



My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.

JOHN. F. KENNEDY

2014 UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

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🛖 UNITED STATES SENATE RESOLUTION 324

In 1962, Senate Resolution 324, submitted by Senator KUCHEL (for himself and Senators MANSFIELD, DIRKSEN, and HUMPHREY), was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration, and, subsequently, unanimously approved by the United State Senate as follows:

WHEREAS the continued vitality of our Republic depends, in part, on the intelligent understanding of our political processes and the functions of our National Government by the citizens of the United States: and

WHEREAS the durability of a constitutional democracy is dependent upon alert, talented, vigorous competition for political leadership; and

WHEREAS individual Senators have cooperated with various private and university undergraduate and graduate fellowship and internship programs relating to the work of Congress; and

WHEREAS in the high schools of the United States, there exists among students who have been elected to student body offices in their junior or senior year a potential reservoir of young citizens who are experiencing their first responsibilities of service to a constituency and who should be encouraged to deepen their interest in and understanding of their country's political process: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate hereby expresses its willingness to cooperate in a nationwide competitive high school Senate youth program which would give several representative high school students from each State a short indoctrination into the operation of the United States Senate and the Federal Government generally, if such a program can be satisfactorily arranged and completely supported by private funds with no expense to the Federal Government.

RESOLUTION 146. To amend S. Res. 324 of the Eighty-seventh Congress to provide for the participation of the Department of Defense education system for dependents in overseas areas in the Senate Youth Program.

RESOLVED, That S. Res. 324, Eighty-seventh Congress, agreed to May 17, 1963, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

SECTION 3. For the purpose of this resolution, the term "State" includes the Department of Defense education system for dependents in overseas areas.



CONGRATULATIONS FROM WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST III

Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to congratulate the 2014 class of the United States Senate Youth Program. Your analytical inquiry, energy and commitment to public service set the tone for a week that was truly inspirational.

On behalf of everyone at The Hearst Foundations we thank you for your high level of participation and the rigorous questions you brought to the sessions with our esteemed speakers. We also commend you for your spirit of camaraderie and respectful debate as you exchanged views with your peers from around the nation and across the political spectrum.

You could say the 52nd annual Washington Week was genuinely "out of this world" as you were the first USSYP student delegates to participate in a live Q and A session with the crew members of the International Space Station, courtesy of NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Jr. Other highlights included an in-depth session with Justice Scalia at the Supreme Court who clearly enjoyed your numerous and complex queries, and, in her first appearance with the USSYP, the charismatic Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund Christine Lagarde who brought a unique global perspective to Washington Week. The President gave you ample time in the beautiful East Room of the White House, and at our reception almost 60 U.S. Senators came to meet their home state delegates, staying to congratulate you, and posing for individual pictures. The seventeen military officers who served as your guides and mentors throughout the week formed lasting bonds with you and emblemized the meaning of service.

Many memories were made that week, which you will treasure for years to come.

The Hearst Foundations are honored to sponsor this unique and enduring partnership with the United States Senate, the 50 State Departments of Education, the Department of Defense and such outstanding students.

Now more than 5,000 strong, USSYP alumni include Senator Susan Collins of Maine, the first delegate elected to the U.S. Senate; Congressman Cory Gardner of Colorado, the first delegate elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; New Jersey Governor Chris Christie; former Chief Judge Robert Henry, U.S. Court of Appeals; former Ambassador to West Germany Richard Burt; former presidential advisors, senior congressional staff and many other accomplished individuals. We salute all of you.

We also wish to express our gratitude to our 2014 program Co-Chairs, Senator Jon Tester of Montana and Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee. Without their help and support throughout the planning year, the program would not have been possible.

Finally, Washington Week could not take place without the continued endorsement of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration and their excellent staff. The U.S. Senate and USSYP also thank the staff of the Council of Chief State School Officers and all of the state-level scholarship administrators for their pivotal roles in the student selection process.

The program's mission shall continue as long as there are young people in America with a dedication to academic excellence and a desire to serve their country and their communities.

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST III



The United States Senate Youth Program is an intensive week-long educational experience sponsored by the United States Senate that nurtures an important reservoir of student talent and energy toward the high purpose of public service.

