

# WASHINGTON 2009

CST 2080389-40

Dear Parents:

SEPTEMBER 2008

BAL/CAB

Once again we will be offering an extraordinary educational experience to interested eighth grade students through our annual tour of Washington, D. C., Williamsburg, Mount Vernon, Monticello, Philadelphia, and Gettysburg. As in the past, the tour, a non-school activity, will be custom designed to ensure participants a rich learning experience as well as an exciting trip. Students will depart Friday evening, March 27<sup>th</sup> and return Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. **A SPECIAL INFORMATION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>th</sup>, AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE BALBOA MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA.**

As teachers, we have seen the value of educational tour programs which stress structured learning experiences through the excitement of travel. Over the past thirty-one years we have been able to refine and improve our trip. The result is a stimulating educational program, tailor-made for our students, designed much like a lesson plan using the nation's Capital and historic sites as our classroom.

Planned sites in Washington include: the Washington Monument, the Jefferson, Lincoln & Roosevelt Memorials, the war memorials to WWII, Korea and Vietnam, the Smithsonian Institute, the Holocaust museum, the Newseum, and much more. Students will also have special tours of the Capitol and, schedule permitting, meetings with their elected representatives.

In addition to all this, students will spend an entire day in historic Williamsburg and Jamestown. Through privately escorted tours and evening programs, students are literally able to "walk back into history." We will also visit the battlefield at Gettysburg, tour Jefferson's estate at Monticello, Washington's estate at Mt. Vernon, and Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

Students will depart from Los Angeles aboard a regularly scheduled airline. Once in Washington, we will enjoy deluxe, restroom-equipped, recliner buses with experienced drivers. Students will be chaperoned throughout the trip. Nights will be spent in a deluxe accommodation such as a Sheraton, Hyatt, Marriott or comparable hotel with interior hallways. Rooms are well appointed with two large beds, cable TV, etc. Students will be allowed to select their own roommates; four students are assigned to each room.

All meals are provided during the trip. Breakfasts and dinners will usually be buffet style, affording a variety of entrees. Most lunches are from food courts, or fast food restaurants where students may select whatever they wish.

The complete cost of the tour is \$1,564 per person\*. This includes: airfare, airport transfers, lodging, sightseeing, all meals, all admissions, supervision, guide fees, tips, and the performance at the Kennedy Center. As in the past, we will offer the *Guaranteed Price Option*, which insures against price increases, excluding any fuel, luggage, or airport surcharges added by transportation providers prior to departure.

From past experience we know that the trip will provide students with a learning experience and friendships that will last a lifetime. The attached registration form, instructions, and sample itinerary on the back of this page should answer most questions. If you have any additional questions, please visit our website: [www.traveled2dc.com](http://www.traveled2dc.com), or contact us at home in the evenings: Jan Timmons at (805) 449-9258, Dan Fitzpatrick at (805) 676-1681, Susan Dudley at (805) 766-2041, Tom Johnsen at (805) 499-1569 or Don Zimring at (818) 991-9059. **Since this is not a school-sponsored program, PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL OR THE DISTRICT OFFICE.**

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,

Jan Timmons

Dan Fitzpatrick  
Susan Dudley

Don Zimring  
Tom Johnsen

\*Based on airfares and land rates at the time of printing. Final tour costs, unless paid via the "GUARANTEED PRICE OPTION", will reflect the rates at the time of final billing.

Sample Itinerary

Day 1 - Fri	Day 2 - Sat	Day 3 - Sun	Day 4 - Mon	Day 5 - Tues	Day 6 - Wed
Early arrival Philly Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Independence Hall, Liberty Bell, Mint	Gettysburg Tour	Mt. Vernon Arlington Cemetery	Ford's Theatre	Jamestown Palace Tour	Smithsonian
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Tavern Lunch	Lunch on Mall
Amish Country	Monuments Capitol Tour/App't	Holocaust Museum BEP	Monticello	Williamsburg Tour	Smithsonian
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Return Flight
	Archives Library of Congress	Kennedy Center		Evening Activity	
Overnight - Gettysburg	Overnight - D.C.	Overnight - D.C.	Overnight - Wmsbrg	Overnight - Wmsbrg	

**INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE SELLER OF TRAVEL LAW**

The following information is provided to comply with section 17550.15 of the Seller of Travel law. Please address all written inquiries to: TravelEd, P.O. Box 521, Agoura Hills, Ca 91376. You may reach us by phone at: 818-991-9059 (Don Zimring) or 805-499-1569 (Tom Johnson). The monies deposited for this trip will be held in account at the Ventura County Business Bank (#027002096). Our groups will utilize scheduled airline flights. The exact time of departure, type of aircraft and other pertinent flight information will be provided with the final billing. In the event of cancellation of transportation through no fault of the participant, all sums paid to TravelEd, less any monies retained by land or air carriers will be promptly refunded unless the person advises TravelEd in writing to do otherwise.

