

## ---- Preliminary AHSTF Group Itinerary ----

Please understand that it is very difficult to give exact details this many months in advance and any information we do provide is subject to change. We are, however, aware that you are anxious to know as much as possible about the current AHSTF program so that you can better understand what you will experience on your trip. We have put together this preliminary itinerary for your information.

### Day 1

Groups depart from their hometown airports and head overseas to London.



### Day 2

Groups arrive at either London Heathrow or Gatwick Airports and are met by a licensed London guide who will lead them on a panoramic bus tour in the West End of London. The tour is to include Trafalgar Square, Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace and other sights. Groups will also make a stop at American Express to make a currency exchange.

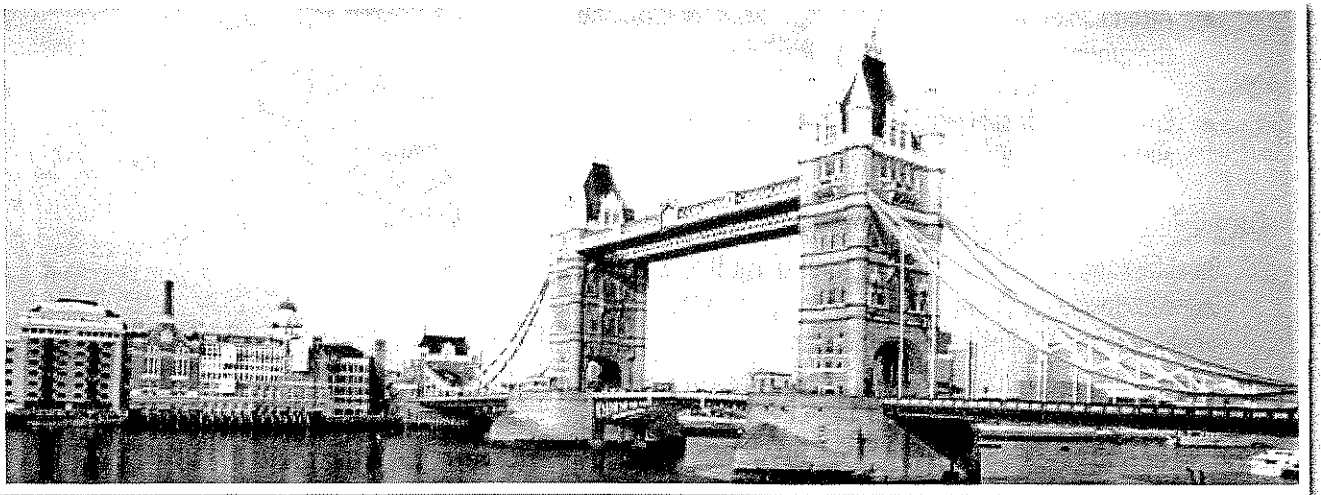


The panoramic tour continues in the city of London with The Tower of London, Tower Bridge, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Bank of England, Lloyds of London, and other sights.

The groups are transported by bus to their residence where they will check in and get settled before dinner in the residence.

### Day 3

Breakfast is served at the residence. This is a free day and each person is provided with a Zone 1 & 2 tube/bus pass for the day. Each group will attend a theatre performance of their choice in the evening.



### Day 4

After breakfast, groups will load their luggage onto luggage vans for the journey north to Edinburgh. Groups will be transported to Edinburgh by train. Upon arrival in Scotland, most groups will be met by a licensed Scottish guide who will lead them on a half-day, guided sightseeing tour of Edinburgh. Some groups may have their technical rehearsal this afternoon and do their sightseeing on another day.

After check-in at the Edinburgh accommodation, dinner will be served in the dining hall, followed by a directors' meeting with AHSTF staff and the Tech team.

### Day 5

Breakfast and one other meal provided in the University dining room. Rehearsals continue for those groups who were sightseeing the day before. Performances may begin for some groups

### Day 6

Breakfast and one other meal provided in the University dining room. Technical rehearsals and performances continue for some groups.

