



We're going to Washington, DC!

To: 7th Grade Students and Parents of Chaska Middle School East
From: Pete Tornquist – Washington Trip Coordinator

Trip#: A415

I am thrilled to invite you on a once in a lifetime trip to our nation's capital to take place **October 18-21, 2023 (We will leave during the day on Wednesday – more details will come as the trip gets closer)**. 8th Grade students will experience first-hand the rich history of our nation by touring one of the world's most powerful cities. The Washington, DC experience challenges students to role-play life from the perspective of our founding fathers to the legislators and judges who write and interpret the laws of the land today. From Mount Vernon to the Smithsonian and a visit to the Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania, students are introduced to the sacrifices and heritage of our great nation, when they visit Arlington National Cemetery and the Vietnam, Korean, and Iwo Jima Memorials. Students gain a deeper understanding of our history, the consequences of choices, and of their role in shaping America's destiny.

Our tour, coordinated by **School Tours of America**, is non-school sponsored.

The all-inclusive, per-person tour price of:

\$1,699.00 (Quad occupancy)

Includes:

- STA's TRIPCare and TRIPSolutions travel system that helps keep travelers safe
- Round-trip transportation (*Carry-on luggage only – NO checked luggage*)
- Secure, quality hotel accommodations
- All meals
- Sightseeing with professional drivers and licensed guides
- Nighttime private security chaperones
- Evening Activities – Dinner Cruise and Illumination Tour of Memorials/Monuments
- 24-hour on-call company representatives at our hotel
- Comprehensive medical and accident insurance for students and chaperones

Safety and your peace of mind are always our first priority. Adult supervision will be provided at a ratio of 1:12. Chaperones will consist of CMSE Staff. School Tours of America provides the group with the additional security measures of 24-hour on-call representatives, a toll-free 24-hour phone number for both parents and students, and private security chaperones stationed on each floor where students are housed. Please see the STA TripCare travel guidelines, found on their website, that help schools and parents feel confident about the planning and touring process.

<https://www.schooltoursofamerica.com/tripcare-travel-with-confidence.html>

Space is limited and based on first come first serve! To register for the trip, go online through the website www.schooltoursofamerica.com and make the one-time registration payment of \$99.00 to reserve your spot. Confirmation and optional partial payment forms will be sent to you upon receipt of your registration. Initial registration is due by **March 1, 2023**. Once the trip fills up, a waitlist will be started. **Please read about and take advantage of the Payment Protection Program (PPP) that is explained on the enclosed registration form, cost is \$209 per person.** Final payment is due by **August 09, 2023**.

There will be an informational meeting to discuss this exciting opportunity mid-March, announcement with details to follow. **For more information, check out our East DC website at goo.gl/ma8Hun or contact Pete Tornquist at 952-556-7772 or TornquistJ@District112.org.** You may also call School Tours of America's Customer Service at 866-543-9625.

LET'S GO

2023 ECCS TRIP WASHINGTON, DC

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

- 2:00 pm:** Report to school
- 2:30 pm:** Depart for airport
Dinner Allotment (MSP Airport)
Travel to Washington, DC
- STA Representatives will meet you at baggage claim**
- 11:00 pm:** Check into Embassy Suites hotel
Security reports

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

- 7:30 am:** Breakfast Buffet
- 8:30 am:** Board motorcoach for guided sightseeing
White House Visitor's
Center & Photo stop
- 10:00 am:** Capitol Group Photo
- 10:30 am:** US Capitol Tour
Supreme Court
Library of Congress
- 12:00 pm:** Lunch Allotment Capitol Cafe
- 1:00 pm:** Jefferson Memorial
FDR Memorial
MLK Memorial
- 3:00 pm:** Mount Vernon: George Washington's Home
Mansion tour
- 6:00 pm:** City Cruises
Dinner & Dance
- 10:00 pm:** Return to hotel
Security reports



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

- 7:30 am:** Breakfast Buffet
- 8:30 am:** Board motorcoach for sightseeing
- 10:00 am:** US Naval Academy
- 12:00 am:** Lunch Dry Dock Restaurant
- 2:30 pm:** Holocaust Memorial Museum
- 4:00 pm:** Ford's Theatre
Petersen House
Education Center
Honest Abe's Souvenirs
- 5:45 pm:** Dinner Buca Di Beppo
- 7:00 pm:** Guided Night Tour
World War II Memorial
Korean Memorial
Lincoln Memorial
Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- 9:30 pm:** Return to hotel
Security reports

