

Worship Team Expedition

MEXICO



Mexicali Participant Info Packet & Application (You must be at least 18 years old by March 22, 2018 to participate)

We are so glad you are interested in joining us for this unique opportunity to serve and learn in Mexico! We hope you find answers to your questions about the trip in this packet; for any remaining questions, feel free to email/call/text/send smoke signals. We are here for you!

If you want to take a big step forward in your musicianship, leadership, and walk with God, this is for you.

The Big Picture

Hundreds of students from churches all across the U.S. and Canada gather for this week of ministry and service in Baja California, Mexico sponsored by Azusa Pacific University. All teams camp in a secure area (with a 24 hour security team) in Ejido Cuernavaca (just outside Mexicali) where they have meals and chapels in the morning and evening. They partner with Mexican churches to do outreach programs for kids, sports and prison ministries, community service, construction projects- each team takes on a slightly different ministry and Azusa Pacific University facilitates the week. Our role is to lead worship and encourage the students; during the day our team prepares music for upcoming chapels and does some music training. It is an AMAZING week of ministry, relationship building, and watching God work. This ministry has changed my life and is a large reason why I'm in full time ministry today. This could very likely be your favorite week this year:) I hope you can join us!

Your Opportunity

Picture yourself playing music outdoors with fantastic musicians on stage in front of a pumped crowd of students. When the set is done and the campers head out to ministry sites, our team gets together and you receive personal musical instruction from a professional musician. Then we grab lunch, maybe take a nap, and then talk music or tech again; that evening you're taking notes as the pro you're paired with plays the set. Afterwards you compare notes to prep you for the next morning when it's your turn to play on stage again. Throughout the week you are mentored by a pro with lots of experience; you learn a ton, get to play music in an amazing environment, and take major steps forward in your musicianship. This is a *very* unique opportunity and, because of the small student to teacher ratio, is limited to just a few people (each instructor typically has only one student with a max of 2 students for the week).

Our heart is that this experience would be really encouraging, empowering, and fun for you. If you want to take a big step forward in your musicianship, leadership, and walk with God, this is for you.

Network Building

The old saying is that it's not what you know but who you know. Knowledge is certainly important, but there's nothing like building a strong relational network with people that can potentially open doors for you. On this trip you'll have the opportunity to spend a lot of time with veteran musicians and leaders that have a ton of experience in the worship/music/church/missions world. You'll be rubbing shoulders with people that have a lot of connections around the country (and world) and have a lot of insight that could be helpful if you are considering vocational ministry as a career path. Many musicians that have been to Mexico on one of our teams are now full time worship leaders or music industry pros. This is a great trip to explore the possibilities for your future vocationally. The connections and network that you make could be a career game changer for you.

Security

For those nervous about safety in Mexico...the communities and churches we partner with are in a zone where nothing is different today than it has been for the many years that I have been going. We'll be staying at Azusa Pacific University's secure property where they have run camps for many, many years (APU's Mexico Outreach has been partnering with a variety of ministry and government organizations in Baja California for over 40 years). They work hard to provide a safe environment including on site medical staff, clean/careful food preparation and make recommendations for wise choices when traveling outside of camp. They have an extremely strong track record for safety, many thousands of students and leaders have attended programs without major incident. The areas in which the ministry operates are NOT those parts of Mexico that are sometimes in the news as problem areas. I myself have participated in over 50 trips with this ministry and have never felt in danger. I could go on and on with facts and statistics... bottom line- I have taken my pregnant wife with full confidence on this trip and would do so again. If you (or your loved ones) have concerns, I'll be glad to address any questions.

Dates: March 22-30, 2018

Three options for travel...

1. Travel with your church and we'll meet up with you in Cuernavaca. This is a great option if your church is already coming on this outreach.
2. Travel with our team from the Sacramento, CA area. We'll leave the Sacramento area Thursday morning, March 22 at 6am. We drive back Friday, March 30.
3. Meet up with our team on the way. If you are in the San Diego or LA area we can pick you up on the way (and drop you off on the way back) since we're coming through the area anyway.

Thursday, March 22 we travel to San Diego for rehearsal. We'll rehearse briefly that evening at Clairemont Covenant Church and get a good night's sleep.

Friday, March 23 we rehearse again at the church and then head out to Mexicali.

Saturday, March 24: we'll set up the sound system, sound check and play for the first chapel on Saturday night. Then we play for morning and evening chapels Sunday through Thursday, March 25-29; we drive out of Mexico on Friday, March 30.

If you are flying in, plan to fly into San Diego Int'l Airport (SAN), arriving by Thursday, March 22 at 3pm or before if possible. When flying back out, plan to fly out of Ontario, CA (ONT) on Friday, March 30 at 1pm or later.