### Days 7 - 12

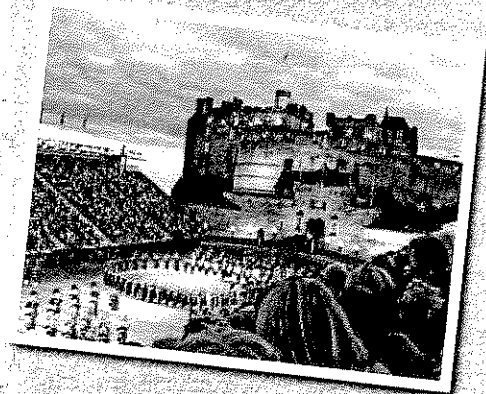
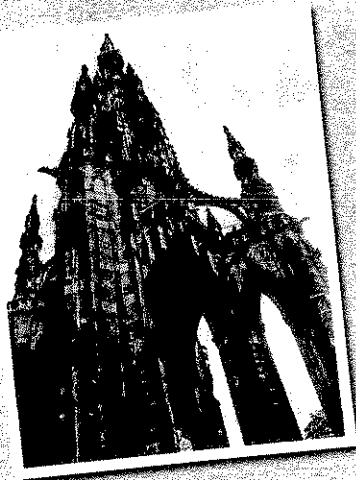
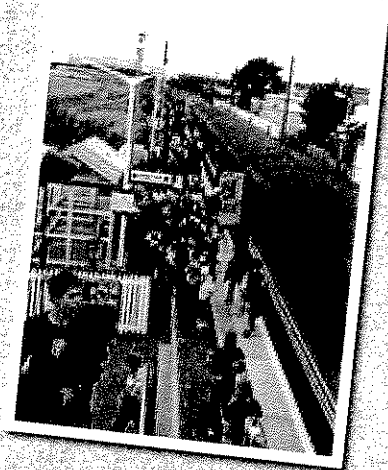
- Breakfast and one other meal daily at dining hall.
- Perform with your troop at the AHSTF venues and attend other AHSTF productions
- All-day, guided sightseeing excursion to Stirling Castle and the Trossachs.
- Attend an evening performance of the Military Tattoo on the grounds of the Edinburgh Castle
- Enjoy a traditional Ceilidh Scottish dance extravaganza for all to participate

### Day 13

Breakfast and lunch provided in the University dining room. A farewell closing ceremony. The afternoon can be spent catching a final glimpse of Edinburgh and the many fantastic Fringe productions.

### Day 14

Breakfast in the dining hall. Motorcoach transfers to the airport for flights home.



## ---Sightseeing Details---

You will have a half-day guided tour of Edinburgh. For the most part this tour will serve to introduce and orient you to the city of Edinburgh, point out the major attractions, and provide some of the history of the city.

You are scheduled for a guided sightseeing excursion that will include Stirling Castle and the Trossachs.

### Stirling Castle

Stirling Castle, one of the greatest castles in Scotland, on its 250-foot great rock had dominated much of Scotland's vivid history. Wallace recaptured it from the English in 1297, Edward I seized it back in 1304, and Bruce won it at nearby Bannockburn in 1314. Later, it was a favorite Royal residence. James II was born here in 1430 and Mary Queen of Scots and James VI both spent some years here.

The castle's architecture is of outstanding quality. Long used as a barracks and frequently rebuilt, the old towers built by James IV remain as well as the fine 16th century hall, the splendid Renaissance palace of James V, the Chapel Royal of 1594 and several other buildings.

### The Trossachs

Sir Walter Scott captured the very essence of the Trossachs when he wrote of the scenery, "So wondrous wild, the whole might seem, the scenery of a faery dream." The tapestry of bens, glens, sparkling lochs, forests and foaming rivers is a hallmark of the microcosm of Highland Scotland that is the region known as the Trossachs.

Nowhere is the captivating contrast between Highland and Lowland Scotland more beautifully manifested than in the Trossachs. The hillsides of this walker's paradise, cloaked in heather and forest, are everywhere interspersed by blue lochs, seemingly placed with divine purpose to reflect the majesty of the surrounding landscape.

Highland folk hero, Lowland outlaw, Rob Roy MacGregor (1671 - 1734) used his intimate knowledge of his Trossachs homelands to outwit the Redcoat soldiers sent to subdue him. For almost 300 years, writers and now filmmakers have been fascinated by his story and today, the Trossachs are still very much "Rob Roy" country.

You will attend the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and fireworks display which takes place on the Castle Esplanade.

### The Tattoo

This spectacular open-air entertainment event is acclaimed by many as 'the greatest show on earth' and undeniably one of the world's most breathtaking spectacles. The Tattoo is a dazzling and compelling celebration of music, dance, and drama. Located high above the skyline of the oldest and most popular part of the city, perched on an extinct volcano some 135 meters above sea level, the Tattoo is set against the magnificent backdrop of Edinburgh Castle. This colorful and historic pageant is attended each year by a huge cosmopolitan audience made up of some 200,000 people. Over 9 million people from across the world have now attended The Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

The program includes the Massed Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, the Military Bands of the Scottish Division, the Massed Pipes and Drums representing Scotland's Regiments, and many other international bands who are honored to participate.

A sensational Finale brings the show to an emotional climax as you are invited to join us with hands across the world, in that well loved song, Auld Lang Syne. As the lights fade on the lone piper, wish a wish and "Haste Ye Back ..."

