Oregon Episcopal School
Consent and Liability Waiver
Middle School Language Trip to Martinique
March 2015

This trip involves travel to, from, and within Martinique. The Oregon Episcopal School (OES) group will travel by commercial airline to Martinique, and by public and private buses and vans, private cars, private boats, and foot while in Martinique. During the trip, students will live with a host family from the College/Lycée Privé St. Joseph de Cluny school, with one OES student per family. The group will have the opportunity to kayak and to swim in fresh water and in the ocean waters around Martinique, and possibly to rappel or zipline. OES students and parents will be required to assess the student’s swimming ability and confirm, in writing, whether or not the student is competent to swim or participate in any water activities without a life jacket. All students will be responsible for monitoring their own safety while in Martinique.

The OES group will experience the food, language, music, markets, natural areas, culture, and daily life of Martinique. The weather is likely to be hot and humid, and students may at times be uncomfortable. Trip leaders will instruct trip participants in the best practices for staying healthy while traveling, but students may experience illness including, but not limited to, travelers’ diarrhea. Trip leaders will assist participants in avoiding known food allergens, but responsibility for self-care will rest with the student. Trip participants will also be responsible for protecting themselves against sunburn, dehydration, animals, and illnesses carried by mosquitoes (including dengue and chikungunya, and their associated complications). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that travelers to Martinique be up to date on all routine immunizations plus Hepatitis A, seasonal influenza, and typhoid fever. [http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/children.chronic.vfr/martinique](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/children.chronic.vfr/martinique)

Students will be responsible for getting all immunizations recommended by their physician.

The trip leaders will carry a first aid kit which will include basic supplies and over-the-counter medications, and will dispense these medications according to the specific permission granted by the participant’s parent or legal guardian. Trip leaders will also carry cell phones, but transportation to a comprehensive medical facility may take several hours in the event of an emergency. If a participant and/or the family would desire to transport an ill or injured participant back to the US, the participant and his/her family would be responsible for any costs not covered by the required travel insurance policy purchased by OES.

While students are living with their host families they will participate in the lives of those families and accompany them on local excursions. Students may be asked to walk great distances, and they may participate in a variety of water sports with their families, including, but not limited to, sailing, motorboat sports, snorkeling or swimming. Students may feel challenged by communicating in French and may at times feel frustrated, isolated or homesick. Students are expected to follow all school rules of conduct and safety at all times throughout the trip, including when they are living with their host families. Violating school or trip rules would result in disciplinary consequences that could include immediate expulsion from the trip. Additional costs incurred due to a student’s expulsion would be the responsibility of the student’s family.

Because of the nature of the trip as described above, trip participants should be in good psychological and physical condition. This determination must be made by the participant, his/her parents or guardians, OES, and, if necessary, in consultation with a physician. Trip leaders must have an Emergency Medical Care Permission Form for each student, with comprehensive, updated medical information. If there is any doubt whatsoever about the participant’s ability to safely participate in this trip, the trip participant should have a physical examination by a physician. OES may also require a physician's consent as a precondition for participation.

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I have read the above information and understand the parameters of the March 2015 Middle School Language Trip to Martinique. I recognize that participation in this trip is voluntary on my part and is not a required or mandatory activity. I recognize that there are certain risks inherent in participating in this trip, and I hereby voluntarily assume those risks.

Participant’s full name          Participant’s signature          date

I have read the above information and understand the parameters of the OES March 2015 Middle School language trip to Martinique. By my signature below, I hereby recognize and acknowledge that OES does not carry special health and/or hospital insurance or coverage for my child/ward in the event that s/he should sustain an accidental injury or illness while participating in the trip. I recognize that I would be responsible for all costs incurred for treatment and/or emergency transport necessitated by an accident or illness that are not covered by the travel insurance policy purchased by OES for each traveler. I understand that my child’s/ward’s participation in this trip is voluntary and is not a required or mandatory activity. I also recognize that there are certain risks inherent in participating in this trip. I hereby voluntarily accept full responsibility for any and all damage or injury of any kind which may result directly or indirectly from my child’s/ward’s participation in this trip. I release all trip chaperones and Oregon Episcopal School, together with its employees, agents, and trustees, from any and all liability (including liability for negligence) for loss, damage or injury of any kind suffered by me, my relatives, my associates or my child/ward that may occur as a result of my child’s/ward’s participation in this trip.

Parent/legal guardian’s name          Parent/legal guardian’s signature          date

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Swimming Acknowledgment and Permission

We understand that our child, _______________________________, will be travelling to Martinique, an island surrounded by the Caribbean Sea. We understand that part of our child’s experience may involve activities in the water (such as swimming or other recreation). We confirm:

____ Our/my child/guardian knows how to swim, is in good medical and physical condition, and has our permission to be in the water without a life jacket;

____ Our/my child/guardian does not know how to swim or is not in good medical and physical condition, and should wear a life jacket at all times that he/she is in the water.

In the event your child should wear a life jacket while swimming or otherwise in the water, please sign below and have your child sign below as well:

I, _________________________________, understand that, for my own safety, I should wear a life jacket at all times when I am in the water in Martinique, and I promise to do so.

Student’s signature: _________________________________          Date ______________

Acknowledged by the parents or legal guardians          Date