

L'ECOLE DE CHOIX

A Program of The School of Choice Education Organization



1240 N. Lake Shore Dr. Chicago, IL 60610 USA
Rte. de Saut d'Eau, Mirebalais, Haiti

Travel Recommendations for Visitors

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Principal: Dr. Mary Clisbee clisbee@Nova.edu +509-3170-4696
Board Chair: Prof. Laura Hartman LHartman@depaul.edu +1-312-493-9929

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Introduction

L'Ecole de Choix is exceptionally grateful for your contribution of your personal and professional time, talent and other resources. We understand that your presence in Haiti represents an extraordinary commitment, well beyond the standard contribution that many of our supporters have experienced and we hope that you are able to gain as much from your time with us as we know we will be able to benefit from the time you have chosen to share with our school, students and colleagues.

In order to prepare most effectively for your time in Haiti, with our students, staff and families, and at the school, please review this document carefully and with the gravity in which we share it. It is one of the most important documents that we will offer to you because we value our relationship with you so deeply.

The final page of this packet includes an acknowledgement that you have received this material. Please complete the form and return it to us at your earliest convenience.

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A few quick notes:

1. If you have not yet had your Hepatitis A/B shots, they involve several visits so it might be a good idea to get started on your visits sooner rather than later (among the others you might need).
2. You will see a packing list later in this document. If you plan to bring bug spray, we recommend spray on or towelettes. Our prior visitors report that creams make you clammy or hot! Same goes for sunscreen, if possible. Hats are a must.
3. Cleansing towelettes are your friend . . . you will constantly feel dirty so these keep you clean.
4. Anti-bacterial gel is a must, too, small packets or squeeze bottles are preferable so that you can keep on your person all the time.
5. Do not bring items of value but, if you do, please do not pack those items in your checked bags (in either direction) as things can get taken during travel. We have had visitors' cameras and other items mysteriously disappear between check-in and baggage claim in Chicago.
6. While we are so tremendously grateful for your kind and generous contributions to our trip supplies, we will share a list prior to travel of what might be helpful to gather.
 - a. In the past, people have brought small gum or candies; however, we **strongly discourage** this activity. These treats simply encourage the Choix students to view visitors merely as a gumball machines rather than as friends with whom to engage. The connection becomes the candy rather than the relationship.
7. Remember – do NOT drink tap water in Haiti, nor brush your teeth with it, nor even rinse your toothbrush with it. Do not even turn on the tap. Use bottled water for all of these activities. Before leaving your evening meal, fill your water jug or ask for a bottle of water. We will always have water at Choix for you to use.

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Haiti

Haiti ("Ayiti" in Creole) means "mountainous land." There is a Haitian proverb that says, "After a mountain, another mountain," and in Haiti, it is true; each day presents both beautiful vistas and arduous climbs. But, I prefer to interpret it to mean that some things in Haiti are tough uphill climbs, while the next adventure can be as easy as a downhill roll!

We are so thrilled to welcome you into our community. Haiti and her people have a way of finding a path into your heart, nestling there and never quite leaving again. We know that you will love it and our school as much as we do. These materials are meant to ensure that your time with us is as lovely and peaceful – and safe – as possible.

Please understand that Haiti is also a country that is strained by significant and ongoing stressors. Not only are their interpersonal issues, such as challenges in its politics throughout its history, but its people are constantly bombarded by natural disasters. When it is subject to each new occurrence, people tend to say, "can't Haiti catch a break," as if these onslaughts will soon stop. However, they will not. Haiti is on a the line of two earthquake faults and its deforestation allows devastating flooding to result from what might otherwise be considered a mere tropical disturbance rather than a hurricane.

Moreover, once in Haiti, you might have to adjust your expectations ever so slightly. There are schedules but they run on "Haiti time," what amounts to a somewhat delayed clock. You will meet some of the most kind and lovely people you have ever encountered, but you might have to dig deep to find the answers to questions you will have. We have much to accomplish at Choix, and we shall accomplish all of it – it is simply a matter of expectations.

As explained so appropriately by a Choix school principal,

We should realize that we are in the midst of a grand experiment for which there is no model, so we are learning as we are doing. The biggest thing we need to realize is that we are doing all of

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*this with the **Haitian context** and we cannot ignore that for even a millisecond. That has been my biggest lesson. I think we look through a US lens over and over, and it has consistently gets us in trouble. More than anything we need to realize that what we are attempting (or things similar) has been attempted before and failed BECAUSE the well-intended folks did not take into consideration the context.*

The Basics

Health

Please consult with your health care provider prior to your visit if you have any unique health issues. Otherwise, it is imperative that your vaccinations are up to date (no immunizations are required to enter Haiti, but many are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). Because some of the shots require multiple visits, this should probably be the first thing you do once you have finalized your decision to visit us in Haiti. Information on immunizations and other materials are included at the end of this document. It is vital to take case of these issues not only for your own health but also because you will be in close contact with our students. If you are not well, everyone is affected.