You will also be afforded "free time" at various points on your itinerary. While this may be ideal time to visit such local attractions as Edinburgh Castle or Rosslyn Chapel (neither of which are included in your FAM trip tours), it may also be wise to "do the Fringe." Experience as many venues and shows as you can as this will only help with your planning for next year.

# SAMPLE SCHEDULE

## American High School Theatre Festival 2008 Richardson High School, TX August 4 – 17 (Session 2)

Format Changes: 2<sup>nd</sup> Edinburgh Meal Removed

### Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

11:15a Meet at the Delta ticket counter at the Dallas Fort Worth Airport. All bags must have a colored WorldStrides bag tag attached to every piece of checked and carried on luggage. **DO NOT PACK YOUR PASSPORT IN YOUR CHECKED LUGGAGE!**

DL 768            DFW-ATL            115P-432P  
DL 58             ATL-LGW            640P-815A

### Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>

8:15a You will be met in the Arrivals Hall by a Blue Badge Guide who will escort you to the motorcoach. All bags should go on the bus. Half day panoramic tour of London. Sights include Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, and the Houses of Parliament.

4:00p Check into Bankside House, 24 Sumner Street

5:45p Dinner at Bankside House

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

7:00a-10:00a Breakfast at Bankside House

All Day open sightseeing with Tube/Red bus pass valid from 7:30a – midnight. London & Tube maps given out during Bankside check-in.

10:30a Globe Workshop

7:30p "We Will Rock You"

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>

4:45a Load luggage onto over the road trucks to be delivered to Queen Margaret University. Any essential items, such as medications, should be kept with you. See Directors note on specific instructions.

6:15a Board buses for King's Cross Station

TBA Train departs for Edinburgh. When train arrives into Prestonpans Station, please disembark train immediately after gathering all belongings. Motorcoach & guide will meet group for half-day sightseeing tour of Edinburgh.

4-5:30 Check-in, Queen Margaret University

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>

CITY BUS PASS VALID FROM August 8-16

7:30-8:45a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>

7:30-9:30a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

1:15p Bus Departs for QMU for Roxburghe Hotel

1:45p-3:45p Technical Rehearsal

4:00p Bus Departs Roxburghe Hotel for QMU

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>

7:30-9:30a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

8:45a Bus Departs for full day sightseeing to Stirling Castle & The Trossachs

5:30p Return from sightseeing

9:15p Bus Departs QMU for Roxburghe Hotel

9:45p-11:45p Attend Ohio's (Wellington) "Lunch Lady: Tater Tots of Love"

12:00a Bus Departs Roxburghe Hotel for QMU

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup>

7:30-8:45a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

1:15p Bus Departs QMU for Roxburghe Hotel

1:45p-3:45p Performance "A Stepping off Place"

4:00p Bus Departs Roxburghe Hotel for QMU

9:15p Bus Departs QMU for Roxy Art House

9:45p-11:45p Attend Maine's (Bonny Eagle) "Tom Jones"

12:00a Bus Departs Roxy Art House for QMU

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

7:30-8:45a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

5:15p Bus Departs QMU for Roxburghe Hotel

5:45p-7:45p Performance "A Stepping off Place"

8:00p Bus Departs Roxburghe Hotel for QMU

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>

7:30-8:45a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

7:30-8:30p AHSTF Ceilidh

9:15p Bus Departs QMU for Roxy Art House

9:45p-11:45p Attend Oklahoma's (Holland Hall) "The Lark"

12:00a Bus Departs Roxy Art House for QMU

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>

7:30-8:45a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

1:15p Bus Departs QMU for Roxburghe Hotel

1:45p-3:45p Performance "A Stepping off Place"

4:00p Bus Departs Roxburghe Hotel for QMU

8:00p Military Tattoo at Edinburgh Castle

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>

7:30-8:45a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

11:15a Bus Departs QMU for Roxburghe Hotel

11:45a-1:45p Performance "A Stepping off Place"

2:00p Bus Departs Roxburghe Hotel for QMU

5:15p Bus Departs QMU for Roxburghe Hotel

5:45p-7:45p Attend Utah's (Meridian) "Seussical the Musical"

8:00p Bus Departs Roxburghe Hotel for QMU

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>

7:30-9:30a Breakfast at QMU Dining Hall

12:00p-1:00p Closing Ceremony

11:00 Quiet Hours            Midnight Curfew: In own Rooms!

### Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>

Pick up packed breakfasts as you board the bus

9:30a Bus departs Queen Margaret University (time subject to change, AHSTF staff will alert accordingly)

DL 97                EDI-JFK                1150A-235P

DL 243              JFK-ATL                425P-725P

DL 1099             ATL-DFW                830P-945P