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST:

- 7:30 am:** Breakfast Buffet
Hotel check-out
- 8:30 am:** Board motorcoach for guided sightseeing
- 9:00 am:** Iwo Jima Memorial
- 9:30 am:** Arlington National Cemetery
Private Tram Tour
Kennedy Gravesites
Challenger Memorial
- 11:15 am:** Tomb of the Unknowns
Wreath Laying Ceremony
- 12:30 pm:** Lunch Allotment Pentagon City Mall
Food Court
- 1:30 pm:** Smithsonian Museums
Natural History Museum
Air & Space Museum
American History Museum
- 4:00 pm:** National Archives
- 5:00 pm:** Group arrives at airport
STA Rep will assist with departure
Dinner Allotment
Depart for MSP & transfer bus to school

LIFE IS UNPREDICTABLE, WHY TAKE THE RISK?

SECURE YOUR PAYMENTS WITH A PLAN YOU CAN TRUST.

We created the **Payment Protection Program (PPP)** because we understand that things happen: the flu spreads, family emergencies arise, jobs change, and sometimes your team makes it to the playoffs. With the Payment Protection Program, we've got your back.



PROTECTION - Protect your investment and receive a *Full Refund should you or your group need to cancel anytime prior to departure.



PEACE OF MIND - Your payments are covered from the moment you register. Return travel expenses are covered for family emergencies.



SIMPLICITY - To enroll, agree to the PPP when you register. You can also include the PPP in your payment schedule.

*For details see Terms and Conditions at
www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com/terms-conditions.html



EARN YOUR TRIP PRICE USING MYTOURFUND.COM

LOG IN

After registering for your trip, you are eligible for a free MyTourFund account.

LOVE IT

Personalize your page with pictures, video and your own unique message.

LAUNCH IT

Share your page with friends and family via social media and email.

Have questions? Call: 866.543.9625 or Visit: www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com

Trip Date: 10/18/23 - 10/21/23 For: Chaska Middle School East

REGISTER ONLINE NOW at www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com

Trip #: A415

Registration Type: ☐ Student ☐ Adult Traveler's Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Traveler's Full Legal Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)
Traveler's full legal name must be provided, as it appears on an official document to help assure airline and TSA compliance.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent's Cell Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Secondary Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Email: _____

☐ Enclosed is my check payable to School Tours of America in the amount of \$ _____ (Minimum payment of \$99 is required)

☐ Pay by credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ Amex

Credit Card #: _____ Amount to Charge: \$ _____ Exp.: ____ / ____ CVV: _____

Cardholder Name (print): _____

Signature: _____
By signing here, I have read and agree to STA's Terms & Conditions, which can be found at www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com/terms-conditions.html, and I confirm my PPP selection.

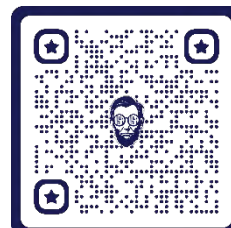
Please Select: ☐ I AGREE to protect my payments with the Payment Protection Program (recommended). ☐ I DECLINE to protect my payments with the Payment Protection Program, understanding that I may lose my money if the trip is canceled for any reason.

T-Shirt: \$20.00

☐ Youth L

Adult sizes:

☐ S ☐ M ☐ L
☐ XL ☐ XXL



SCAN ME

Everything is Included



Quality hotels



Transportation



Licensed guides



MyTourFund.com



Admissions / Sightseeing



Medical insurance



On-call physicians



Private security



Drawstring bag



Meals

IMPORTANT TOUR INFORMATION

Tour Details

Trip #: A415 Departing: 10/18/23 Returning: 10/21/23

Destination: Washington, DC

Group Leader: Pete Tornquist

Contact Details: jptorn@gmail.com

Tour Price

Register now! Space is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. The price is based on 35 full-paying travelers.

Add the **Payment Protection Program (PPP)** to your tour price for only \$209.00 to receive a FULL REFUND if you cancel ANYTIME for ANY REASON prior to trip departure. (See Terms and Conditions for full details.)

Student Price (4 per room)	Adult Price (2 per room)
\$1,699.00	\$1,864.00

Payment Plans

Save time and avoid fees by making manageable, monthly payments with EzPay. (Available with online registration only.)

