

Civic Leaders Service Learning Program

Program

Dates:

May 20th to
23rd, 2012

For More Information

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The Civic Leaders Program provides a unique opportunity for students to examine which issues are most important to young people in the 2012 election year. Students will take on a research project on youth civic engagement and directly apply their research in Washington, DC with policy makers and peers from across the country. Students will follow up by creating on youth issues and the 2012 election. The program is designed for 6 to 8 students and 1 advisor per school.

About Close Up

Close Up is a non-profit education organization that for 40 years has helped to educate and inspire 750,000 young people around the country. The Close Up program provides students with the opportunity to develop a more complex understanding of our history and teaches students how to become more effective and informed citizens.

Pre Program Research: Students will study the Youth Rights chapter in the Close Up *Current Issues* text and administer a Close Up survey on youth civic engagement to at least 60 peers.

4-day Residential Washington, DC Training: Students will have the opportunity to:

- Debate key domestic and foreign policy issues with students from around the country
- Take part in seminars with experts in voter turnout
- Visit Monuments and Memorials (Jefferson, FDR, Lincoln, WWII, Korea, Vietnam) and examine the how youth have impacted history.
- Network with student leaders from across the country
- Start making connections for internships in politics/policy down the road

Post Program Project: Students will create a 2 minute video on youth issues and the 2012 election.

Teachers will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in our one of a kind professional development program
- Build relationships with other teacher leaders from across the country
- Shadow the student program to see our methodology in action
- Gain best practices and primary source materials for their classroom

Close Up Instruction and Curriculum

- Program instructors: Students spend the day with program instructors, who have receive over 100 hours of training in our college-level program curriculum and methodology.
- Instructors are trained in First Aid, CPR and use of external defibrillators.

Safety and Security:

- Students are supervised 24-7 by our program instructors and night monitors.
- Through our partnership with Georgetown University Children's Medical Center students have 24-7 access to the city's best medical care.



Civic Leaders Program Sample Schedule

Sunday: Arrival and Check-In 3pm

- Orientation
- Have dinner and meet your roommates for the week
- Meet your fellow students and Program instructor in an introductory workshop: The role of young people in history.

Monday: What are the Issues?

- **Three Faces of Democracy Study Visit:** Students will visit the Jefferson, Roosevelt (FDR) and King Memorials to examine differing views about the role of government and the proper relationship between citizens and government.
- Lunch and Museum Study Visit
- **National Issues Panel:** Students will engage with a group of knowledgeable panelists on issues of national concern
- Group Photo on Capitol Hill
- Dinner
- Workshop on Current Issues
- Domestic Issues Debate: Hear from a liberal and conservative on issues chosen by students

Tuesday: Making an Impact

- Workshop-Next Steps: Building a culture of civic engagement in your school community
- Lunch
- Youth Vote 2012 Seminar: Hear from experts on what gets young people out to vote
- White House Study Visit: Examining the Presidential Campaign and the influences that shape the public agenda
- Dinner in the City and Final Sentiments
- Evening Monument Tour: Students will visit monuments and memorials including the Lincoln and War Memorials and the Washington Monument.
- Student/Teacher meetings to prepare for Hill Day

Wednesday: Capitol Hill Day (Teachers attend with their Students)

- Hill Meetings with student congressional offices
- Lunch on the Hill
- Opportunities to see Congress in session, Supreme Court, Library of Congress, NEW Capitol Hill Visitor's Center
- Closing Session on the Hill
- Depart for Home (Thursday Add On option available)

