janet Baylis - Head of Drama – Crawford College - Edinburgh Festival Aug 2010**

This was the best tour we have ever done! The organisation was brilliant and the hotels superb.

We were close to all the theatres and could walk easily from venue to venue.

We especially liked using the trains and the coaches as we could view the country side en route to the city.

The theatre was international and the best theatre I have ever seen in my entire career.

This applies to both London and Edinburgh.

Once again Designer Tours was exceptional.

Thanks Calvin

**Francis Dicks – Dramatic Arts Dept – St Stithian's Boys - USA Tour Sept 2010**

I'm so sorry that this is so late, but I just wanted to say thank you so very much for putting together the tour to the States.

We had the most fabulous time. (I'm only just recovering from my jetlag) All the sites, museums, galleries, shows were absolutely perfect and amazing!!!

Your instructions for helping us around town and just everything was so professional and wonderfully put together.

I can't thank you enough for such an amazing experience.

Warmest regards,

Francis.

**Doug Cuppleditch - Parent - Diocesan Girls' School - USA Tour April 2010.**

Dear Calvin, Bauke and other teachers involved,

Thanks for putting the USA tour together and for making it such a memorable experience for Dani.

She had a ball and though she was pretty exhausted for part of the time, she tried to take in all she could.

A lot of which she probably won't remember now, but the memories will be triggered in conversations or maybe when she gets to visit the USA again one day.

With Regards,

Doug Cuppleditch

**Bauke Snyman - Dramatic Arts Dept – Diocesan Girls' School - USA April 2008**

Dear Calvin,

Just a short note, to yet again say thank you very much for an unbelievable tour.

I wish we could have done it every year. I have attached a photo of us at the Hudson River - somewhere in the mist behind us is the Statue of Liberty.

Kind regards. Bauke.

**Ulaetha Singh - Head of Dramatic Arts - Kearsney College - USA Tour April 2008**

Once again you organised a FANTASTIC trip and Samantha had the time of her life so we would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

She says the hotels, the tours, the shows – everything was BRILLIANT!! I haven't seen any photos yet as we had to take her straight back to school and they have been swamped with work already, but she assures me that she took 2GB of photos and has lots of wonderful memories.

Thank you for the excellent organisation (as well as your patience with my endless e-mails!) and hopefully we will be in contact again when Daniella goes to DSG in 2011!

**Ulaetha Singh - Head of Dramatic Arts - Kearsney College - USA Tour April 2007**

Thank you for an incredible tour.

You were fantastic in the organisation.

Instructions, directions etc were precise and easy to follow.

The shows were exciting in range and were really entertaining. The boys loved all the performances: Pillowman and Blue Man were a hit. All the hotels were great.

I liked the fact that we were occupied from morning to night. Every minute of the day was well spent.

Thank you for well chosen attractions and the guides were informative and really great people. Coached arrived timeously and we had no problems with any of the reservations. You were fantastic, a real star.

Regards,

Ulaetha.

**Bauke Snyman - Dramatic Arts Dept – Diocesan Girls' School - USA April 2008**

Dear Calvin,

Just a short note, to yet again say thank you very much for an unbelievable tour.

I wish we could have done it every year. I have attached a photo of us at the Hudson River - somewhere in the mist behind us is the Statue of Liberty.

Kind regards. Bauke.

**Louis and Niki Copeman - Parents - Diocesan Girls - USA Tours - April 2006**

Well, the “famous” tour is now over, and Samantha had a WONDERFUL time!

We would like to commend you on your organisation of the tour and the quality of accommodation, transport, day-tours and especially the shows.

She has come back with knowledge, enthusiasm and many fantastic memories.

This was definitely the tour of a lifetime and I will recommend Designer Tours to anyone wanting to go overseas.

**John and Sharon Helliwell – Parents - Diocesan Girls - USA Tour April 2006**

Hi Calvin, Leigh arrived back from the tour on Wednesday, and she had a wonderful experience.

Many thanks to you and all involved in planning the trip.

A job well done!

Regards, John and Sharon.

**Annemarie Meintjies - Parent - Crawford College - USA Tour April 2006.**

I would just like to thank you for an amazing trip.

Paris loved it.

Annemarie Meintjies.

**Dawn Haynes - Dramatic Arts Dept - Thomas More College. USA Tour Aug 2006**

Have come back to earth and am getting life back on track after a great tour.

I have had so many parents send thank you messages for the tour.

It was really a great success, and the kids are all so positive about it, hence the thanks from the parents.

Your notes for us teachers were absolutely invaluable.

The detail you gave us made it so easy to negotiate strange new places, and we managed well because of the notes. Thanks!

Once again, thanks for organising a really superb tour.

Dawn

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