The program was created by Senate Resolution 324 in 1962 as stated in supporting Senate testimony from that year, "to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world."

The 52nd annual Washington Week once again brought 104 outstanding high school students – two from every state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity – to Washington, D.C. to see the federal government up close and meet and interact with those who lead it. As the students develop a deeper commitment to public service they also form intellectual and emotional bonds with their peers from across the nation.

Administered and funded by The Hearst Foundations since inception, the USSYP utilizes no government funds. The program is highly competitive and merit based. Qualified students – those already serving in an elected capacity with excellent academic performance – are nominated by their teachers, principals and guidance counselors and are ultimately selected by their state departments of education. Delegates are also each awarded a \$5,000 college scholarship with certificates often personally presented by their U.S. Senators, and are encouraged to continue coursework in history, government and public affairs.









WELCOME TO WASHINGTON

Excitement and Alumni Mentoring on First Day in D.C.

After weeks of anticipation and getting to know one another on social media, delegates traveled from every part of the country to be met at the local airports and train station then brought to the historic Mayflower Hotel. Meeting for the first time, students are welcomed by their Military Mentors, USSYP alumni and staff. USSYP alumni have distinguished themselves in the fields of government, education, law, healthcare, engineering, information technology, the non-profit sector, business and journalism, and are on hand at designated mentoring tables to network with the delegates and answer questions about education and careers.

On the evening of arrival day the students are formally introduced to their Military Mentors, seventeen competitively selected male and female officers from each service branch, assigned to help guide the delegates through the logistics and protocol of the demanding week to come.

The United States Senate Youth Alumni Association (www.ussyaa.org) has forged and maintained ties with thousands of program alumni. In addition to on-going activities throughout the year, alumni gather during Washington Week for the association's annual dinner and board meeting.



(left to right) USSYP Alumni President Chad Robinson (DE – 2001), with officers Rawle Andrews (TX – 1983) and David Zavadsky (WI – 1990)











Down-to-Earth Democratic Co-Chair UPHOLDS MONTANA'S PUBLIC SERVICE LEGACY

Senator Jon Tester, a farmer from the state known as 'Big Sky Country', spent ample time with the students at Washington Week's opening dinner enjoying the musical performance and meal with his Montana delegates before addressing the group. The former public school music teacher tipped his hat to the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps at the outset of his remarks, "Doesn't that make you just feel great to be alive?" he said smiling, his vigor and energy apparent as he launched into a wide-ranging and passionate discussion. "You come from every corner of the country, but the common bond that unites you is that each and every one of you has something to offer this great nation," he began. Exhorting the delegates to never doubt their prospects for success, he humorously gave himself as an example, "I am not exactly your typical Senator," he said, jokingly pointing to his non lvy League college degree, nonexistent law degree, flat-top hairstyle and the loss of three fingers on one hand to a meat grinder. "But I walk in the footsteps of Mike Mansfield, in fact I sit in his seat now – he who led the Senate as Majority Leader for a record 16 years and held the expectation that leadership means being







willing to work with those of differing opinions to do what's right for your country." Citing his parents' belief in the public school system and public service as his foundation, he recounted his service on local school boards, agricultural boards and in the state legislature as the backbone of his early career. He defined public education as the cornerstone of our democracy and earned strong applause by insisting that "good teachers need to be paid more." He took many questions ranging from the effectiveness of charter schools to Medicaid expansion, campaign finance reform and more. "Our country is always changing, as are the people who lead it," he closed his remarks optimistically, "although we face challenges that have existed for generations, every challenge is an opportunity to shape our future."



Use the principles that you believe in, but stretch yourself to try to accommodate the other side, so that you can actually move our nation ahead.