Malaria. Malaria is a serious - sometimes fatal - disease transmitted by a mosquito infected with a particular parasite. Protection against infection is twofold: prevent mosquito bites and take an antimalarial prescription medication. The CDC considers all of Haiti at-risk for malaria (simply traveling to Haiti may disqualify you from donating blood for up to a year because of this consideration). There are several medication options: (1) one that you take a few days before you leave, continue during the trip and then for a week following (“Malarone”) and then (2) another that you take just once a week, but you continue to take it once a week for a month or so after the trip.

Preventative Care. When in Haiti, it is critical to maintain the highest level of personal hygiene since many visitors to Haiti become ill due to oversight in this area. This occurs because the smallest infractions would be of no consequence in their home environments but, in Haiti, these

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oversights could lead to illness. Doing whatever you can to prevent the "hand-to-mouth" mode of infection will go a long way in keeping you, and everyone else, healthy in Haiti.

- If possible, keep "Handi-wipes" available at all times.
- Wash your hands as often as possible.
- Wash hands before eating.
- If you happen to be a nail biter, now would be an excellent time to stop.
- Do not use your mouth or lips as a "third hand," i.e. to hold a pen, piece of paper, or other object.
- Be aware of personal practices that will make your hands dirty (i.e., picking up something from the ground, tying your shoes, shaking hands, etc.).

Water. Because of Haiti's heat and lack of access to clean water, dehydration poses a serious threat to visitors. Some symptoms of dehydration include headache, rapid or hard pulse, pulse felt in your head or extremities, loss of appetite, lethargy, loss of desire to communicate to others, an overheated feeling in your head and nausea. Dehydration can begin before you are thirsty, so it is critical to drink lots of water - more than you might think - throughout the day.

Please carry a water bottle with you everywhere you go and drink all day long. You may wish to consider bringing small packets of electrolytes - available at most health food or outfitters - that can be added to your drinking water.

Medical Services. Health insurance is not typically accepted in Haiti. What services are available are only available for cash payment, pay-as-you-go basis. You will be responsible for your own medical expenses, as a visitor. If you take medication, it is recommended that you bring a significant amount of extra medication, in case any is lost or flights are delayed for reasons of weather. Of course, seasoned travelers know this one, but please keep medications with you or in your carry-on baggage. (Those with asthma should bring extra inhalers since dust and air pollution are worse in Haiti. Keep medicines in their original bottles.)

Sunburn. Haiti is situated very close to the equator, has a tropical climate, and it is ***very*** hot almost all the time - over 100 degrees on many days. It is very easy to get sunburned while

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visiting L'Ecole de Choix. Please plan accordingly with clothing and the use of sun screen with a high spf (30 or more).

Social Context

Giving Money / Gifts. From the moment you arrive in Haiti until the moment you are back in your seat on the airplane, you will be face to face with conditions of extreme poverty. One of the responses we often hear from visitors is that they did not expect how pervasive was the poverty. You will notice a nice restaurant, a nice hotel, a nice home; but Haiti is not like other countries where you can drive far enough and find the “wealthy section.” The poverty is throughout the country and, though you recognize that you are in Haiti to contribute to L'Ecole de Choix, you may feel drawn to contribute in many other ways, as well.

We share the desire to do as much as we possibly can for people living in poverty in Haiti. Though we have not encountered people asking for money on the streets of Haiti quite to the same extent that we have encountered it in other places in the world, you may experience it. In addition, once you begin to offer something, you will surely be swarmed and may find yourself in the middle of an uncomfortable – even dangerous – security situation.

It is quite difficult to say no sometimes to the children who ask. If you find that you have a circumstance where you would like to give someone money, or if someone has asked you for money (even someone connected with our school), please ask our Principal or Vice-Principal for guidance. As mentioned at the start, often visitors enjoy bringing small tokens to distribute to the students of Choix or other children they anticipate they will meet. We do not encourage these one on one ‘distributions.’

