

PAST PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION HIGHLIGHTS



Your nation’s capital moves into high gear when a new President takes office. Close Up has given students from across the country an opportunity to be part of Inauguration for nearly five decades. We know it all starts a few days before the actual swearing-in, and with our expert staff and close-in hotels, we know how to make sure you and your students are at the center of it all.

You’ll be here not only to witness the swearing-in of the new President and the Inaugural parade, but experience all of the festivities leading up to the big day – including Official Inaugural Committee events and exclusive Close Up celebrations! Here are just a few of our past Inaugural highlights:

2017: TRUMP-PENCE

- Attended the “Make America Great Again! Welcome Celebration.” held on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial featuring performances by Lee Greenwood, Toby Keith, and 3 Doors Down.
- Visited DC’s newest Smithsonian, National Museum of African American History and Culture, devoted exclusively to promote and highlight the contributions of African Americans

2013: OBAMA-BIDEN

- Witnessed the Presidential Inauguration followed by performances from James Taylor, Kelly Clarkson and Beyoncé.
- Participated in National Day of Service by writing letters to Servicemen and Women.
- Caught a glimpse of the Presidential motorcade during the Inaugural Parade along Pennsylvania Avenue before heading to Close Up’s Inaugural Ball.

2009: OBAMA-BIDEN

- Attended “We Are One: The Obama Inaugural Celebration” at the Lincoln Memorial featuring Mary J. Blige, Jon Bon Jovi, Garth Brooks, Beyoncé, Shakira, Bruce Springsteen, U2, Usher, Tom Hanks, Tiger Woods, Ashley Judd and Stevie Wonder.
- Received exclusive access to DC’s most interactive news and journalism museum - Newseum.
- Visited the Embassies of Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and Russia.

2005: BUSH-CHENEY

- Celebrated “America’s Future Rocks Today: A Call to Service Concert” at The Armory featuring Hillary Duff, Rubben Studdard, Jo Jo, and Gloria Estefan attended by the Bush family.
- Witnessed ‘A Celebration of Freedom’ on the Ellipse featuring American icons including Kenny Chesney, Neil Armstrong, Andrea Bocelli, Patti LaBelle, Angie Harmon, Gary Sinise, Buzz Aldrin, and Dale Earnhardt, Jr.
- Participated in a seminar with U.S. Treasurer Anna Maria Carbral.

2001: BUSH-CHENEY

- Viewed fireworks and a concert on the National Mall featuring Brooks & Dunn, Ricky Martin and Wayne Newton.
- Participated in Crossfire, CNN’s nationally televised current events debate program.
- Attended a special performance of the National Symphony Orchestra at John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

1997: CLINTON-GORE

- Participated in “An American Journey: Building a Bridge to the 21st Century” event featuring Better Than Ezra, Ken Burns, Peter, Paul & Mary, and a variety of music, food, interactive activities for students on the National Mall.
- Took in “Sharing the Light”, a spectacular fireworks display, launched simultaneously from ten locations around the city.
- Discussed current events with Attorney General Janet Reno in an exclusive question and answer session.

1993: CLINTON-GORE

- Enjoyed the “Call for Reunion” concert on the Lincoln Memorial steps featuring entertainers Aretha Franklin, Michael Bolton, Tony Bennett, Bob Dylan, Diana Ross, Maya Angelou and LL Cool J.
- Hosted a special Youth Forum for 3,300 students featuring a panel of speakers including Rep. Maxine Waters and John Scully.
- Joined the musical celebration and procession across the Memorial Bridge with the Clinton and Gore families.