Against the stunning backdrop of the National Archives Rotunda where our nation's founding documents are displayed, the 2014 USSYP Republican Co-Chair Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee summarized his own personal story and offered the delegates three key guideposts for life: "First, master a skill early on. Become indispensable. This will give you the confidence you need to propel yourselves into your futures and will afford you the independence that comes from doing something exceptionally well. Next ingredient is to have a bold vision," he counseled, "Don't dream too small. Set that bold vision for yourself and those around you so that even if you only reach 80% of your goal you are so much better off. And third," he smiled, in acknowledgment of the delegates' inherent passion for public service, "Give back. No matter what age you are, no matter where you live, there are people in your neighborhoods and communities who have needs, and there is nothing in life that makes a human being feel more whole than giving to someone else in a selfless way." The former Tennessee Commissioner of Finance and former Mayor of Chattanooga clearly built his own career from this sage









advice, relaying to the students how his early success in the construction industry led him to create initiatives for affordable housing. Noting that real compromise still takes place, he pointed to examples of behind-the-scenes bipartisan maneuvering he had worked on recently, including a floor amendment to the Immigration Reform Bill that had just helped garner enough votes for passage in the Senate. His pride was tempered with pragmatism, as it remained stalled in the House, but he clearly relished the challenge to continue the effort, saying, "Nothing could be more meaningful than knowing that if you pass a law it will quickly affect 11 million people for the positive." Asked which of the documents illuminated behind him he would like to spend time with, he chose the Constitution musing that he wished he could delve into what the Framers were thinking as they "wrote this document that has guided us and so many other countries trying to create their own; a document that sets out and embraces the values that we have as a nation."

[top right] Archivist of the U.S. David Ferriero with North Carolina delegates Tanner Glenn and Caroline Tervo [bottom left] Senator Bob Corker with Tennessee delegates Niman Mann and Daniel Rose



ESTEEMED USSYP ALUMNUS CONTEMPLATES THE MEANING OF JUSTICE FOR ALL

Oklahoma City University President, former Chief Judge of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and distinguished USSYP alumnus (OK – 1971), Robert H. Henry kicked off the first academic day of Washington Week with probing questions about equality and a look back at his own experience as a delegate. "Are we living in a society where there really is 'Justice for All?'" he inquired, "and how have America's Founding Fathers and great presidents shaped this concept?" He offered the Gettysburg Address as an example of how President Abraham Lincoln harkened back to the Declaration of Independence and Thomas Jefferson's expression of American freedoms, noting how President Lincoln bravely utilized his powers as Commander in Chief to constitutionally expand the concept of justice to populations previously unprotected by this American ideal. "Such questions reverberate through society today," he remarked, noting that the issue of gay marriage is evolving more rapidly through our system and society than the civil rights movement. The definition of who is protected under the Fourteenth Amendment, he instructed, is often decided and interpreted by the Judiciary, "the branch with no purse and no sword." Judge Henry remembered meeting Senator Henry Bellmon of Oklahoma during Washington Week 1971, and having a conversation that changed his perspective on current events. "We talked about Vietnam, and he asked me what I thought about the war, and I said, 'Well, Senator, a lot of young people want peace.' He said, 'Well, Mr. Henry, a lot of old people want peace, too.' I didn't realize that I was talking to a decorated veteran of World War II, who was at Iwo Jima and had two tanks shot out from under him." Their friendship, like many others he made that week, lasted for decades to come. Despite the early morning hour, Judge Henry was quick on his feet responding to questions that ran the gamut from political partisanship and the judicial branch, strict constructionist versus evolving interpretations of the Constitution, campaign finance reform, prison reform, the benefits and consequences of restoring wolves to Yellowstone National Park and the critical importance of trying to understand both sides of an issue. He encouraged the delegates to immerse themselves completely in the week to come by quoting Alexander Pope, "A little learning is a dangerous thing. Drink deep or taste not the Pierian Spring."



Former Chief Judge Robert Henry with Oklahoma delegates Gloria Tso and Ryan Chapman

Originalist Perspective on the High Court

The air in the Supreme Court Room seemed to vibrate with anticipation as the 2014 student delegates waited for Associate Justice Antonin Scalia to greet them. Known for his charismatic humor and vociferous style, the students were thrilled to meet this renowned figure who is the longest-serving Justice currently on the Court. Often described as the anchor of the Court's conservative wing. Justice Scalia began with condensed but forceful introductory remarks on his philosophy of jurisprudence and his perspective on the strength of our governmental structure based upon the Constitution. "America is the freest country in the world, without a doubt," he said, "and what makes that freedom a genuine guarantee is the structure of our government." He reminded the students that any tyrant can create a Bill of Rights, but once power is centralized that document becomes "nothing more than a parchment promise." Lauding the colonists who saw that "the source of tyranny in a