Just to put this request into context, many of the children you will encounter may not have had much to eat and also may have large families for which they are responsible or partially responsible. In particular, our students at Choix often have meals at school and therefore are not given other meals in their home because their parents must figure out how to feed their many other family members, knowing that this child has already had a meal for the day. Therefore, just as you or I might feel, this child may have a sense of desperation when you bring

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out a bag overflowing with goodies, treats and gifts. To expect our young children at Choix to control themselves is sometimes just too much to bear. In addition, if these students are constantly confronted with visitors who arrive bearing these treats and gifts, the messages they learn reinforce the notion that this is the role of the visitor, rather than to build a relationship which, in the end, might prove to be much longer-lasting, sustainable and valuable than the worth of a single piece of chewing gum.

To the contrary, we do share a list of supplies that would prove to be exceptionally useful for the school, if you might be interested in helping us to bring down essential materials. Sometimes, depending on the trip and time of year, we have supplies in hand, but simply value your checked baggage allowance on the flight and merely ask that you check a full bag on our behalf.

The Sights, Sounds and Smells. You will see some things that might seem strange to you:

- Public urination (and bathing, in remote areas of the country) is common.
- Boys and girls up to six years old often wear no clothes, due to their conditions of poverty. At Choix, sometimes the students' only clothes are the uniforms we have given to them.
- Children and adults may call out "blan" (which means "white" in Creole and similarly "blanc" in French) when they see Americans . . . even African-Americans. This is not an insult. It is merely a term used to describe someone they do not often see - a white (or black) American.
- Garbage is pervasive. Pigs, goats and other animals continually rummage in the garbage, looking for food.

During your stay in Haiti, please act as a gracious visitor. We assume that this would go without saying so it is simply a reminder; but, when you are exposed to a sight, sound or smell that might be new to you, it would be appropriate to resist the urge to stare or point, and may be offensive to take photographs in a way that would be obtrusive. While we do understand that there is an urge to act in the role of 'witness' to those who are not present, to share the experience of the Haitians with others, so that they, too, will understand these conditions in a

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compassionate manner, we ask that you consider the impact first on the Haitians who are the subject of your photographs. It is always recommended to request permission when taking a more intimate, personal snapshot; some may allow it, while others may not be comfortable.

Language. Many if not most Haitians speak Creole as their native language, while French is considered a second language. If they speak English, it is a third option. At L'Ecole de Choix, we are a trilingual environment, English, Creole and French. We recognize that Creole is the language that is spoken by our families in their home and, often, the only language spoken by the parents of our students. In Haiti, national school examinations are conducted only in French so it is vital that our students are also proficient in French; while we include English in order to serve our mission as a school of "choice," ensuring that our students have the tools necessary to make any choices they wish upon graduation.

Packing List and Arrival in Haiti

Packing List. Please review the packing list below and ask us any questions you might have after your review. We often anticipate that our visitors will use a carry-on for their personal belongings and may offer to contribute their checked baggage allotment to the school for whatever we might need transported to Haiti at that particular time. We might have goods that await transfer or, if the mood strikes you (and *only* if you have the ability – it is **not** a requirement in the least!), we are always grateful for any contribution of supplies, we are happy to let you know what L'Ecole de Choix would appreciate at that moment.

- **Passport:** Keep a color copy of your Passport in a location different than your Passport, and email copies to yourself, as well as others, in case of loss.
- **Money:** Though one hates to walk around carrying loads of cash, the truth is that it is best to bring cash. It is not as if you can easily find places to exchange traveler's checks or use credit cards and there are not really cash machines on every corner . . . I tend to bring a bunch of \$1's and \$5's since no one wants to make change. Additionally, you will need cash for tips throughout the trip for those individuals who help us out, such as drivers, guides, kitchen staff at Choix, and so on. We generally make decisions as a

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group with regard to these matters.