If you are traveling to Sacramento from out of the area to travel with us for the trip, plan to stay in Elk Grove, CA the night before we leave because it will be an early call time on the day we drive south. You have a few options: there are some nice hotels/motels like Holiday Inn Express or Hampton Inn or we can connect you with a Christian host home, there are lots of neat families from our home church.

Typical Daily Schedule

7:00am Breakfast

7:15 Call time at the stage. Setup, sound check, rehearse.

8:00 Chapel

10:00 Camp Staff meeting with all event staff (kitchen, Barnabas, etc.)

11:00 Training session 1: we learn/discuss big picture worship leading concepts

Noon Lunch

1:00pm Free time, hang out, rest, etc.

3:00 Training session 2 (one on one instruction): we dive into the nitty gritty of your instrument or role on the team

5:00 Setup, sound check, rehearse

7:00 Dinner

8:00 Chapel

9:00 Put gear away, free time, head to bed

After breakfast, we gather at the stage to help set up equipment (some items are put away overnight since it's an outside stage), sound check, and lead worship for the morning chapel. After chapel, we have a camp staff meeting with all those who help run the base camp. Then we have our first training session, lunch and some free time, then another training session in the afternoon. We get the stage ready after that, rehearse, eat, lead worship for the evening chapel, put away gear that can't stay out and then relax before heading to bed.

Some chapels you'll play, some chapels you'll watch and take notes, for one or two chapels you may be asked to help with some production aspect of the program (like helping with sound or taking a few pictures). Training sessions are a combination of personal instruction (specifics on your instrument) and group instruction (playing well as a team). Outside of training/chapel times we will be together as a team virtually non-

stop, it's really fun! You'll be hanging with this team of wonderfully servant hearted professional musicians the whole week, so take advantage of that access and soak in all you can.

The combination of playing, watching, being coached, talking about music/ministry/ leadership with seasoned veterans, building your relational network of music ministry professionals, and worshipping your heart out in an amazing setting all adds up to the opportunity for a serious step forward for you.

This could be a life transforming week for you– I've seen this trip kickstart significant musical, relational, and spiritual growth for many participants over the years. Like I said before, many are now professional musicians, some are full time worship pastors, a few people even met their spouse on one of these trips! You never know what God will orchestrate!

Rehearsals

In advance of the trip we'll provide links to song charts and mp3s in advance on Planning Center. We ask that you take the time to familiarize yourself with these songs and charts so you're ready to rehearse when we get together. Then, we'll rehearse at a church in the San Diego area for parts of 2 days before we head into Mexico together. We'll also have plenty of time to rehearse and talk shop in Mexico between chapels. We want to put you in a position to succeed so you'll be well prepared before you take the stage; you'll be surrounded by solid, supportive musicians that are rooting for you!

Vehicle Travel

We'll be traveling in a caravan of vehicles with an RV, van, and other vehicles. We'll be able to load most of our gear and luggage into the RV for the trip.

Housing/Meals

We'll be staying in a house at Azusa's property in Cuernavaca; you'll need a sleeping bag and pillow (you can bring sheets if you want- we're on bunk beds). All meals will be provided in camp, we will eat well. They have a full time medical staff in camp as well, so should any medical needs arise (unlikely) that is comforting as well. Clothes- basically t-shirts, jeans and sweatshirts in layers is what I bring (I've included a detailed packing list below). The days will be warm, the nights will be cool.

Application

Please look through all the information in this packet and fill out the application below. We'd like to get to know you a bit since we'll be traveling to another country, leading worship, and learning together. Any questions you have for me are welcome as well.

Financial Investment

\$799 covers the specialized training you'll receive, your transportation from the U.S. to Mexico and back, accommodations in Cuernavaca and meals (you will need to separately register with Azusa Pacific as a camp staffer with a donation of at least \$10). It's a steal for what you get! Most people in camp pay a similar amount to come with their church group and DON'T get to play on stage or receive the kind of instruction and personalized attention that you will. ***Partial scholarships are available depending on a variety of factors, contact me if you want to talk more about that.***

Fundraising

If you need to raise funds for this trip, it's often very helpful to partner with your home church or ministry community. Here are some ideas for that:

- Meet with the music or missions ministry leaders and ask them to consider supporting you to attend this unique training. If you point out the positive impact on your life and the ways this benefits your church or ministry, they'll often support you.
- See if your church will accept tax-deductible donations towards this trip for you. Often churches have a missions type account and people can give to the church (towards your trip) and receive a tax deduction for it.
- Ask to share this opportunity on a Sunday with your congregation (or within your ministry community if your church is pretty large).
- Make a short video that explains what you are doing and ask to play it in church
- Host a dinner for people in your church sharing the vision of this opportunity
- Send out a support letter to family, friends, and church members letting them know of this opportunity
- Launch a funding campaign on a site like GoFundMe, Kickstarter, or Fundly.

