

CLOSE UP HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Washington, DC & New York City



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

Close Up was such a valuable experience that I will never forget!

* 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

Where do American political values come from and what do they mean?

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

FDR Memorial—What rights are needed to ensure equality and promote the welfare of U.S. citizens?

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

Lunch at Reagan Building

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

Smithsonian Institution Exploration
Visit a world-renowned museum to learn about history and culture

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

Dinner at Hotel

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

TUESDAY

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

How does the imagery of the Lincoln Memorial portray his legacy?

Lunch at National Place

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

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

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

Dinner at Pentagon City

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

Social Time

WEDNESDAY

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 Congressional staff and DC 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

See a show at a renowned theater or witness an exclusive performance

THURSDAY

Sustaining Democracy Workshop
What citizen actions are necessary to foster and maintain a vibrant democracy?

White House Study Visit
Discuss how protests and public demonstrations have impacted our country's history

Citizen Action Sites
Get inspired by examples of citizens making a difference in their communities

Neighborhood Study Visit and Lunch
Explore DC off the beaten path, e.g. U Street, Chinatown

National Portrait Gallery
Come to know the people who have shaped our nation through this extensive collection of portraits

Arlington National Cemetery
Visit our nation's most hallowed ground and witness the Changing of the Guard

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

FRIDAY

Depart for New York City
Lunch in Upper Westside Neighborhood

Central Park Study Visit
Explore landmarks such as Strawberry Fields, Imagine Circle, and Belvedere Castle

Metropolitan Museum of Art Study Visit
Examine the influence of art and artifacts on history and culture at one of the world's largest and finest art museums

Dinner in Times Square
Enjoy dinner under the bright lights in this iconic New York destination

Times Square Study Visit
Visit Broadway - 'The Great White Way' - in New York City's famous theater district

Performance at a Broadway Theater
See a show and experience first-hand why New York City is considered the cultural capital of the nation

SATURDAY

Ferry Ride from Battery Park to Liberty Island

Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Study Visit
See the place where millions of immigrants entered the country and explore the history of US immigration policy

Lunch in Financial District

9/11 Memorial and Financial District Study Visit
Explore the Financial District, and 9/11 Memorial

Brooklyn Bridge Walk
Take in the breathtaking views of the city from this iconic bridge

High Line Study Visit
Walk one of the city's hidden gems and explore art and exhibits on the only elevated rail line transformed into a park

Dinner in Little Italy

Rockefeller Plaza
See 360 degrees of New York City from the Top of the Rock

SUNDAY

Sightsee in the Big Apple
Prior to your departure, spend time in the city with your school

Depart for Home