- **Weather:** Haiti's tropical climate is always hot, not hotter at some times than others, in general, just hot. May and June are rainy months. Other times you could expect some rain every so often, but mostly clear skies and lots of sunshine. Temperatures in the 100's or 90's.
- **Attire:** You should dress in a way that will be comfortable to you, physically and otherwise. Some people will tell you that Haitians are generally conservative in their dress, but then you will see plenty of folks in tank tops and shorts. People living in poverty will wear what they have. Since you will be walking a lot, and also in the grassy fields at the school, I generally recommend long pants (such as very lightweight hiking pants) at all times to prevent bug bites. On the other hand, most youth travelers prefer shorts while on the Choix campus. For our stay in Port au Prince, visitors might be more comfortable, socially, in long pants.
- **Footwear:** When it is wet, it can get muddy so you want to be sure that you wear shoes that can get muddy or even flip flops. You may wish to have flip-flops for the showers.
- **Additional items:**
 - Medications, vitamins & optional electrolytes.
 - Sunscreen, insect repellent (High % Deet bug spray and/or Bug Repellant wipes)
 - Small First-Aid kit
 - Flashlight + batteries (important – since you never know when electricity might go on and off)
 - Non-breakable water bottle
 - Hat
 - Toiletries, of course (expensive in Haiti), unscented is best to avoid attracting insects
 - Extra tissue (it is just good to have in your pack, in case you find yourself somewhere without toilet paper, because, you know, it happens)
 - Wet wipes / facial wipes
 - Antibacterial hand wipes, gel or spray (if you bring wipes instead of liquid, then you can bring in your carry-on!)
 - Bathing suit (there is a pool at the hotel)

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- Camera and batteries (just a reminder ;o)

Food: The Haitian cuisine is not always to everyone's preference and, if you have special needs, in particular, you might opt to bring some of the following:

- Snacks to munch on during the day. Things such as jerky, nuts, peanut butter, crackers, pretzels and power bars are good things to bring.
- Trail Mix
- Beef Jerky
- Granola Bars
- Peanut Butter
- Crystal Light "On the Go" to mix with your water
- Nuts
- Pretzels

Do Not Bring

- I make it a habit to remove all jewelry before I leave for Haiti and I bring nothing. There seems to be no reason in the world to attract attention . . . People have chosen to leave on their wedding band, for instance, of course, without an issue. These questions are entirely up to those involved.
- Please leave anything at home that would be irreplaceable if lost or stolen. **Period.**

Arrival in Haiti.

When you pass through the Customs agent, he will hand you back the lower portion of the green entry form and your white form. **Put the green form away with your passport and do not lose it.** Keep the white form handy.

You will then proceed to the baggage area, if necessary. If you need to use the restroom – and I would recommend that you should use it, since the drive to Mirebalais can be quite a ways, depending on traffic – please do so at the baggage claim. You may wish to have paper supplies handy.

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If you do not see your bag, please check the ones that may have been offloaded from the carousel already on the far side of the room. Once you are ready, proceed to the customs agent by the door, give him the white form from immigration and proceed to the exit. If questioned about any items you have brought to Haiti to contribute to L'Ecole de Choix, simply state that these items are donations. If they try to take them from you, explain again that they are a donation for the people of Haiti in Mirebalais. If they insist, give them up and do not worry at all.

There will be **many** porters trying to assist you with your bags. Politely **but very firmly** say "non, merci," or "no, thank you" if you are uncomfortable in French, and continue to the parking lot. The porters might try to simply pick up your bag from you. Please do not let this fluster you. Simply shake your head and say again, firmly, "non."

Please be patient if your ride is not at the waiting pace at the anticipated time. Not only is the airport congested but traffic in Haiti is extremely bad and a drive of 30 minutes can also take two hours – there is often no way of knowing. Please text your appointed greeter when you arrive to connect so that perhaps you might wait by the customs instead of in the sun of the parking lot.

Communications

Mobile communications. As long as your data plan supports international communication to Haiti (you may wish to check before you leave the United States), you should have no trouble at all continuing to use your cell phone or Blackberry while in Haiti.

iPad. Haiti's telecommunications network is supported by AT&T so, as long as you have AT&T and set up your international plan on your iPad **before you leave the United States** (you cannot do it once in Haiti unless you find wifi), your iPad will have access to the 3G network in Haiti.

Wifi access. L'Ecole de Choix has wifi available on campus; however the cultural center (where

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most of our visitors stay while in Mirebalais) does not. Therefore, you would have access when on campus during the day. If you pass through Port au Prince en route and stay at any of the hotels in Petionville, most have wifi access.

In case of emergency, our principal Dr. Mary Clisbee can be reached in Haiti at +509-3170-4696 or on her US cell at +1-954-817-6296, or Clisbee@nova.edu.

Important Security and Safety Reminders

As we have explained, Haiti is a lovely, marvelous place to visit, but also one replete with political and social turmoil. Travel to Haiti should not be considered in the same category as a standard Caribbean holiday. It is vital for your own safety to take the following cautions as seriously as they are written. While failure to follow them is not at all recommended, even following them at the letter cannot guarantee complete security. Please review the U.S. State Department travel advisories before making a decision to travel.

