CLOSE UP PRESIDENT’S FIRST WEEK PROGRAM
Washington, DC

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?

Social Time

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?
MLK Memorial—How do we see MLK’s view of justice?
Lunch at Reagan Building and International Trade Center

Media Seminar:
The President’s Agenda
Discuss the ambitions of the President with a media expert

Smithsonian Institution Exploration
Visit a world-renowned museum to discover and learn about history and culture
American Political Values Workshop
Examine the connections between liberty, equality, & justice
Dinner at Hotel

ISSUES
Issues Debate
Ask your most challenging political questions to a liberal and a conservative DC insider
Social Time

TUESDAY
War Memorials Study Visit
What do the WWII, Vietnam, and Korean Memorials say about those who have served and sacrificed?
Lincoln Memorial
How does the imagery of the Lincoln Memorial portray his legacy?
Capitol Hill Group Photo

Lunch at National Place
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 Pentagon City Mall

Social Time

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 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
Hearings of the Congressional Committee
Attend and observe

Dinner at DC’s Union Station

Social Time

THURSDAY
Mt. Vernon Study Visit
Examine the legacy of our first President
Lunch in Old Town Alexandria
White House Study Visit
Discuss the purpose of protests and which restrictions of protests are legitimate
National Portrait Gallery
Come to know the people who have shaped our nation through this extensive art collection
U.S. Marine Corps Memorial
Visit the larger-than-life representation of the iconic flag-raising at Iwo Jima

Final Workshop
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

Dinner at DC’s Union Station

Social Time

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

EXTEND YOUR STAY!
Enhance your Close Up experience and spend an extra day in DC! Visit other iconic sites and exciting neighborhoods in the nation’s capital with your school.

“Close Up gave me the confidence I needed to be more politically involved!”
– Eric, Student, CO

Sample schedule subject to change.

* 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.

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