

Support The Journey to D.C.



Students in the Urban University Youth Leadership Program are engaged in a year-long journey exploring history, civics, government, law, and leadership through interactive learning experiences. Their work will culminate in a four-day educational trip to Washington, D.C., where they will experience our nation's government and history firsthand.

If you would like to help make this opportunity possible, please consider making a donation via this [link](#), QR code below or by check. Checks can be made out to the “Erie City Mission” with “UU/Washington D.C.” in memo. Your support is more than a gift—it’s an investment in the next generation of leaders in our community. Be sure to read our students’ “Why” statements to learn what this experience means to them.



Student WHY statements:

“Urban University has changed my life since I started over two years ago. It’s an amazing community filled with mentors and peers who truly care about you and make you feel welcome. I recently took the Constitution Alive course, which is one of the classes leading up to our trip to Washington, D.C. Learning about the Founders’ intentions for a free republic has inspired me and made me even more excited for the trip. I’ve learned so much about our country’s history and why I should be proud to be an American and understand what I stand for. I feel really blessed to be part of Urban University and to have opportunities like this.”

Jovie, 9th Grade

“I would like to go on this trip because taking the Constitution Alive course and the Erie History Investigators course this summer has really sparked my interest in learning more about the history of the United States. Urban University makes learning these subjects fun because we learn by doing. Visiting Washington, D.C. has been a dream of mine for a long time—it’s been one of the main things on my bucket list.”

Shaun, 8th Grade

“This trip to Washington, D.C. is important to me because I want to continue expanding my knowledge of U.S. history, especially as I recognize that I am part of our nation’s future. This will be my first time visiting D.C., and I’m really excited. Through Urban University’s history courses, I’ve gained a new appreciation for the freedoms we have today because of the sacrifices made by those before me.”

Isley, 7th Grade

“I want to be part of this trip to Washington, D.C. because I’ve enjoyed history for as long as I can remember, and I want to experience it up close. I feel like it will bring everything I’ve learned to life. I’m also excited to learn even more and build deeper relationships with my peers. I think this trip will be a great opportunity to make new connections. Urban University has played a big role in my leadership growth, and I want to represent it to the best of my ability. I also want to continue developing these skills and learn how I can use them in the future to make a difference for others.”

Markus, 9th Grade

“The reason I want to go to Washington, D.C. is because I’ve always loved history, especially U.S. history, and I think visiting there would help me learn even more. Ever since taking the Constitution Alive course, my interest in history has grown a lot, and it’s made me want to keep learning. I would love the opportunity to see and experience so much of our country’s history in person.”

Savana, 8th Grade

“I’m so grateful for Urban University and Mr. Chris for offering the Constitution Alive course in February and the Erie History Investigators course this summer, which will lead into our trip to Washington, D.C. next spring. These experiences have given me a whole new perspective on our nation’s freedom and the privileges I have as an American. I don’t want to take those for granted, and I feel inspired to keep learning how I can make a positive impact through civic engagement and service.”

Michaela, 9th Grade