- Enroll in the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at <https://step.state.gov/step/>.
 - "The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service provided by the U.S. Government to U.S. citizens who are traveling to, or living in, a foreign country. STEP allows you to enter information about your upcoming trip abroad so that the Department of State can better assist you in an emergency. STEP also allows Americans residing abroad to get routine information from the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate."
- It is not recommended that anyone – male or female – travels after dark, especially alone.
- Keep a charge in your cell phone at all times. If you have a phone charger, bring it.
- Though you should not bring valuables with you, keep whatever valuables you do have with you on your person at all times (passport, money, camera, computer).
 - What valuables you keep on you should be kept in several locations on your person.
 - Have "thief money" and / or a fake wallet with you so that, if you are ever confronted and cash is demanded, you will have a small amount that gives the appearance that it is all you have; and you will not be left with nothing.

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- If you stay with us for any period of time, it is recommended that you consider a change of routine for anything you do regularly. Drive different routes whenever possible.
- Exercising is a difficult venture in Haiti. "Going for a run" is not a safe option, especially by oneself.
- Before taking any extended drives (i.e. anything beyond the trip from the Cultural Center to school and back), take a look at the tires on the vehicle you will be using and make sure there is a spare.
- Do not sleep with ear plugs, so that you can always be alert.
- Please be sure to deadbolt your door, and use the chain lock.
- If you stay anywhere other than with us, second floors and above are preferable, and please ensure that your room has an adequate lock. If not, complain!
- If confronted by criminals always comply with their demands to hand over any valuables and do not give them any cause to resort to violence.
- Always be aware of your surroundings by observing what goes on around you. Try to recognize what is normal, so that you may be able to identify anything that is unusual or out of place that may indicate danger. Trust your instincts.
- Have an emergency plan in place. Know where your safe locations are and who you would contact for immediate assistance.

Resources

Critical Information:

- **In case of emergency:**
 - Our principal Dr. Mary Clisbee can be reached in Haiti at +509-3170-4696 or on her US cell at +1-954-817-6296, or Clisbee@nova.edu.
 - Our Board Chair, Laura Pincus Hartman, can be reached on her cell at 312-493-9929, or at 312-202-1332, or LHartman@depaul.edu.
 - For emergency needs (e.g., loss of passport or evacuation) contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located at Boulevard du 15 Octobre, Tabarre 41, Tabarre, Haiti; telephone (509) 2-229-8000; after hours emergency telephone (509) 2-229-8000; ACS Unit fax (509) 2-229-8027; and e-mail at acspap@state.gov. The Consular Section can be reached at (509) (2)229-8000 or e-mail address acspap@state.gov.

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- The embassy is open Monday – Friday 7:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

State Department Warnings and Information:

- Travel Warnings: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_5541.html
- Haiti Information: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1134.html
- Travel – Department of State's Twitter : <https://twitter.com/#!/travelgov>
- Travel – Department of State's Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/travelgov>
- Travel – Department of State's iPhone app: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/smart-traveler/id442693988?mt=8>

L'Ecole de Choix, Mirebalais and Haiti Information :

- L'Ecole de Choix website : <http://www.ecoledechoix.org/>
- Videos and Photos of Choix: <https://www.ecoledechoix.org/content/videos>
- Location of L'Ecole de Choix: <http://bit.ly/Iu90B6>
- CIA Factbook – Haiti : <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ha.html>
- U.S. Dept. of State, Haiti: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/1982.htm>
- Haiti's most recent news: <http://haiti.depaul.edu/Pages/AllNews.aspx>
- Info on the Partners in Health Mirebalais Hospital, one mile east of Choix: <http://www.pih.org/mirebalais>

Health information - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- General Health Information for Travelers to Haiti:
 - <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/haiti.htm>
- Vaccination Recommendations:
 - <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/haiti.htm#vaccines>

Principal: Dr. Mary Clisbee clisbee@Nova.edu +509-3170-4696
Board Chair: Prof. Laura Hartman LHartman@depaul.edu +1-312-493-9929

L'Ecole de Choix is a program of the School of Choice Education Organization, an Illinois non-profit organization, FEIN 45-4277736

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Rte. de Saut d'Eau, Mirebalais, Haiti

Common Haitian Phrases

Bonjou	Good morning
Bonswa	Good afternoon (beginning at noon and for the rest of the day, Bonswa is used as a greeting instead of Bonjou)
Bon nui	Good evening
Msye	Sir
Madam	Madame
Madmwazel	Miss
Mezanmi	Friend
Komen nou ye?	How are you? (plural)
Komen ou ye?	How are you? (singular)
M'pa pi mal.	I'm not too bad.
M'ap debat	I'm struggling
M'tre byen	I'm very well
Orevwa, tout moun	Bye-bye, everybody
Baybay, tout moun	Bye-bye, folks
Bondye beni-ou	God bless you

N'ap Boule is a very common greeting and response meaning **Good!**

Wi means **yes** while **Non** means **No**

Mesi means **Thanks**.

