

# DARROW SCHOOL

110 DARROW ROAD ■ NEW LEBANON, NEW YORK 12125-2608  
TELEPHONE: (518) 794-6000 ■ FAX: (518) 794-7065  
WWW.DARROWSCHOOL.ORG

December 5, 2008

Dear Darrow Parent or Guardian,

I am excited to announce the Spring Term offerings for 2009. Spring Term, which runs from May 27- June 2, is one of the signature features of Darrow's program, connecting many parts of our curriculum in an intense, seven-day, hands-on, applied learning experience. As you will see in the brochure accompanying this letter, the faculty has worked hard to develop a wide range of choices and a multitude of different types of learning opportunities. Through these programs, your child will have the chance to discover new interests and develop new skills. These programs are designed to inspire Darrow students to immerse themselves in a focused learning environment and to think deeply about the learning at hand.

Spring Terms go far and near the Mountainside. They range in physical exertion level, in curricular emphasis, and in structure. For each group, the Spring Term program culminates when all the groups return to Darrow to share their experiences through posters, PowerPoint presentations, videos, and demonstrations.

The sign-up form for Spring Term '09 is on the back side of this letter. Over this holiday break, please take time to do the following:

- Discuss these options with your child. Once you have done this, please specify the top three trips in rank order on the enclosed sign-up form.
- Please be sure to put your signature on the sign-up form. We must have parent/guardian signatures so we are sure you support your child's choices and the potential costs involved. Your child may be assigned to any of the top three choices so please pick Spring Terms accordingly.
- Please note the deposit required for your top Spring Term choice and **mail that check or money order, along with the sign-up form to the Business Office by January 6, 2009. Funds from SDA can only be used if the balance remaining will exceed \$200. Please contact the Business Office if you wish to exercise this option.** Students will not be assigned to Spring Terms until the deposit has been received. Spring Terms are filled in part on a first-come, first served basis so returning from break with the deposit is very important for your child to get a first choice. (NOTE: Trips are also filled by the need for trips to have an appropriate gender balance and group dynamic, so getting the deposit and parental signature are not necessarily a guarantee of a first choice assignment.)

Finally, financial aid for Spring Term is not available and we have attempted to develop more options at lower cost than in the past, while still keeping the variety interesting and enriching.

Please note the following important dates and deadlines

January 6, 2009	Completed Application submitted to Darrow Business Office. This includes: Sign-up form with top 3 choices and parental signature, and deposit check.
January 19	Final group determinations made. (OPTIONAL: If your child's application has not been completed in full by the due date above, we will assign him or her a Spring Term group.)
January 30	Parents/guardians notified of their child's Spring Term assignment and balance due.
February 27	Final payment due
May 15	Equipment deadline
May 28-June 3	Spring Term. (Note: Some trips may vary slightly depending on airline schedule or other considerations out of our control.)

My hope is that your child will seize this opportunity for personal growth through real-world learning and thereby nurture her or his own sense of educational mission and independence. Should you have any further questions about Spring Term or the sign up process, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Best,



Simon Holzapfel  
Director of Studies

# Spring Term '09 Sign-Up Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Trip Name</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Preference Rank</b>
Appalachian Odyssey	\$175	\$30	
Antiracism in the Berkshires	\$150	\$30	
Art Inside & Out	\$220	\$60	
Berkshire Human Services	\$150	\$30	
Biking the Berkshires	\$300/\$400	\$60	
Boat Building	\$450	\$100	
Caching the Adirondacks	\$230	\$60	
Clearwater	\$140	\$30	
Habitat for Humanity	\$120	\$30	
Living Poets Society	\$250	\$60	
Mexico's Mayan Heritage	\$1650	\$400	
Montreal, an International City	\$770	\$200	
Rivers, Rocks, and Ruins	\$1670	\$400	
Rocking the White Mountains	\$300	\$60	
Scraps to Treasure	\$250	\$60	

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_