Payments

Once your application/deposit is accepted, your spot is locked in and it's important that you follow through and come on the trip. Because of the nature of this training opportunity, the teacher-to-student ratio is necessarily low; each student is important and we plan travel, housing, and musical gear around your presence on the trip. Bailing out once you've committed will hurt the team.

The entire amount is due by March 22, 2018. All checks should be made out to Neumann Music. If you are looking for a tax deduction- give to your church and then have your church write us a check. You can pay in increments if you like, so long as the entire amount is in by March 22, 2018.

More Info about Mexico Outreach

You can find out more about Azusa's ministry at www.MexicoOutreach.com and learn more of what it's all about. It's a major outreach that's been happening for over 40 years. I've been involved for many years and have gone on over 50 trips with them.

Documents

Bring a current passport, you'll need it at the border. If you don't have one, it's not too late! Contact me about a last-minute way to get a passport if the information [here](#)

makes you wonder if you can still get one before the trip. Make a copy of your passport and bring that on the trip as well, as a backup. There is a release form that you'll need to fill out and eventually you'll need to visit www.MexicoOutreach.com and register on their site. Also please download and read our [team guidelines](#); basic stuff, but I like to communicate expectations in advance so that we have happy, healthy team interaction.

Prayer

Bathe in prayer the preparation and journey to serve and to learn. We believe God has big, wonderful things in store for this trip; let's seek His face together and watch how He works!

I'm glad to answer any other questions you may have. Thanks for considering this potentially life changing opportunity!

Blessings,
Peter Neumann
530-207-9875 mobile
PeterNeumannMusic@gmail.com

Application and Packing List Below

Personal Packing List

Here's what to bring on the trip:

- One small suitcase or duffel bag
- Passport
- Paper copy of passport (to be kept in your suitcase)
- Personal Medication
- Warm sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Bible, journal/notebook, pen & pencil
- Appropriate Clothes for 5 – 8 days of ministry
 - Jeans, short/long sleeved T-shirts for daytime, underwear, socks, hat
 - Sweatshirts or sweaters for the evenings
 - Comfortable closed toes casual shoes (tennis shoes, etc.)
 - Your clothes will get dusty, don't bring anything too fancy

The following is the dress code for campers; let's follow these as well:

- Men: Keep shirts on in public at all times, even while doing work projects
- Women: Shoulders, midriffs and thighs must be covered in public, including camp
- No shorts in public (including camp)
- Capris (mid calf, not above the knee)
- Wear jeans without holes, and don't show your underwear
- No plain white T-shirts, beer T-shirts, tank tops, women's spaghetti straps, etc.
- No gang-related clothing
- No open toe shoes (health reasons)
- No tight fitting tops or bottoms, no spandex, no deep V's
- Long skirts (girls, mid calf or longer)
- Tennis Shoes or Work Boots (closed toed)

Basically, if you wear jeans and t-shirts (sweatshirts at night), you'll be good.

- Inexpensive sunglasses

- Headlamp (helpful at night)
- Toothpaste/toothbrush, comb, brush, etc.
- Hand Sanitizer
- Wet Wipes (small pack)
- Sunscreen 30 SPF or higher
- Wash Cloth & Bath Towel, Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner
- Flip Flops for the shower
- Bug Repellant
- Spending money for 2 lunches and any Mexican souvenirs you want
- Water bottle
- Alarm clock
- Ear plugs (in case someone snores!)

DON'T bring anything that might be illegal or sketchy (weapons, drugs, etc.)

Worship Team Expedition Mexico Application

This trip is about growing spiritually, relationally, and musically while joining God at work in Mexico and leading His people in worship.

Personal Information

Full Name _____
 First Middle Last

Street Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____ Date of Birth _____

Home Phone _____

Mobile _____

Passport # _____ Country _____

How did you come to follow Christ?

How has God been teaching you or moving in your life lately?

What excites you most about a worship learning opportunity like this?

What concerns do you (or your family) have about a ministry mission trip like this, involving international travel and cross cultural ministry?

What experience do you have as a worship leader/singer/musician/technician or other ministry service?

What do you see as your strengths? Your weaknesses?

What are key questions you would like answered about this trip?

Please list two references other than family members:

Name _____ Phone: _____

Name _____ Phone: _____

___ Yes ___ No Are you ready to take on the responsibility and privilege of serving and learning on this kind of mission trip?

___ Yes ___ No Are you committed to having a positive attitude and a servant's heart as a member of this team?

I affirm that the information on this application is true and I will be a helpful, servant hearted member of this ministry team.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please fill out this application, scan it and email it to Peter Neumann:

PeterNeumannMusic@gmail.com

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