Souple means **Please**.

Merite means **You're welcome**, which can be used after **Mesi**

Pa gen Pwoblèm means **No Problem!**

Oke means **Ok**.

Eskize mwen means **Excuse me!** Nice to use in a crowded area.

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Acknowledgment and Consent

Visitors to L'Ecole de Choix realize that Haiti is a developing economy that presents risks that may not be abated by representatives of or those working with L'Ecole de Choix, though we will engage in good faith efforts to create a safe, secure and peaceful stay. A wise traveler will prepare for these risks accordingly - spiritually, mentally and physically.

As discussed in this document, one may take steps to protect oneself, and it is recommended that one do so, against:

1. **Risks of accident and injury** associated with travel, where eroded and/or debris-laden roads, an absence of traffic signals and unenforced driving laws are all too common. These travel risks include, but are not limited to, taxis, buses and motorcycles.
2. **Unusual safety issues** involved in traveling and staying in Haiti. These include less than adequate police protection or, at least, not comparable to the protection with which one might be familiar in the United States, a lack of interagency government support systems and the potential for in-country political unrest (caused by societal issues like government corruption, inadequate food and/or medical care, human rights issues and unemployment).
3. **Inherent health risks** associated with visiting Haiti. More often than not, people throughout Haiti have inadequate access to health care. There are conditions in parts of Haiti that increase the risk of some diseases that people who live in the United States no longer consider familiar, such as malaria and dengue fever. Unpurified drinking water can transmit disease, while other risks may be transmitted through bodily fluids.

I, the undersigned, _____;

() an adult volunteer, or;

() a parent or legal guardian of _____

have read the foregoing information that describes and discusses the general risks associated with traveling to Haiti, and the general duties and responsibilities of visitors in addressing these

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risks.

In light of this information, and other information I have learned while preparing for this visit, I hereby consent and agree to participate as a voluntary, short-term visitor ("volunteer") to L'Ecole de Choix, a program of the School of Choice Education Organization (collectively, "Choix"). In that regard, I agree and consent to the following:

1. By signing this release and waiver, the volunteer and/or parent legal guardian, as well as all successors, affiliates, assigns, heirs, executors, representatives and agents unconditionally release and forever discharge Choix (including, but not limited to, affiliates, employees and volunteers - past and present, attorneys, accountants, corporate officers and directors, agents, representatives, insurers, partners, advisors, predecessors, successors and assigns) from any and all known and unknown past, present or future claims, complaints, demands, causes of action, damages, bonds, bills, expenses, attorney fees and costs, penalties, fines, liens, obligations, losses, injuries, rights, judgments and liabilities of any nature whatsoever (collectively, "Claims"), and agrees to hold Choix harmless from any and all such Claims.
2. If the volunteer or an agent of Choix determines the volunteer requires emergency medical or dental care, Choix is hereby authorized to transport and present the volunteer to a healthcare provider. If a healthcare provider determines the volunteer requires emergency medical or dental treatment and the volunteer (or, in the case of a volunteer 17 years old or younger, the volunteer's parent or legal guardian) is unable to give consent for said treatment, any adult agent of Choix, including an adult volunteer, is hereby authorized to give consent.
4. The volunteer (or, in the case of a volunteer 17 years old or younger, the volunteer's parent or legal guardian) assumes all risks of personal injury, sickness, death and damage as a result of the volunteer's participation with Choix and Choix is, hereby, held harmless from any and all Claims for damages, injuries, complications or death resulting from the rendition of medical treatment.
5. The volunteer (or, in the case of a volunteer 17 years old or younger, the volunteer's parent or legal guardian) agrees to be pay all expenses incurred in connection with emergency

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medical and dental care and treatment, including related transportation costs, pursuant to this authorization, whether covered by health insurance or not.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE FORM IN ITS ENTIRETY AND FULLY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS STATED HEREIN.

Volunteer's Signature:

Date: ____/____/____

(If the volunteer is 17 years of age or younger, a Parent/Legal Guardian must also endorse this release and waiver, below, thereby indicating agreement and consent.)

Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature:

Date: ____/____/____

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