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**REGISTRATION:** Space is **limited**. Registrations will be accepted initially at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> and thereafter through the mail. Only registrations that are complete, including both signatures, accompanied by the student contract and deposit check, will be accepted. If the registrations received that night exceed the space available, a lottery drawing will be held. Those not selected in the initial draw will be placed on a waitlist, and notified of space availability as cancellations are received. (Participation on the trip is contingent upon both student behavior and academic performance. Students must maintain a "C" average in all classes.) You may mail registration form and payment to:

**TravelEd**  
**P. O. Box 521**  
**Agoura Hills, CA 91376**

You may select from two methods of deposit to suit your individual needs (sorry, no credit cards):

**GUARANTEED DEPOSIT:** A deposit of \$500 received by Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, will reserve space, if available, and guarantee that the final tour price, will not be increased.\* The balance will be due approximately six weeks prior to departure.

**SPACE DEPOSIT:** A deposit of \$275 will reserve space, if available. The tour price is based on airfares and land rates at the time of printing. The final tour price will reflect any price increases that occur prior to final payment. The balance will be due approximately six weeks prior to departure.

**SPECIAL CLASSES:** One of the primary factors that has made our tours so successful has been the special classes conducted prior to departure. Each class deals with a different aspect of the trip and will help the students more fully appreciate everything they will see and do. The classes will cover topics ranging from government and law to photography and travel tips. These mandatory classes will be held the three Mondays prior to departure.

**INSURANCE:** Students are required to show proof of medical/accident insurance as part of registration. Accident insurance and/or trip cancellation insurance is available and may be purchased separately along with flight insurance. For information on these policies please contact Travel Guard at 800-826-2530.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** It is hereby understood by all participants that TravelEd, its chaperons or agents, are agents for the purpose of writing tickets for transportation and making arrangements for tours, lodging, and accommodations only and we are not liable for any and all claims, suits, actions, delays, inconveniences, strikes, wars, injury or any other expenses of any kind or nature caused by the tickets or arising out of their issuance for travel, transportation, baggage handling or any other type of difficulty stemming from participation in this trip not caused by the gross negligence of the aforementioned parties. Participants are required to provide a completed Medical Release/Discipline form and proof of medical insurance. TravelEd has complied with the Seller of Travel law.

**REFUNDS:** We hope you will not have to cancel. The trip is an exceptional educational experience. If you find you must cancel, please notify TravelEd in writing immediately. Your deposit, less a \$100.00 service charge plus any airline penalties will be refunded if written notice is received postmarked by January 23, 2009. For cancellations postmarked after January 23<sup>rd</sup>, but prior to ten days before departure, \$250.00 of any monies deposited along with airline penalties will be retained. Cancellations received ten days or less before departure will receive a 50% refund, after any airline penalties are paid. Please be advised that airline cancellation penalties can include non-refundable tickets. In such instances, the price of the ticket will serve as the airline penalty and the ticket will be included along with any refund due. Students sent home early for disciplinary reasons are not entitled to a refund. If the trip is cancelled by TravelEd, registrants will receive a full refund.

**QUESTIONS? VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.traveled2dc.com](http://www.traveled2dc.com)**  
**OR CALL US AT HOME IN THE EVENINGS OR ON THE WEEKENDS**  
**TOM JOHNSEN 805-499-1569 OR DON ZIMRING 818-991-9059**

**(THIS IS NOT A SCHOOL TRIP: PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL OR DISTRICT OFFICE.)**

\*Final price may be adjusted based on any fuel/luggage/airport surcharges added by the airlines. Guaranteed Price Option becomes invalid due to war, terrorist attack, strike, bankruptcy or natural disaster which causes a change in airline availability.

# Spring Break in Washington, D. C.

## Student Behavior Contract

I understand that the Spring Break trip to Washington, D. C. is a non-school, voluntary activity. In order to participate successfully on this trip I must have an interest in the history of the United States. I also understand that I must maintain a grade of "C" or better in all my classes.

I understand that the behavior expectations for this trip are very high. I must be able to follow directions, obey group rules, abide by a strict dress code and **NOT** push any limits.

I understand that I must demonstrate a positive, cooperative, and respectful attitude towards other students and all adults during the trip.

I understand that my behavior, attitude and academic performance at school will serve as the 'proof' that I truly understand the expectations for this trip. I understand that receiving a "U" in citizenship in any class at the semester will prevent me from participating in this trip.

I understand that failure to follow these requirements between now and the departure of this trip will prevent me from participating in this trip.

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Student Name (please print)

School

By signing this contract I accept the challenge to be the best student and person I can be:

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Student Signature

Date

By signing this contract I acknowledge that I have discussed all of the above with my child and will help him/her meet these expectations:

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Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

# WASHINGTON 2009 – REGISTRATION FORM

(Printed from Web Page – Behavior Expectations on next page)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Last Name (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

M/F \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Social Studies Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate which deposit plan you wish to use. Make check or money order payable to TravelEd. (Sorry no credit cards.) Please mail (do not bring to school) your deposit with this completed form, signed by both parent and student to:

TravelEd, P. O. Box 521, Agoura Hills, CA 91376

(Checks returned for any reason are subject to a \$25.00 fee and cancellation of registration.)