democracy will be the legislature," he also highlighted the Framers' genius in creating our bicameral legislature and separation of powers in spite of the inherent gridlock. "Our Framers would have said, 'Yes, it is designed for gridlock', because they believed that the principle protection of liberty, especially for minorities, is the difficulty of passing legislation." Defined as a strict textualist and an originalist, Justice Scalia displayed these perspectives in a vigorous guestion and answer session. When asked if he thought the Court was the most powerful institution in our lives he gasped, "I hope not! What is democracy about if the most important questions in daily life are decided by five out of nine lawyers? I just apply laws based on how they are written, not on what I'd like the decision to be." Asked to what extent the Court should evolve as society does he remarked, "An originalist would say not at all. The Constitution can handle new phenomena; we just have to decide how it applies to the

new by consulting how it applied to the old." On the subject of whether the Court would rule to legalize marijuana, he flashed a pointed finger directly across the street at the Capitol dome saying, "They make the rules over there, I just apply them," terming himself a 'policy eunuch.' "I have no public views, although, I may tell my wife," he joked. He counseled the students to read the Federalist Papers, "until they are dog-eared", and also de Tocqueville's Democracy in America, "Since it is important to remember how little we have changed." When asked for his definition of justice he claimed, "I don't do justice, I apply the laws; I may have my opinions but they do not matter." The delegates could not believe their great fortune in the generous time he spent, and although applause is not pro forma in the Supreme Court Room, Justice Scalia smiled broadly as the delegates showed their great appreciation.





Justice Antonin Scalia with New Jersey delegates Allison Berger and Rafael Nunez





[above] Secretary of the Senate Nancy Erickson with South Dakota delegates Gina Elmore and Lane Haskell

[middle] Senate Parliamentarian Elizabeth MacDonough with Vermont delegates Katrina Derderian and Christopher Prado.

SENIOR SENATE OFFICERS On The Front Lines of History

Secretary of the Senate Nancy Erickson and Senate Parliamentarian Elizabeth MacDonough spoke at length and took numerous questions in the historic Kennedy Caucus Room, site of many of the Senate's historic hearings including for the Titanic Tragedy. the Teapot Dome Scandal, Watergate and Iran-Contra. The two distinguished women leaders, on the front lines of Senate history themselves, offered their personal perspectives on public service and careers on Capitol Hill, just as the Senate, on that day of Washington Week, was preparing for an all-night session on climate change with cots and late-night meals at the ready. The Senate's most senior appointed officers both credited early exposure to politics and trips to the nation's capital as having major impact on their lives. Secretary Erickson said that coming from a small town in the rural state of South Dakota did not hinder her; rather she found that "humility and a strict work ethic are equalizers." Ms. MacDonough agreed, and pointed out that "a great sense of humor" is also critical for the chaotic and high-pressure Capitol Hill workdays. Ms. Erickson shared both the early and modern history of her position. The Latin word for secretary means "keeper of secrets" from the days when, unlike the House of Representatives, the Senate met behind closed doors. Another of the Secretary's roles is to ensure that legislative work can continue in the wake of crises such as the September 11 and anthrax attacks. Ms. MacDonough only gives one public speech a year, which she reserves for the USSYP delegates. She described the long history of the Senate Parliamentarian as "a nonpartisan, apolitical umpire for the Senate, a neutral arbiter of its rules and procedures and interpreter of federal laws and the Constitution as they apply to the Senate's conduct of business." Her office has also made history in its role of certifying presidential elections, usually behind the scenes, other than rare instances like Bush/Gore election in 2000. The most dramatic change in Senate rules took place in the past year regarding the use of the filibuster, she explained, saying it was a very tough vote for many leaders to change long-standing Senate rules to cut off debate. "This is a seismic shift in the way the Senate conducts its business," she said, and she and others wait anxiously to see what will transpire in that wake.







