

**ABOUT CLOSE UP**

Close Up is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that educates and inspires young people to become informed and engaged citizens.

For more than 45 years, Close Up has partnered with schools across the country to design challenging and hands-on civic, history, and government based educational programs. Close Up programs complement classroom learning, develop critical thinking skills, and provide students with practical opportunities to connect their classroom studies to present-day events.

**PROGRAM INCLUDES:**

- All program logistics and planning;
- Top notch instruction from trained educators;
- Custom designed curriculum and program schedule;
- Light breakfast;
- Lunch; and
- Liability insurance.

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW:** This program will focus on the actions local government can take to address issues that were identified by students during the Rally to the Tally program in the previous school year. The first day will begin with a panel of county/local government officials (executive branch officials who are experts on related issues) that will interact with students based on issues they raised in their proposals. Students will then work in their same committees and subcommittees to revise their proposals in order to focus on local government action. In committee, they will also create poster presentations of their revised policy proposals to be presented to local/county government officials (such as the city council or school board). On the second day of the program, students will set up their posters in an expo/museum format. Government officials will then be able to interact with students on a one on one basis to ask questions about their proposals.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017**

- 8:00 AM **Welcome & Orientation**
- 8:30 AM **Local Issues Panel**  
Local executive branch officials will answer previously prepared student questions related to their policy proposals
- 9:45 AM **Break**
- 10:00 AM **Committee Session 1**  
Revise Policy Proposals: What actions can local government take to address these issues?
- 11:30 AM **Lunch**



- 12:30 PM **Committee Session 2**  
Continue revisions and begin work on poster presentations for policy proposals
- 1:30 PM **Depart for Schools**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2017**

- 8:00 AM **Committee Session 3**  
Continue work on poster presentations
- 9:30 AM **Set up poster exhibits**  
Museum style around the room
- 10:00 AM **Welcome to Government Officials**  
Visitors will be introduced and invited to speak to students briefly as a large group
- 10:30 AM **Proposal Presentations**  
Government Officials will walk around the poster exhibits and interact with students and their proposals
- 12:00 PM **Lunch**



- 1:00 PM **Reflection**  
Students will reflect on their presentations and plan for future action in subcommittees
- 1:30 PM **Depart for Schools**



## OUR PROGRAM & MISSION

Close Up is a nonprofit that educates and inspires young people to become informed and engaged citizens. For more than 45 years, Close Up has pursued its mission by providing challenging, hands-on civic, history, and government based education programs for students and teachers in Washington, DC and on local programs. Using the nation's capital as a living classroom, participants get a "close up" view of government and democracy in action.

Since 1971, over 850,000 students and teachers have participated in our programs. Our participants come from all 50 states, U.S. territories, and Puerto Rico, as well as a growing number of countries around the world. Over 20,000 students and teachers have participated in our programs from the state of Florida. Our curriculum and instructional methods are designed to ensure full inclusion, engagement, and achievement among a broadly diverse population of student participants. Moreover, we craft a variety of civic education programs to serve the interests of schools, constituencies, and organizations seeking specifically focused curriculum or content themes.

In designing our programs and building a network of support for their success, we work closely with teachers, administrators, parents, and students nationwide, as well as with longstanding partners and funders such as the U.S. Congress, the Department of Education, and C-SPAN. Our programs are approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

## TESTIMONIALS

*"Thank you for the opportunity for my daughter to learn, share and grow."*

– Milagros Ramirez, Cypress Bay High School, Parent

*"I left on May 26th as a normal student from Piper High School and I returned on May 29th as a future leader."*

– Camila Jesus, Piper High School, Student

*"The planning and execution on the part of the CLOSE UP organization was highly commendable. In addition to all of the educational attributes (reading, writing, listening, speaking, analytical thinking, problem solving, etc.), Broward County's character traits were exercised by students and adults throughout the week. As well, the students built their self-confidence and self-esteem; I have no doubt that they can now withstand challenges and adversity even better. This trip will also make me a better teacher/mentor/chaperone in many ways. Thank you for a wonderful experience. I hope this program thrives and continues to expand; it is well worth the investment."*

– Liz Brady, Coral Springs High School, Teacher