GUARANTEED PRICE OPTION (\$500) \_\_\_\_\_ SPACE DEPOSIT (\$275) \_\_\_\_\_

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please list any and all prescription drugs taken by the above named student. For liability reasons, chaperons may not dispense medication or perform medical procedures. (Attach additional pages as needed for any medical information.)

<u>DRUG</u>	<u>PRESCRIPTION #</u>	<u>DOCTOR</u>	<u>CONDITION BEING TREATED</u>

Please list non-prescription drugs (aspirin, etc.) that you DO NOT wish your child to have:

Please list any allergies or other medical or psychological conditions the chaperons should be aware of such as asthma, epilepsy, diabetes, etc. This information helps us to ensure the safety of your child.

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions set out on this and the attached forms. I hereby authorize TravelEd, chaperons and/or any agent working with or for TravelEd to arrange for emergency medical services as may be required by trip exigencies. I voluntarily release, discharge, waive and relinquish TravelEd, its officers, chaperones and agents from any liability or claims including, but not limited to, claims for bodily injury, emotional distress, property damage/loss, or wrongful death arising from actions other than willful and gross negligence. I attest that any and all pre-existing medical conditions which have required medical or psychiatric care have been noted above. I understand this is NOT a school-sponsored activity and is in no way affiliated with the school district. Furthermore, I understand that the above named student must abide by all disciplinary rules set forth on the reverse side of this page as well as verbal directions given by chaperons on the tour. Failure to do so may result in the student being sent home early from the trip with any additional costs for such action becoming my sole responsibility and with NO refund of any monies paid.

Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE BE SURE TO READ THE DISCIPLINARY SECTION**

# Student Behavior Expectations

The Washington Trip provides a once in a lifetime learning experience for students. The trip is planned to provide an exciting and fun-filled week that will bring alive many of the classroom and textbook experiences students have had. The chaperons take pride in the program they offer and enjoy the trip as much as the students. The success, however, is based not only on a carefully planned itinerary, but on a positive attitude toward learning and a high level of commitment from the students as well. To this end, students must adhere to a higher standard of discipline and self-control than is needed in a normal school routine. Students who cannot meet these standards may be sent home early at their parents' expense with no refund of any monies paid. We don't want that to happen. The following is a general guide to the behavior expectations we have for the students.

Students are expected to demonstrate respect and courtesy to everyone they meet during the trip. The maintenance of harmonious working relationships, particularly with guides and others in authority positions, is essential for our continued success. This is fundamental for ALL participants.

Violation of any laws, particularly possession of drugs, alcohol, tobacco or other harmful items, will result in immediate return home at the parents' expense with no refund and/or detention by local authorities.

**IDENTIFICATION** – Students must carry a picture I. D. at all times, as it will be required at the airport, at several sites and for most meals.

**ON THE AIRCRAFT** – Flying is exciting regardless of age. However, having a 100+ students on a single aircraft requires discipline and cooperation. Students may not roam the plane or “hang out” in the aisles. Using the restroom should be the only reason for leaving one's seat. We encourage students to rest or even sleep. Others on the flight will be trying to do so, so students' behavior needs to be respectful of that. Do not use the flight attendant call button unless there is an emergency. When the aircraft lands, students must remain in their seats until the chaperons have given directions for debarkation.

**ON THE ROAD** – Students will spend a good deal of time on the buses, which are luxury recliner coaches with restrooms. No eating, drinking or gum chewing is permitted on the bus. Music devices are allowed, provided they do not disturb others and that they are put away whenever a chaperon or driver is speaking on the public address system. Our drivers/guides have a wealth of information to provide, but will not do so, if you appear bored or disinterested.

**VISITING SITES** – Students will be surrounded by their nation's history and culture. While it will be exciting, we must act with the respect these sites deserve. These historic and national treasures hold memories and values that are important to many people. It is unacceptable to detract from that atmosphere by running, climbing, yelling or chewing gum. When a guide is talking at a site, students must be attentive and not talk or “play around.”

**HOTELS** – Students will be expected to strictly adhere to hotel behavior standards and curfew rules. Many other patrons use the facility; their right to not be disturbed must be respected. Students are not permitted to “hang out” in the lobby, hallways or in the rooms of other students.

**ATTIRE** – The normal school dress code will be in effect on the trip. “Gang” style clothing or accessories are not permitted. Students will be expected to dress appropriately for their evening at the theatre. A clothing list is available on our website and will appear on the back of trip Talk #1 in the Spring.

**FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE ABOVE RULES MAY RESULT IN THE STUDENT BEING SENT HOME EARLY AT THE PARENTS' EXPENSE WITH NO REFUND PROVIDED.**

*(REVERSE SIDE MUST BE SIGNED BY BOTH PARENT AND STUDENT, AND RETURNED WITH PAYMENT FOR REGISTRATION TO BE PROCESSED.)*