

# **CLOSE UP - Washington D.C.**

**May 4 to May 10, 2013**

## **PROGRAM**

**May 4 to May 10**

**The Close Up Program is all inclusive.** It pays for you from the first Sunday night when things begin with a 7:00 PM dinner to our Friday afternoon departure. Food is included (aside from Saturday when we arrive). The hotel and transportation is also paid for. Most all DC Museums are free...if not Close Up covers the cost. We also will attend a theatre performance at the JFK Center or Ford's Theatre. Ticket cost approximately \$45 is included in the final Close Up cost. Spending money is up to you. As for Deposits...we've got one and I'm trying to push it to February 1, is \$300 it is non-refundable. I will let you know when the balance for the trip is due.

**Program Cost: \$1289**

## **FLIGHT**

**Chicago O'Hare to Washington Reagan National Airport**

**Flight Out May 4 - Return Flight May 10**

**Saturday May 4 - 10:53 to 1:39 / Friday May 10 - 3:34 to 4:33** Final Ticket cost - balanced by MAISD donation (\$225) Extra \$25 per traveler. Included in the cost is \$50 for gas for a parent to car pool students to Chicago. We will need one driver each way in addition to Mr. Wood. The remainder (\$100) is for parking Mr. Wood's car for a week at O'Hare. This will be partial payment for gas and parking. He will cover the remainder out of pocket.

**Cost Estimate: \$250**

## **HOTEL - extra night stay (May 4, 2013)**

**Key Bridge Marriott Hotel / 1401 Lee Highway Arlington, VA**

A feature of the Oakridge Close Up Program is an extra day and a half in Washington D.C used to explore the area on our own. Close Up will house us Sunday through Thursday night at the Key Bridge Marriott. Oakridge High School administration (beginning with Stan Fortuna in the 1990's) in an effort to enrich the experience has covered our first night's stay in the hotel - off of program. For convenience sake we stay at the same hotel as Close Up. We will cram 4 to a room to cut costs - however this gives us an entire extra day and a half in Washington D.C.

**Cost Estimate: \$0**

before Close Up Starts. Mr. McVoy has agreed to pay for our two rooms for one night at the Key Bridge Motel. Make sure that you stop by and tell him "Thanks."

## **Extra day / night/ day travel (May 4 & 5, 2013)**

### **Throughout the D.C. area**

Close Up officially starts at 7:00 PM on Sunday night. We have Saturday, Saturday night, and all day Sunday to explore D.C. on our own. I do think this day and a half makes the Oakridge Program a far more enriching experience. When

**Cost Estimate: variable**

we arrive Saturday afternoon, we will take the Metro from the airport, we will drop our bags at the hotel and head out to the Adams Morgan neighborhood for lunch. From there we will walk to Dupont Circle. Dupont is a very cool area of D.C. It also serves as a focal point for the embassies of the world. We will roam Dupont. After that, it's back to the hotel for a rest. About 10:00 PM we return to the Metro and ride down to the Mall. From 10:00 to 2:00 we walk the monuments - at night. They are lit. They are safe. They are enchanting...it's a memorable experience; Washington to Jefferson to FDR to King to Lincoln to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and back to the subway and the hotel sometime long after midnight. Sunday, we get up, eat breakfast and it's back to D.C. We will decide as a group what to do, however that choice usually includes the Flea Market at Eastern Market. Eastern Market is an eclectic Capitol Hill Neighborhood that features a Sunday afternoon market complete with music and food and fleas. We'll go. Another interesting experience is the Drum Circle at Malcolm X Park. I've taken kids up there for years...scores of drummers of all ages and nationalities show up in the nice weather and drum together for hours into the late afternoon. People bring kids and dance and play and enjoy. It is one dynamic experience. Then it's back to Dupont - or whatever else the group decides. By 5:00 we'll be back at the hotel, cleaned up and ready for our 7:00 PM introductory dinner, with a grand experience of D.C. travel already under our belt. Costs for the extra day and a half are limited to Metro subway fare (approx \$20) and food. Forty bucks should be plenty.

## **M.A.I.S.D.**

### **Muskegon Intermediate School**

### **District Donation**

**Donation: 2013 / \$250**

Each year the MAISD provides a stipend to every Muskegon County Close Up traveler. It is a very very nice donation. We have been told that this year's donation will run approximately \$250. If we play our cards right - it should be just enough to cover our flight costs.

# **Fellowships from Close Up**

## **Free and Reduced Lunch Qualifiers - \$900 or more**

**If we have ten travelers** we are assured of at least one \$900 Fellowship to be divided up among all of those students who are going and qualify; if we have more than one who qualifies we may be able to get more Fellowships. If we have less I might be able to swing us a partial fellowship. Whatever total dollar amount we receive will be divided up among those who qualify. If you qualify for free and reduced lunch - you qualify for a Fellowship. With less than ten travelers I'll do my best to squeeze something out of the Foundation - but I cannot promise anything.

Everything else - food, street fair, museums, and other stuff is on you.

**That is it! You get a real good bang for your buck in Close Up. With the donation from the MAISD** airfare is covered. **By traveling on our own - we save so much money - Close up airfare out of Grand Rapids is \$400 plus. And all you get for that is a van ride by Close Up from the airport to the hotel. Also, by setting up our own extra day we save another \$100 - \$150. And with help from the School that covers our hotel that first night we can actually go a day and a half extra for no additional cost.**

**Close Up is a great bargain. And it is wonderful experience. I hope you can join us.**

**It looks as though a final bill for 2013 for the entire trip INCLUDING the extra day and the flight will be \$1289. That's not too shabby guys...not too shabby at all.**

**See you in Washington D.C.,**

# **FINAL COST ESTIMATE- \$1289**