

CLOSE UP HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Washington, DC and Williamsburg



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 Program 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 Program Instructor for the duration of the trip.

* 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.

Monday

Exploring American Political Values Study Visit*
Where do American political values come from and what do they mean today?

Jefferson Memorial—How do the rights outlined in the Founding Documents apply to our view of liberty today?

FDR Memorial—What rights are needed to ensure equality and promote the welfare of citizens in the US?

MLK Memorial—How do we see MLK's view of justice in the US today?

Lunch at National Place

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

Hidden Gem Study Visit
Explore sites of DC that enliven and enrich its architectural and cultural history

American Political Values Workshop
Examine the connections between liberty, equality and justice

Dinner at Hotel

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

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?

Capitol Hill Group Photo

Lunch at Smithsonian American History Museum

Embassy Discovery
Step foot on "foreign soil" and discuss the international political landscape

White House Study Visit
Discuss the purpose of protests and what restrictions of protests are legitimate

Dinner at Pentagon City Mall

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

Wednesday

Capitol Hill Day
Meet with your 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 a Hill 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 at DC's Historic Union Station

DC Cultural Event
See a show at a renowned theater or cheer on the Washington Nationals baseball team!

Social Time

Thursday

Depart for Williamsburg, VA
Colonial Williamsburg Study Visit

Immerse yourself in Virginia's colonial history from 1699-1775 led by Williamsburg's Historical Interpreters

The Capitol
Where Patrick Henry got the Virginia delegates to vote for independence

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

Williamsburg Exploration
Discover Williamsburg independently:

Governor's Palace

George Wythe House

Gaol-The Colonial Jail

The Magazine

Dinner in Williamsburg
Depart for Washington, DC

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

Saturday

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

Depart for Home