

Read what some of the 2011 winners had to say!

This trip to Washington D.C. was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. Millions of people visit our nation's capital, but few experience it such as we did.

I was pleasantly surprised by the independence we were given to explore the museums, monuments, and Congressional buildings. My experience was enriched by being allowed to discover things on my own as opposed to structured tours and strict schedules.

The Model Congress helped me realize the tedious work that goes into law making.

Our visit to Dumbarton House and the reception that followed from the Colonial Dames was a nice way to share our thoughts and appreciation for the opportunity to take this unforgettable trip.

The concept itself of students from all over the country and so many different backgrounds gathering in one place to discuss their viewpoints on current events and government was my favorite part. I am from a very small state, so it was so interesting for me to meet students from Texas, California, and Hawaii and to be introduced to other cultures within our country in such a close atmosphere.

Through this seminar I had the opportunity to explore and immerse myself in the rich history and resources of our nation's capital. I walked in George Washington's footsteps at Mount Vernon, honored the brave soldiers who gave their lives for our freedom at Arlington National Cemetery, and witnessed injustice, horror, and sorrow at the Holocaust Museum.

This seminar gave me the rare opportunity to meet with my senators and representative. I was delighted to meet the distinguished leaders who are advocating and passing the legislation that directs and advances our nation.

Besides learning a great deal, I had a lot of fun!

This was the first time for me to travel alone by plane. (But) my favorite part was being on my own and having to make my own decisions. Unpacking my bags in the spacious, lofty dorm made me feel like it was my first day of college. I felt like a young adult.

Thank you to the Colonial Dames for sponsoring me to be a part of this trip. I am truly grateful for this unforgettable experience in Washington. I have nothing but great things to say about my time spent there.

The combination of all the speakers opened my eyes to many ideas I had never before considered.

An amazing aspect of the trip was getting to see monumental sites in D.C. I was completely overwhelmed!

My favorite part of the week would have to be our tour of the Pentagon. I noticed that almost every place we visited, like the Pentagon, had a memorial of some sort to the victims of the September 11th attacks. I really appreciated the fact that so many citizens in our nation's capital have put in the time and effort to remember those who lost their lives that day.

Thank you, Colonial Dames, for sponsoring this great experience. It was one of the most enriching programs I have participated in. I cannot thank you enough for all your generosity and kindness.

Thank you for enabling me to participate in this incredible, meaningful, and eye-opening experience. I will never forget the interactions I have made and the knowledge and understanding I have gained.

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