

Housing Guidelines for Dordt University Music Tours

Students are paired up for housing (with an occasional group of 3 if there are an odd number of students). We usually refer to these pairs as ‘tour buddies.’ Our students are very polite guests, and are a pleasure to host.

What the students will need:

- A place to sleep and bedding (bed/air mattress, pillows, blankets)
- A place to shower and get ready in the morning
- Breakfast
- Transportation back to the concert location (or whatever location is specified) the next morning

Procedure for matching up students with hosts on concert night:

The students are paired up with their hosts after the concert.

- The students will leave the stage briefly, and then return to the stage area.
- The audience can leave the performance area, and hosts come to the front.
- Names of hosts and their assigned students will be read.
- After the students have seen who they are matched with, they go and quickly change and deal with tour duties (loading equipment, putting instruments away, etc.).
- They will then return and be ready to leave with their hosts.
- Please give a copy of the housing list (including host phone #s) to the director, so that he can contact the students if the need should arise.

FAQ:

• Is it okay to have the students share a queen-size bed?

Yes, it's quite common for the students to have to share a bed on tour.

• Will the students have sleeping bags with them?

Unfortunately, no. There is not room on the bus for those, with all the luggage and equipment that needs to come along on tour.

• What is the maximum number of students that should stay at one house together?

We usually recommend that no more than 6 students stay at one house for several reasons. First, they are usually sharing a bathroom, and all need to shower and get ready in the morning. Secondly, any more than six is tricky for transporting them back the next morning. If, however, a host has enough room for more than six to sleep, there are several bathrooms for the students to use, and it's possible to get them back to the designated location the next morning, it's okay to have more than six.

- **Someone has graciously offered his home to host students, but will be out of town at the time. Is it okay to still have students stay there on their own?**

We'd prefer that the students do not stay alone. They are in an unfamiliar place, and if an emergency were to happen, it would be best if a host were there. So it's okay to have them stay there, but please find a local person to stay with them as well.

- **How much does the host need to feed the students? Is it important to have a big breakfast?**

Some hosts have a dessert or snack for the students after the concert, but that is certainly not required. If you enjoy making a large breakfast for the students, you may certainly do so, but do not feel obligated. A breakfast of cereal, fruit, and maybe some muffins is just fine also.

- **Do any of the students have allergies?**

Yes, there are some food and pet allergies in the group. You'll receive a sheet outlining which students have allergies and what kind. If we have a student with Celiac disease/gluten allergy, I'll provide you with more details on how to safely feed that student. As for pet allergies, please check with the hosts that are assigned to the allergic students to make sure they do not own that specific pet.