SENATE HISTORIAN DON RITCHIE Henry Clay and the Art of Compromise

It is not every day that you have an esteemed expert in American history deliver a lecture especially tailored for you. But that indeed is what the USSYP delegates receive each year from United States Senate Historian Don Ritchie, Dr. Ritchie, who has served in the Senate Historical Office since 1976, offers the eager students topics designed to spark thoughtful debate about events and leaders that deftly connect past to present. The Senate Historian and author crafted his 2014 USSYP address on the topic of compromise and consensus building, featuring the life of esteemed Senator Henry Clay of Kentucky who formulated the Missouri Compromise of 1820 and the Compromise of 1850. "Today, the notion of compromise has gotten a negative connotation," Dr. Ritchie began. "Candidates run for Congress today on platforms of promising they will never compromise . . . which means they will never legislate. They confuse compromise with being compromised." Noting that the second most represented figure in the artwork of the Capitol after George Washington is Henry Clay, he quoted Clay (who Abraham Lincoln once called "my ideal of a great man"), "'All legislation is founded on the principle of mutual concession. Let him who elevates himself above humanity say, if he pleases, I will never compromise, but let no one who is not above the frailties of our common nature disdain compromise." Noting our nation's breadth of size and diversity as well as the friction caused by separation

of powers, Dr, Ritchie reminded the students, "Compromise is not the goal. Consensus is the goal. Compromise is the tool through which legislators have tried to reach consensus. Without consensus, it would be hard to achieve anything as a nation." He gave an overview of other great successful compromises in U.S. history such as the bicameral legislative houses agreed to at the Constitutional Convention in 1787, and offered examples of when compromise could have been possible but was not reached, such as an 1860 attempt to reunite Northern and Southern states after several Southern states began to secede. Especially notable this year, the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, was Dr. Ritchie's description of the lengthy debate and hard-fought compromises that forged the landmark legislation, led by the same Senators who founded the United States Senate Youth Program two years earlier. On the subject of compromise and politics, he recommended reading Jacqueline Kennedy's recently published oral histories. "She admits she would have held firm or held a grudge toward someone over an issue, and President Kennedy reminds his wife that strange coalitions were constantly being forged in American politics and that has been a saving grace." Dr. Ritchie concluded with advice from President Kennedy, selected for his audience of future leaders, "You've got to remember not to burn all your bridges, in life, as well as in politics."

Senate Historian Don Ritchie with Washington delegates William Khadivi and Mitchell Wahlmeier



A VISIT TO NASA HEADQUARTERS Truly Out of This World



Dr. Michelle Thaller, Assistant Director for Science Communication and Higher Education, NASA

NASA rolled out the red carpet on Thursday of Washington Week when Administrator Charles F. Bolden, Jr. invited the 2014 delegates to NASA headquarters for an incredibly special event. Inside the ultra high-tech and newly renovated auditorium, Administrator Bolden first took the stage with Dr. Michelle Thaller, NASA's Assistant Director for Science Communication and Higher Education, well-known to many of the delegates from her appearances on the Science and History Channels. Dr. Thaller's breadth of cosmic knowledge and enthusiasm for NASA's current research electrified the proceedings as she described everything from Mars exploration to the discovery of new planets via the Kepler Space Telescope. She easily fielded delegate questions about quantum computing and the applicability of NASA research to private sector fields such as cancer treatment and meteorology. Mr. Bolden, in his third Washington Week appearance, continued to inspire with lessons from his own life story, and his passion for NASA's mission, or as he likes to say, "We are in the Future Business." The first African-American to head the agency on a permanent basis, Administrator Bolden met his share of obstacles growing up in the segregated American south, in addition to discovering that he did not like life at the Naval Academy after an entire childhood of yearning to attend there. He smiled at the delegates as he recounted his father's advice, "Give it one more week" – simple words that launched his literally stellar career.



