



WHAT?



BLAST is a weekend winter conference for middle school and high school students, designed to lead them to experience Jesus and develop relationships with other students. Students are led through three main worship sessions and one worship night, including live music and age-specific teaching, small group discussion, and relationship building. Blast students are highly encouraged to spend quality time with other students, helping each other discover ways God is growing them to become all He has designed them to be. BLAST is more than just a fun weekend getaway, it's a life-changing experience that students will talk about for years to come!

WHERE?



BLAST lodging will be at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. The Kalahari Resort offers many activities - indoor water parks, indoor theme parks, bowling alleys, cinemas and video arcades. Students stay in a 12-person hotel suite with other students of same gender and similar age. Two adult leaders stay with ten students, providing leadership, guidance and oversight. Adult leaders have a private room and bathroom not shared with students; ten students share four queen beds, a pull out and two bathrooms. The main sessions will take place at the Kalahari Resort.

COST?



Costs cover all programming materials, lodging, meals, transportation, water park entry and dodge-ball tournament. All students may bring additional money for resort activities such as bowling alley, video arcade, theme park (\$10 for weekend access), or the movie theatre. There are multiple restaurants and snack shops at the resort. Average price for a meal is \$10 per person. We will also have a BLAST Conference store with various things for sale such as clothing, books, etc. An offering will be taken up at the final session.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?



Please complete the online scholarship application which can be found at communitychristian.org/blast prior to registration. StuCo strives to eliminate financial hurdles, once your application is submitted you will receive communication from your Director.

LEAVE AND RETURN?



Students should arrive at their location bus hub as outlined below by 4:30 PM on Friday, Jan. 17, 2020. Buses depart at 5:30 PM.

Location You Are With	Departure and Return Address
Naperville, Aurora, and Downers Grove	Naperville Location - 1635 Emerson Lane, Naperville, IL, 60540
Plainfield, Montgomery, Lemont and Yorkville	Plainfield Location - 24035 Riverwalk Ct, Plainfield, IL 60544

NOTE- Buses will not stop for meals. Please bring snacks or eat before you leave. Breakfast will be available before departure Monday AM.

Students will return by Monday at 1 PM on Jan 20, 2020 to the same location they departed from.

PACKING?

All events and activities are casual - t-shirts, jeans, shorts. Please no excessively short shorts or low cut tank tops. God created you and remembers what you look like - you don't need to show off all the parts to everyone else. Any student wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to change before an event or activity. Some of the activities and restaurants require shoes, so make sure to bring at least one pair to wear around the resort. If you plan on bowling, bring socks!

Swim wear needs to be 1-piece for girls. If a 2-piece is worn, a dark t-shirt must be worn over top of the swim suit. Board shorts and normal-length swim trunks are best for guys. Swim wear is not allowed in the main session without a covering.

Students are responsible for personal items and toiletries (deodorant, comb, toothbrush/toothpaste, etc) - these will enhance your experience, as well as, the experience of the other students in your room. Towels are provided for both the room and the waterpark. Bedding is provided in each room.

Appropriate sleepwear is required as students will share beds. If you/your student has an issue with sharing a bed with another student, feel free to bring a sleeping bag.

Personal electronics such as cameras, phones, iPods are allowed, however Student Community, Community Christian Church, BLAST Winter Conference and Kalahari Resort is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. If these devices become a distraction from connecting with other students or experiencing the event, leaders reserve the right to confiscate items. All confiscated items will be returned to students at the conclusion of BLAST.

FOOD?

The menu is still being developed, but in the past has included lunch meat, frozen pizzas, spaghetti, cereal, and muffins. Each suite has a full kitchen including a refrigerator, freezer, oven and microwave; all utensils and cookware are provided. Students with food allergies MUST communicate this need to their StuCo Director. Students are permitted to bring food items as needed, but freezer/refrigerator space is limited.

ILLNESS?

We will have a Board Certified Emergency Room Physician with us to evaluate sickness and minor injuries should they occur. (If you have medical questions before BLAST, contact sherrygossman@communitychristian.org). Any situations that arise will be treated with consultation and consent from home and the Kalahari Resort. Homesickness can happen, especially with younger students. Leaders are prepared to coach students through those feelings. We will generally discourage frequent calls or texts home because this can make feelings of homesickness worse. There will be no transportation home until Monday morning, unless a parent chooses to come get their student, but in most cases homesickness can be easily overcome.

LEAD?

Please contact your StuCo Director regarding leader roles and opportunities. All leaders will be subject to a background check, and will be responsible for the leader registration fee.

MORE QUESTIONS

CONTACT YOUR STUDENT COMMUNITY DIRECTOR BELOW IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS.

LOCATION	DIRECTOR	CONTACT INFO
Aurora	Victor Negreiros	508-405-5450 victornegreiros@communitychristian.org
Downers Grove	Garrett Cook	630-818-6903 garettcook@communitychristian.org
Lemont	Branden Benskin	815-319-9516 brandenbenskin@communitychristian.org
Montgomery	Aaron Koehler	630-951-0202 aaronkoehler@communitychristian.org
Naperville	Aaron Koehler Bobby Clinkert	630-951-0202 aaronkoehler@communitychristian.org 630-809-5805 bobbyclinkert@communitychristian.org
Plainfield	Jason Ishmael	698-889-9926 jasonishmael@communitychristian.org
Yorkville	Carson Powell	260-602-2866 carsonpowell@communitychristian.org