ABA Division for Public Education

For over thirty years, the American Bar Association Division for Public Education has been committed to promoting public understanding of law and its vital role in our society. The Division offers law-related resources and programs to diverse audiences, including educators, students, journalists, legal professionals, opinion leaders, and the general public. For more information, visit www.ambar.org/civacademy

Close Up

Close Up’s mission is to inform, inspire and empower young people to become active citizens in our democracy. Since 1971, Close Up has welcomed more than 750,000 students and teachers from across the country and around the world for week-long educational programs in Washington, DC. Close Up actively seeks to provide opportunities for all students regardless of their socioeconomic level or prior academic success. For more information, visit www.closeup.org.

Questions?
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2019 National Civics & Law Academy

Selected students will be attending the 8th annual National Civics & Law Academy from March 10-14, 2019 in Washington, D.C. The ABA program is hosted in cooperation with the Close Up Foundation. Selected students are asked to submit a letter of recommendation, a recent academic transcript, and a one-page statement detailing their interest in attending the NCLA by January 18, 2019.

The National Academy Experience

The Academy is a unique educational opportunity for a select group of high school students to visit the nation’s capital to learn about and experience law, government, and the justice system in the United States. Students examine public policy issues from diverse perspectives, develop citizenship and leadership skills, and meet peers from throughout the nation.

During the Academy students will:
- Meet with national leaders in law & government in small group settings
- Learn about pathways to legal education and legal careers
- Tour historic sites, museums, monuments, and various government agencies.

You can view schedules, photos, and video of previous Academies at www.ambar.org/civacademy

Associated Costs

The program is all-inclusive (all meals, lodging, entrance fees and transportation costs are covered). However participants are responsible for any airline baggage fees. For details, check your airline’s website once your flight has been confirmed by Close Up. Program participants will also be responsible for incidentals, including souvenirs and food during travel to and from Washington, D.C. Travel details will be provided to National Civics & Law Academy participants after completion of the Close Up online registration process.

Hotel Information

Participants will stay four to a room, with roommates selected by Close Up staff. Hotel Information is TBD in January 2019.

www.ambar.org/civacademy
### Sample Schedule

#### Sunday
- Close Up Staff airport pickup
- Arrive at hotel (check-in)
- Meet ABA & Close Up Staff
- **Workshop:** “How politically effective are you?” Learn more about the skills that are essential for citizens in a democracy.
- **Domestic Issues Debate:** Students will examine multiple points of view on a variety of topics facing policy makers today and consider their own involvement in public life.

#### Monday
- **Young Leaders in Law & Government Roundtable Discussions:** Students will have the opportunity to talk in small groups with young leaders who have all attended law school and have chosen very different career paths.
- **American University College of Law Visit:** Students will participate in a moot court activity with law students from the Marshall Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project.
- **Legal Issues & the Community:** Students meet with a legal or community organization to learn the role that law plays in criminal justice or immigration issues.
- **Lincoln, WWII, Korea and Vietnam Memorial Study Visits:** Discuss just war theory and examine the role that the public, Congress and the President have during times of national crisis.
- **Judicial Interpretation Workshop**

#### Tuesday
- **Capitol Hill Day:** Students meet with current or former members of Congress and tour the historic Capitol Building.
- **Embassy Seminar & Tour:** Students will learn about the role that embassies play in supporting relations with other countries.
- **Museum Visit**
- **Evening Event:** Students will attend an evening group activity.

#### Wednesday
- **U.S. Diplomacy Center at the U.S. Department of State:** Students will work together on a global issue as they participate in an interactive simulation. Students will also meet with someone who works at the U.S. Department of State.
- **Supreme Court Seminar & Tour**
- **Reflections & Wrap-Up:** Students reflect on the week, complete evaluations, learn about the NCLA alumni network, and write thank-you letters to sponsors.
- **Closing Dinner with ABA & Close Up Staff:** Presentation of student NCLA certificates.
- **Nighttime National Monuments & Memorial Study Visit:** Students will visit the Jefferson Memorial and the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial.

#### Thursday
- **Depart for Home**

“The NCLA is a life changing experience! I honestly have a better understanding of myself after participating in this program.”

*Sierra, Philadelphia, PA  
2015 National Civics and Law Alumna*

“Due to NCLA’s emphasis on diversity, I have been surrounded by amazingly driven youth that encourage me to go back to my community and incentivize more people like me to get involved in law so that our voices are heard.”

*Ana, Norman, OK  
2017 National Civics and Law Alumna*