Ultimately, he excelled at the Academy where he developed the mantra: "Never rule anything out," due to the fact that he firmly believed as a young man that he did not want to be a U.S. Marine or a pilot, and yet ended up achieving great success at both. Then, the lights dimmed, and Administrator Bolden gave the students a truly rare opportunity to converse one on one with the senior crew members of the International Space Station through a live video link. Selected delegates jumped to their feet with questions that Commander Koichi Wakata and Flight Engineer Richard Mastracchio answered while orbiting the Earth more than 200 miles overhead. The astronauts described the Space Station as "a United Nations in the sky," as many nationalities combine their strengths to accomplish cutting-edge research and scientific inquest. The microphone floated weightlessly between the two men as the delegates posed questions about STEM curriculum, health and nutrition needs in space, and finally, best of all, "Can you do a flip?" The event was broadcast live on NASA-TV, so friends, family and classmates across the country could easily share in the experience. Mr. Bolden left the students with words of advice that were carefully inscribed in many blue USSYP leather journals, "Do all that you can, with what you have been given, in the time that you have, in the place where you are," wisdom gleaned through a compelling story that has affected every aspect of his life.





NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, Jr.



NEVER LET ANYONE TELL YOU THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE – IT MAY TAKE TIME, BUT IT IS ACHIEVABLE.

The 104 student delegates were poised and ready. They had been given the privilege of a private guided tour of the Executive Mansion and were waiting, assembled and tense with excitement, for the President to finish his final meetings of the day. The Prime Minister of Ukraine had just been to the White House for high-level discussions the day before – would roiling international events preclude the annual USSYP session with the Commander in Chief? Then, in the moment students often describe as surreal, he strode towards the group with a wide smile, "I look forward to meeting you guys every year," said the President warmly, shaking hands and offering congratulations. "When I first got into the Senate," he recalled, "I was given this advice: be a work horse, not a show horse." Acknowledging that the political gridlock we face today has stymied even the most prodigious effort, he implored the students to remain strong in their hope for the future. "Never let anyone tell you that you can't make a difference – it may take time, but it is achievable," he said, adding that "change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time." "The most important thing I can tell you," he reflected in closing his remarks, "is this: don't be cynical. We have enough cynics. Be optimists. For you are the leaders of your generation. This nation was built by optimists, and you are the ones to carry the torch of our democracy forward."







SECRETARY SHAUN DONOVAN Passion Finds its Home

Shaun Donovan, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, inspired the delegates to find their individual passion and commit to it, urging them to "Look inside and remember what it was that made you want to change the world in the first place." For Secretary Donovan, his passion for alleviating homelessness stemmed from "the injustice of people living in the shadows of our society, in the shadows of my city," during his childhood in New York City in the 1970s and 1980s. He reminded student delegates that during this period, "Many were talking about the death of American cities, and you had a sense, whether it was in the levels of crime or desperation of citizens, that the civic bonds that hold us together in our communities were fraying to the point of breaking." Throughout his academic career, Secretary Donovan has focused on housing and "how it can transform lives," leading him to serve as Housing Commissioner of New York under Mayor Michael Bloomberg before moving to his current role. He offered three pieces of advice for student delegates: "Follow your passion; build relationships with teachers and don't give up on public service." Secretary Donovan described the progress he has made in reducing chronic homelessness in America by 16% in the past three years through a program called Opening Doors. He also cited efforts to reduce the wave of foreclosures during the housing crisis. Of the critical period when he entered the Obama administration in January 2009,

he recounted, "We were in the midst of the worst housing crisis in our lifetimes, and that housing crisis had actually started the worst economic crisis since the Depression. It felt like we were at war, trying to reverse this terrible spiral of millions and millions of families losing their homes, going into foreclosure and spreading throughout neighborhoods." He is proud that his team forged ahead despite the immensity of the problem but believes that there are important lessons learned and much more to be done. In closing, Secretary Donovan said with great import, "Don't give up on public service. It is too easy, in our current media culture, where the press always wants to cover what's going wrong, to miss what's going right in Washington. Every day, I get to work on ways that we are bringing our families, our youth and our veterans out of the cold and into a home. That is the best possible work I could imagine doing, and we are making real progress. You may not see it on TV at night, you may not read about it in the newspapers, but know that there is always the chance to do that kind of work in public service, every single day."