OR

Mail in monthly payments utilizing STA payment coupons. (Incurs \$6 handling charge per payment.)

Register today to enjoy savings!

Registration Deadline: 03/01/23

Required Deposit: \$99.00 (Your deposit is applied to the total trip cost.)

Final Payment Due Date: 08/09/23

Have questions?

Learn more at our informational meeting. Details to follow.



*The above pricing is all-inclusive unless otherwise specified in the enclosed materials.

SPACE IS LIMITED. RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!



REGISTER ONLINE

Select "register" in the upper right corner of the homepage at SchoolToursOfAmerica.com



ENROLL IN EzPay

Make manageable monthly payments & avoid fees with EzPay. EzPay is available online only.



OPT-IN TO THE PPP

Protect your investment & receive a refund if you cancel prior to trip departure.



Register today at www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com

DC
Washington, DC



Images submitted by travelers to our annual photo contest using:
#MYTOURVIEW

“This transformative tour provides unlimited growth opportunities; your child will return a more passionate student, a more conscientious citizen, and a more mature person.

THE BENEFITS OF EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL WITH SCHOOL TOURS OF AMERICA



Personal Growth

Studies have shown that students who travel see improvements in grades and behavior. Your child will gain tremendous confidence and independence while traveling with classmates.



Empowered Citizenship

Travelers realize their potential to positively shape America's future as they experience deeply meaningful sites such as Arlington National Cemetery, the Supreme Court and the National Archives.



Educational Opportunities

Available interdisciplinary learning opportunities include: college credit, leadership programs and service learning experiences.

“You will never look at your students the same because they will never be the same. This experience is life-changing.

Watch video testimonials by students, parents & teachers at:
www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com/wall-parents.html





Need help raising funds for your trip?

Utilize the power of social media with our exclusive crowdfunding platform, MyTourFund.com, where 100% of donations are applied to your trip!

This free fundraising tool allows each registered student to create a personal website where they can:



CREATE & CUSTOMIZE
THEIR PAGE



SHARE WITH FRIENDS
& FAMILY



RECEIVE DONATIONS
AUTOMATICALLY



MyTourFund.com
participants raise an
average of **\$900**
for their tour

VISIT
www.MyTourFund.com



COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

As parents and educators, we understand the concern for every child's well-being. We will never operate a tour if we believe the safety of a single participant is compromised. Our safety and security measures include:



On-Call Physicians

School Tours of America utilizes the services of on-call physicians who can meet the group at the hotel, and if necessary, students always have access to the region's first-rate hospitals.



Professional, Bonded Security

Private guards are stationed on hotel floors each night, ensuring that students adhere to the strict nightly curfew.



Full Insurance Coverage

Tour participants are automatically covered by medical, dental and accident insurance.



Identification

All students wear a wristband or lanyard listing our 24/7 emergency contact information.



Safety & Security

All tour staff is trained using a detailed Safety Contingency Plan. Our East Coast office provides immediate response and communication with local and federal authorities, and maintains a 24/7 dedicated, toll-free phone line exclusively for parents and students.

