Close Up offers the most comprehensive educational opportunity in Washington, DC. Established in 1971, Close Up is the nation’s leading nonprofit, civic education organization. With 45 years of experience partnering with schools across the nation, we provide impactful, hands-on programs for students that educate and inspire young people to participate in their government, become leaders in their communities, and gain a more thorough understanding of American history and government. More than 850,000 students and teachers from around the world have participated in our experiential education programs in Washington, DC—and many more have experienced Close Up’s balanced, comprehensive approach to civic education through our classroom resources and publications.

Close Up is one of the best things I have ever been a part of in high school. From meeting new people to seeing the memorials, I loved every second of it!

—Sarah, Student, FL
**SUNDAY**

**Arrive in Washington**
Meet your Close Up Concierge and explore DC with your school

**Welcome Dinner**

**Group Orientation**
Meet students from across the country and get to know your Close Up Instructor

**Introduction Workshop**
What are the biggest issues that we face in our democracy today?

**Issues Debate**
Ask your most challenging political questions and engage with a liberal and a conservative DC insider

*Workshops are small learning communities comprised of students from various states. Each workshop community is led by the same Close Up Instructor for the duration of the program.

*Study trips led by highly-trained instructors provide unique opportunities to learn using historic sites and institutions as living classrooms.

Sample schedule subject to change.

**MONDAY**

**Three Faces of Democracy Study Visit**
How do the ideas championed by these famous figures impact society?

- Jefferson Memorial—What about our government would Jefferson agree or disagree with today?
- Lincoln Memorial—What does the imagery of the Lincoln Memorial say about Lincoln’s legacy?
- FDR Memorial—Should government take an active role in providing for people’s basic needs?

**Lunch at the Smithsonian American History Museum**

**Embassy Discovery**
Step foot on “foreign soil” and discuss the international political landscape

**Pentagon 9/11 Memorial**
In what ways did the events of 9/11 change America forever?

**Dinner at the Hotel**

**Current Issues Discussion**
Debate hot topics with your new friends from across the country

**Social Time**

*Study visits led by highly-trained instructors provide unique opportunities to learn using historic sites and institutions as living classrooms.

Sample schedule subject to change.

**TUESDAY**

**War Memorials Study Visit**
What do the WWII, Vietnam, and Korean Memorials say about those who have served and sacrificed?

**Lincoln Memorial**
What does the imagery of the Lincoln Memorial say about Lincoln’s legacy?

**National Politics Seminar**
Gain inside access and discuss current issues with a DC lobbyist, journalist, or policymaker

**Lunch at National Place**

**U.S. Capitol Visit and Orientation**

**Capital Hill Group Photo**

**U.S. Marine Corps Memorial**
Visit the larger than life representation of the iconic flag-raising at Iwo Jima

**Dinner at Pentagon**

**Mock Congress Workshop**
Debate, amend, and vote on the same issues elected representatives are currently considering

**Social Time**

**WEDNESDAY**

**Capitol Hill Day**
Meet with members of Congress or their staff

Attend and observe Congressional Committee Hearings to see how laws and policies are formed

Explore the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center and Museum

Lunch at the Longworth Cafeteria, a hot spot for Washington insiders

Visit the Supreme Court where many landmark cases are decided

Explore the Library of Congress, the largest library in the world, and view the symbolic art and architecture

Witness the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in action in the Galleries

Dinner and Depart for Williamsburg, VA

**THURSDAY**

**Colonial Williamsburg Study Visit**
Immerse yourself in Virginia’s colonial history from 1607-1775 led by Williamsburg’s Historical Interpreters

**Governor’s Palace**
Explore the site that became the home to Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and seven royal governors

**Tavern Lunch**
Dine in one of Williamsburg’s rustic taverns located in the heart of the Revolutionary City

**Williamsburg Exploration**
Discover Williamsburg with your school:
- The College of William & Mary
- George Wythe House
- Gooch-Colonial Jail
- The Magazine

**Bill of Rights Activity**
Discuss the rights within our Constitution, explore how rights have evolved over time and examine current Supreme Court cases

**Social Activity**

**FRIDAY**

**Independent Day**
Explore Washington, DC with your school

- U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
- Smithsonian Museums
- Arlington National Cemetery

**Closing Reflection**
How will you stay engaged on issues that matter to you?

**Banquet and Dance**
Enjoy a fun-filled evening with your new friends as you dance the night away

**SIGHTSEEING**

- Visit the Pentagon
- See a performance at a renowned theater

**SATURDAY**

**Sightsee in Washington**
Prior to your departure, spend some more time in the city with your school

**Depart for Home**
“It was the most wonderful and eye-opening experience of my life! Close Up engages you in a way that the classroom cannot.”

— Robert, Student, ND

The Close Up Washington & Williamsburg experience is an adventure in two cities brimming with exciting history and heritage. Using Colonial Williamsburg and DC as living classrooms, Close Up will take you on a journey from the birth of our nation to the most current issues facing our country!

Picture yourself traveling through time as you explore the world’s largest living history museum and walking through the streets of one America’s oldest cities. Imagine that humbling moment when you read the Gettysburg Address in the chamber of the Lincoln Memorial for the first time, and then meeting face-to-face with your elected officials to discuss the most current and pressing issues of our nation.

On Close Up’s programs, you will have these once-in-a-lifetime opportunities and get inspired as you explore the famous monuments, world-renowned museums and hallowed institutions that define our past and present. Even if you have visited the nation’s capital or Williamsburg before, your experience with Close Up will be unlike any other.

Close Up allows you to build lasting connections between your classroom and the American political process. We ensure you have the safest and most memorable experience possible through our all-inclusive package that includes travel, lodging, 24-hour supervision, and access to medical care. During our fast-paced, interactive programs with Close Up’s highly-trained instructors, you’ll participate in thrilling and unforgettable activities as you take in all that these cities have to offer!

You will:
• Meet peers from around the country and participate in discussions and debates that expand and complement your worldview;
• See DC beyond the marble by visiting vibrant neighborhoods throughout the city and attending a theater performance;
• Explore the historic homes, gardens, and marketplaces in America’s most historic and well-preserved example of Colonial government and culture;
• Discuss the events that have shaped our world through visits to must-see sites including Arlington Cemetery and the Governor’s Palace;
• Debate and discuss issues with Washington insiders, giving you a behind-the-scenes look at how our government operates, and so much more!
Close Up was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for my son and has made a lasting impression on his life!

— Robin, Parent, TX

GET STARTED TODAY!

Talk to your Close Up teacher and get your Participant ID and Password to enroll in this amazing opportunity!

We’re always here to help!

CALL:
800-CLOSE UP (256-7387)

EMAIL:
info@CloseUp.org

ENROLL:
CloseUp.org

CONNECT WITH US