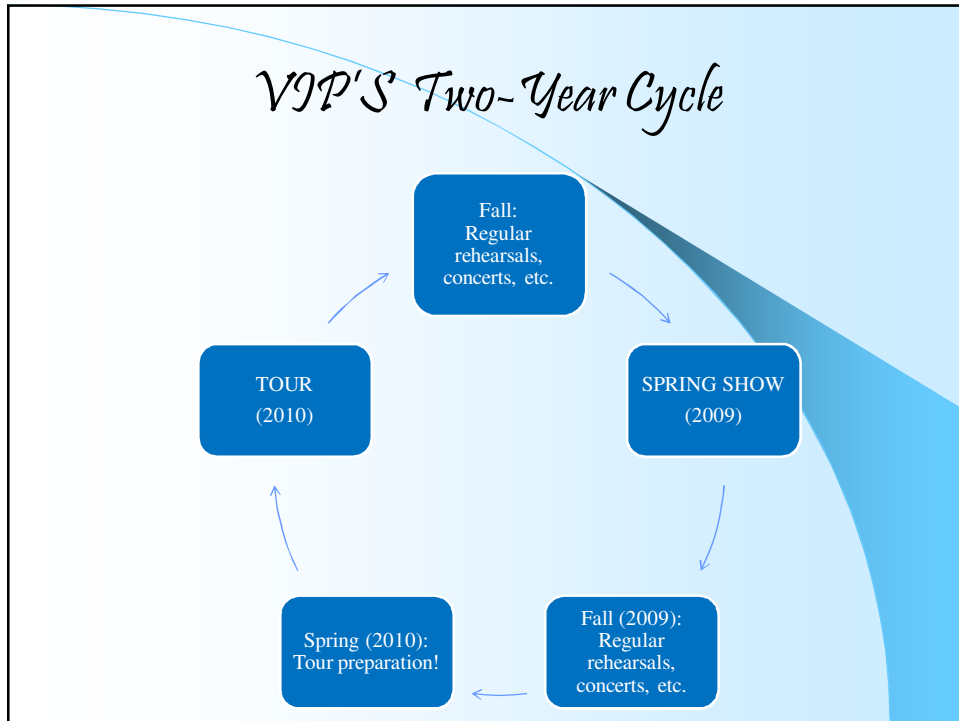


VOICES IN PRAISE *Choir Tour 2010* **OVERVIEW**

Why Do Youth Choirs Take Trips?

- For the opportunity to be ambassadors for Christ.
- To present the gospel through music.
- To develop relationships with new friends within the choir and from other parts of the world.
- To build youth leadership and enhance the sense of unity within our choir.
- To experience worship in different settings.
- To encounter God in unexpected ways in unexpected places at unexpected times through unexpected people.
- To rejoice in the Lord, relax with friends and have fun.

VJP'S Two-Year Cycle



Choir Tour Objectives: Spiritual

Choir Tours are structured around ministry opportunities and primarily focus on:

- Mission outreach performances: singing for audiences who might not otherwise hear the word of God.
- Worship performances: joining fellow Christians in worship.

Concerts serve to strengthen the youth spiritually, as they strive to *minister to others*. Devotional time also is a very important part of each day on choir tour as the choir explores God's word together.

Choir Tour Objectives: Musical

The musical experience in preparing and presenting the tour concerts serves as the *musical apex* for the choir. Concerts always include a variety of styles, ranging from classical to contemporary. It takes a great deal of commitment from the youth to meet the musical requirements of Choir Tour, but their hard work always pays huge dividends in how they sing during (and after) the trip.

Choir Tour Objectives: Social

An important aspect of any trip is social—the interaction between all the participants. Traveling gives youth the opportunity to make new friends, and to get to know old friends *better!* Indeed, after you've gone through years of being a VIP, the friends you make and the things you experience are forever. One reason these friendships become so deep is that they are born out of the group working so hard toward a common, worthy goal: *to be the best you can be in your musical praise of God.*

Ministry Opportunities

Ministry opportunities : places where the choir performs like churches, retirement communities, shelters, children's homes, summer camps, hospitals, and many, many more.

Finding the right ministry opportunities for the choir is key to a successful Choir Tour. It requires a lot of time, energy, and relationship-building. Holly will begin the process when we have a tour destination.

We expect that the three destinations in this presentation will be packed with ministry opportunities, but the specifics about those opportunities aren't available yet. As you consider each tour, have faith that the ministry opportunities will become known to us and will become the foundation on which the tour is built.

How Are Tour Destinations Selected?

- The Juniors and Seniors of 2010 met to talk about their goals and dreams for the trip. They brainstormed a list of possible destinations, and discussed the pros/cons of each.
- Holly researched each destination, and further narrowed down the list. Today, you will be presented with three destination options.
- VIPs will be asked to share their viewpoints on the destinations.
- VIP Parents will be asked to share their viewpoints on the destinations.
- With lots of input from the choir and choir parents, and much prayer, Holly will select the destination.