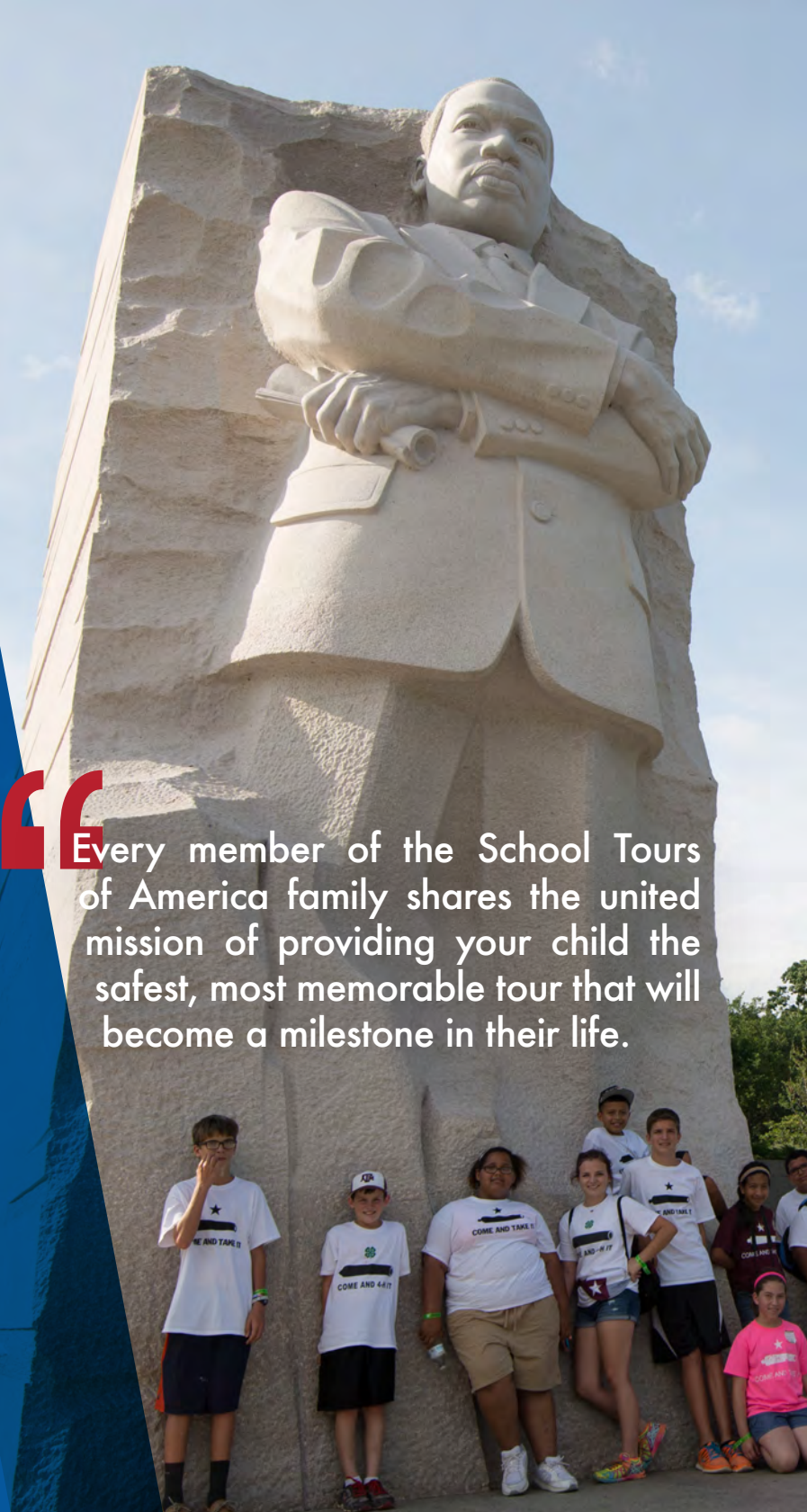


On-Tour Representative

A representative from STA stays in the hotel 24/7 to ensure a direct line of communication at all times. Our team is available for every group at every destination.



Every member of the School Tours of America family shares the united mission of providing your child the safest, most memorable tour that will become a milestone in their life.



PAYMENT PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP)

Life is unpredictable. We've got you covered.

Add the PPP to your tour price to receive a **FULL REFUND** if you cancel **ANY TIME** for **ANY REASON** prior to trip departure.*

Benefits

100% refund prior to trip departure	✓
Include cost of program in payments	✓
Travel home due to family emergency	✓
Lost luggage protection	✓

PPP



Full Refund Examples

Illness	✓
Family emergency	✓
Trip cancellation by school or group leader	✓
Behavior / academic issues	✓
Sports conflict	✓
Financial difficulty	✓

PPP

ORDER YOUR SOUVENIR T-SHIRT



**ONLY
\$20**

(Ask your Group Leader if the t-shirt is already included in your trip cost.)



**For a convenient
way to pay for your
trip, select EzPay when
you register online**



*For PPP pricing and details see:
SchoolToursOfAmerica.com/terms-conditions.html

REGISTER TODAY FOR AS LOW AS \$99
at www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com



866.543.9625
www.SchoolToursOfAmerica.com



REGISTER ONLINE

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ENROLL IN EzPay

Make manageable monthly payments & avoid fees with EzPay. EzPay is available online only.



OPT-IN TO THE PPP

Protect your investment & receive a refund if you cancel prior to trip departure.