

Grupo CAÑAVERAL® , INC.
TOLL FREE: 1-888-CANTARÉ (226-8273)
WEBSITES: www.hispanicmusic.com www.grupocanaveral.com
www.jose-marti.org

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The guidelines included in this packet have been designed to make our visit to your school site an enjoyable experience both for your school and students as well as for Grupo CAÑAVERAL®. These guidelines reflect 20 years of experience performing for school audiences of all ethnicities throughout the United States. They are the product of more than 10000 school visits. THEY ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS CONTRACT.

Grupo CAÑAVERAL® is a group of musicians and singers. We are NOT dancers although we do present dance forms and Latin American rhythms during our concerts. Please be aware that the purpose of our presentations is not so much to entertain as it is to educate and disseminate Hispanic culture through its music. The stress is on information and education more than on entertainment which will hopefully be a by-product of the show. Our concerts are culturally and educationally oriented. If we can accomplish our goal in your school, your students will have an *educationally entertaining experience*. Your signature below will indicate that you have read and understood this information thoroughly. Please return this page to us by fax: 239-353-7091.

Thank-you for your cooperation!

Grupo CAÑAVERAL®, Inc.

Name of School: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

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To: Contact person at school site

Re: **Short Bio of Grupo CAÑAVERAL® for Concert Introduction**

We include this information so that you as the contact person may know some aspects of our performing background. You do not have to “read” this to the students, but there is information below that they always find interesting such as the fact that we played for The White House and Queen Elizabeth II.

Grupo CANAVERAL® was formed in 1985 in the City of Miami for the purpose of preserving and disseminating the rich musical heritage of the Hispanic American countries. The word “*cañaveral*” as in Cape Canaveral, the Florida city where the Kennedy Space Center is located, is a Spanish word that means field of “canes or reeds”. It is commonly applied to mean sugarcane field or plantation.

Some of **Grupo CAÑAVERAL’s** outstanding performances include special presentations for personalities and organizations such as Queen Elizabeth II of England, Presidents Nixon and Reagan, the mayor of Tel Aviv and the Israeli Army, the White House in Washington, D.C., the American Council of State Governments, the Louvre Museum of Paris, the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, the Florida Foreign Language Association, the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, the Bank Inter-American Development, Visa and Mastercard.

Grupo CAÑAVERAL® has recorded several albums of Hispanic American traditional music and hundreds of TV as well as radio programs all over the United States and abroad such as specials for several PBS stations, the Voice of America and Radio Martí.

In 1996, **Grupo CAÑAVERAL®** decided to broaden its musical scope and began recording traditional Hispanic children's music to emphasize the importance of Hispanic roots and contribute to the uplifting of the Hispanic child's self-esteem. **Grupo CAÑAVERAL®** has played for more than 4,000,000 children, through different children organizations, and the private and public school and library systems in the USA.

Although the initial motivation for **Grupo CAÑAVERAL®** was the Hispanic child, their music has been enthusiastically accepted by everyone alike. The cultural impact of their presentations has brought innumerable requests for them to play for children of all ethnic backgrounds and races. **Grupo CAÑAVERAL®** offers special workshops for teachers of Spanish, Bilingual and Multi-Cultural Education to demonstrate the use of Hispanic American ethnic music as a classroom teaching tool.

Guidelines for Grupo CAÑAVERAL® Secondary School Concerts

In order for our shows to start on time and run smoothly, we would appreciate the following support on the part of your school staff:

1. A representative of the school to meet us and act as our liaison with the school while we are on site; setup time takes 1 hour, therefore Grupo CAÑAVERAL® will arrive one-hour before start time.
2. A parking space as close to the stage area as possible.
3. A custodian available to unlock access gates, theater, or stage doors that might normally be kept closed.
4. A custodian to help us unload our equipment onto the stage and help us reload it into our van after the performance is over.
5. A clean stage.
6. Water to drink during the performance.
7. Provide enough space, (approximately 8') at front of stage, at floor level, so that we may demonstrate with the students themselves, the instruments and dances. For security reasons it is better for the students not to come on stage.
8. A person to properly introduce us at the beginning of each show, preferably the principal, assistant principal, or cultural arts coordinator; students understand the importance of the presentation according to who introduces the presenter.
9. If your school is not in the Miami area, please provide a map.
10. We will be inviting students to participate in the presentation. Let teachers know that their monitoring skills will be highly appreciated, especially with fifth and sixth graders as well as middle school students who tend to be more rambunctious. We need teachers to be engaged. Remember the students usually do not know who we are or what we do and sometimes have never had any experience with a teaching band. Students unconsciously understand a visible support of the teaching staff to us as the presenters. This is true for the higher elementary grades, and for middle and high school students. Delivery will fit the age and grade levels.
11. Students **SHOULD NOT** bring anything to assembly: cushions to sit on, book bags, or water bottles, etc. Any item will be in the way.

VERY IMPORTANT:

12. **Let the students and teacher know beforehand the reason for our visit.** As stated earlier, our show is a lot of fun but it is primarily an educational experience. We need, and in fact encourage, the participation of the teachers. They are our greatest allies and assets.

13. ***NOTE: It is important that teachers set an example of support and cooperation; students learn by example and imitation. We visit many schools of underprivileged students who have never had the opportunity to be exposed to similar social events. However, we cannot say that children of more affluent parents necessarily know how to conduct themselves any better in similar situations. When students don't know how to behave, they will tend to take their behavior cues from their teachers. Please remind your teachers that grading papers, poor attitude and conversation with colleagues during the shows sends the "I am not very interested in this or in what these people have to say" message to the students. Unfortunately, we find this attitude and this teacher behavior very often. Thoroughly teaching diversity and multi-ethnicity to students is not possible during the limited time we will be presenting for them. If teachers do not model and set an example of interest and participation our task is to a great extent, defeated.***

THANK-YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING IN THIS MATTER!

Grupo CAÑAVERAL® Concerts

- I. Grupo CAÑAVERAL's secondary school concerts include the following content:
 1. brief overview of the development of Hispanic culture
 2. the coming together of three races and ethnicities
 3. demonstration of native Hispanic instruments
 4. stories and legends behind Hispanic dances and rhythms
 5. demonstration of several traditional Hispanic dances

- II. The objectives:
 1. disseminating Hispanic culture awareness
 2. presenting native instruments and traditional Hispanic dances
 3. giving the students the opportunity to develop the social skills proper of attending assemblies and theater performances including seemingly simple and common behavior skills such as:
 - a. respect for the performer's subject area
 - b. courtesy
 - c. silence
 - d. listening
 - e. following instructions
 - f. discipline
 - g. acknowledging the performer's efforts at the end of the presentation