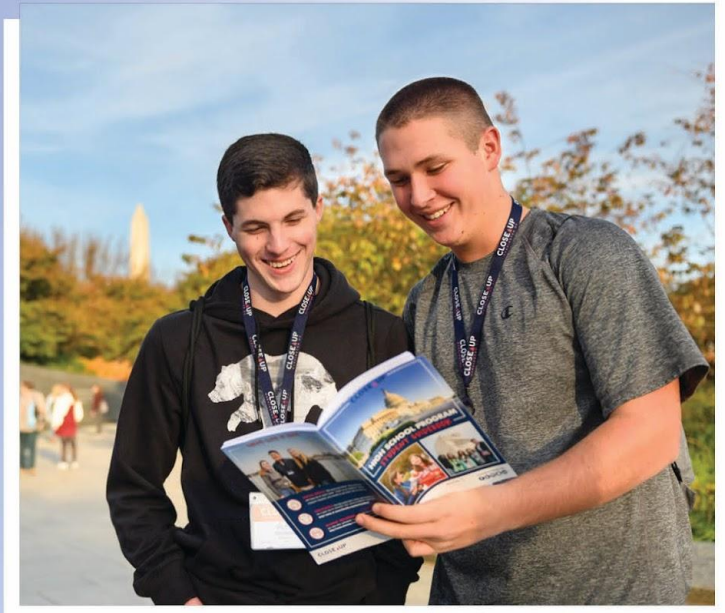




**Kyrene Middle School**  
May 5-9, 2024



# Close Up: Who We Are

- Close Up is the nation's premier non-profit civic education organization.
- Our mission is to inspire, engage and empower students to become active citizens.
- Open and available to all students.
- Nearly 1,000,000 alumni.
- Endorsed by:
  - National Association of Secondary School Principals
  - National Middle School Association
  - Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools
  - National Council for the Social Studies
  - Student & Youth Travel Association



# Our Guiding Principles

- **Curriculum:** Our instructors turn DC into a living classroom to connect students with the people, institutions and monuments that represent our nation and to build connections between our past and future.
- **Diversity:** We are committed to serving students across the country from different backgrounds and ethnicities to enrich program.
- **Nonpartisanship:** Our goal is not to tell students what to think but give them the skills needed to analyze policy issues for themselves.
- **Ongoing learning:** We provide activities that students can do for pre-program preparation and post-program reflection.



# CLOSE UP MIDDLE SCHOOL - WASHINGTON, DC & PHILADELPHIA



## 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 who you will spend the week with and **get to know your Close Up Program Instructor**

### Workshop: Understanding the Role of a Citizen\*

What actions can citizens take to participate in democracy?

\*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

### Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Study Visit\*\*

Examine the impact individual actions can have on the government

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Study Visit

Look at the effect civil rights movements can have on the country

### Lunch at L'Enfant Plaza

**Thomas Jefferson Memorial Study Visit**  
What current issues have the greatest impact on your generation?

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

**Arlington National Cemetery**  
Visit this hallowed ground and witness the Changing of the Guard

### Dinner at Pentagon City Mall

**Workshop: Characteristics of a Good Law**  
Consider the challenges of creating laws



## TUESDAY

**Congressional Deliberation**  
Examine pressing national issues & deliberate on policy options

**White House Study Visit**  
Discuss the role of the executive branch as you walk through the president's neighborhood

### Lunch at Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center

**Capitol Hill Study Visit**  
Walk the halls of Congress to get a first-hand look at how the legislative branch works

### Capitol Hill Group Photo

**Exploration at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History**  
Discover history and culture at this world-renowned museum

### Dinner at Hard Rock Café

**Evening Monuments on the National Mall**  
Visit the WWII, Korean War, Vietnam, and Lincoln Memorials as they illuminate the night sky



## WEDNESDAY

### Depart for Philadelphia, PA

### National Constitution Center

Take a journey through the Constitution in this interactive history museum

### Lunch at Philly Gourmet Steaks

**Independence Park and Philadelphia's Historic District**  
Find yourself surrounded by American history

**Independence Hall:** Visit the birthplace of our nation

**Liberty Bell:** Visit the iconic symbol of American Independence

### Congress Hall

**President's House:** Discuss the irony of slavery during America's early years of independence

### Dinner in Philadelphia

### Depart for Washington, DC



## THURSDAY

### Workshop: Citizenship Send-Off

Set goals and identify ways in which you can be more active and involved in your community

**Smithsonian Museum of Natural History Study Visit and Lunch**  
Explore the history of the natural world through this collection of 145 million specimens and artifacts

### The National Mall

### Depart for Home

“Close Up brought me closer to politics!”

— MARGARET, STUDENT, NY



Hear more from Close Up teachers, students, and parents!

# Supervision and Security

- Night monitors at each hotel throughout the night.
- Program Instructors receive 120+ hours of training, are certified in CPR/First Aid, have undergone criminal background checks and are with students at all times when exploring sites.
- All schedules include detailed information for each site, lodging and time of events.
- Close Up nametags, worn throughout the program, include an emergency hotline number manned 24/7.
- Close Up has an exclusive partnership with Georgetown University Children's Medical Center (GUCMC) and a Student Needs Assistant on program to help when students are ill.
- Regarding COVID-19 precautions, we will follow current CDC guidelines.

\* Parent chaperones will not be needed.



# Program Cost

- **COST**– \$2,067 (all-inclusive)
  - \$500 non-refundable deposit by 11/17/2023
  - Final payment by 2/16/2024
- Online Enrollment Form
  - Payments go directly through school using InTouch payment system
- Travel Insurance
  - Families would purchase their own personal travel insurance if so inclined
- Cancellation Policy
  - Initial \$500 payment is non-refundable and non-transferrable.
  - No refunds made after 02/16/2024



# Payment Process

Option #1 - Direct payments to the school using InTouch System (same as used for Athletics)

Option #2 - Tax Credit donation in the name of your student earmarked for the DC trip.

- Non-refundable
- \$200/\$400 for single/couple, or multiple years

Option #3 - Scholarships given to KMS's Gifts & Donations

KMS will then pay Close Up your deposit and then the full amount.

# Academic and Behavioral Criteria

- Maintain passing grades in all classes (including Advisory/IB Projects)
- No off-campus suspensions between now and the date of the trip
- Students may not be a member of the Tardy Group

Students who do not meet the requirements will not be permitted on the field trip. No refunds will be made after February 16, 2024





# Interest Form

We will send out the link to the interest form to all 8th grade families, or parents/guardians may access it at:

[www.Bit.ly/3QP4cns](http://www.Bit.ly/3QP4cns) (case sensitive)

# Application

Once we have interest forms, we will send out the field trip application. Note that there is a student writing prompt that must be completed for consideration. Completion of the application does not guarantee acceptance.

Application due date October 16, 2023

# QUESTIONS?