Secretary Shaun Donovan with Massachusetts delegates Troy Bridson and Jonathan Mack

ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL TONY WEST

Urges Delegates to "Seek a Life of Public Service"







Associate Attorney General Tony West with District of Columbia delegates Maria Bayon and Malachi Byrd

Unexpected schedule changes are all part of Washington Week. When the delegates heard that Attorney General Eric Holder had been called to the White House for an urgent meeting, a brief feeling of disappointment could be felt. However, from the first moment that Associate Attorney General Tony West strode into the 7th floor conference room of the U.S. Department of Justice to greet them, the delegates were inspired by his life story, his legal acumen and his sincere and heartfelt answers to complex questions. He proved himself an enthusiastic role model for the students of the 52nd annual United States Senate Youth Program, and an enormously charismatic speaker as well. Mr. West described his childhood heroes as "those who were changing the world with the power of beliefs." From a young age, he knew he wanted to follow in similar footsteps. He studied hard in high school, went to Harvard and Stanford, and then jumped aboard Barack Obama's first presidential campaign, before beginning his career at DOJ. His portfolio encompasses issues that are seen in the headlines every day: civil rights, voting rights, anti-trust, fraud and environmental protection. Speaking in the auditorium where Justice Department national press conferences are held, he complimented the delegates on their questions that mirrored the intensity of dialogue usually heard in that room. The controversy over Florida's 'Stand Your Ground' law "touched off an important and needed national discussion," he said. Questions on redistricting and Voter ID laws came next, and the Associate Attorney General strongly felt that "there are few rights more sacred than the right to vote." Complex guestions about mandatory sentencing, prison privatization and rehabilitation programs were asked. They are multi-faceted issues that the Department of Justice grapples with every day, Mr. West stated, noting that "prison populations have increased by 800%, but we are not 800% safer. We are looking to focus on common sense strategies like the comprehensive 'Smart on Crime' initiatives," he said. The passion and priorities of the Department of Justice's mission were reflected in the art deco art and imagery seen by the delegates when they visited the Great Hall following Mr. West's presentation. Associate Attorney General Tony West urged all delegates to "seek a life of public service," and felt certain that he would see some of the USSYP Class of 2014 walking the hallways of the Department of Justice in the future.







DIPLOMACY AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

USSYP history was made at the 2014 State Department luncheon in the agency's beautifully gilded Benjamin Franklin State Dining Room. Alabama delegate Jared Hunter was thanking keynote speaker Macon Phillips and asked him to join in an impromptu selfie from the podium, capturing in the background a sea of happy and surprised faces. True to form, Mr. Phillips, who was a lead engineer of the successful social media strategy that helped to propel President Obama into office, then tweeted the photo within moments of returning to his office. Such was the juxtaposition of new and old as the delegates experienced the magnificent Diplomatic Reception Rooms and annual immersive session on the mission and function of the Department of State and the types of careers offered there. Mr. Phillips, the State Department's Coordinator of the Bureau of International Information Programs, engaged the delegates in a spirited discussion about politics, diplomacy and the use of social media. He encouraged the students to find a political campaign they believed in and get involved. "Don't get into politics," he said, "rather, be passionate about an issue, and build a structure. Then take that to the political arena." When he began his first job

in the Obama Administration at the White House, Mr. Phillips' social media strategy was three-fold: to amplify the President's message, to make the work that happens at the White House more accessible and transparent, and to generate opportunities for citizens to truly participate in their government through such innovations as the "We the People Petitioning System." Now at the Department of State, his work focuses on supporting the mission of American embassies and consulates overseas, speaking to foreign audiences and providing platforms for them to engage. He urged the delegates to "really get out there and use a lot of these tools – work in a new way to promote the conversation, collaboration and learning that happens through public engagement using social media." To fully cement his relationship to the 2014 USSYP class, Mr. Phillips offered his personal e-mail address in his closing remarks. Then, of course, he was ready for his selfie.

[above left] Coordinator Macon Phillips with Alabama delegates Lisa Guraya and Jared Hunter

[above right] Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs Julia Frifield

[below right] Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Douglas Frantz with California delegates Sabrina Van Zuiden and Daniel Hamidi

MADAME CHRISTINE LAGARDE

Wisdom, Philosophy and Global Vision from IMF Managing Director

Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund Christine Lagarde brought a global perspective to Washington Week 2014 with a signature style of depth, warmth and wit. In the midst of her five-year term as leader of the IMF, and the first woman to hold that position, she gave the students an overview of the agency's 70-year mission to maintain and improve financial stability throughout the world through its work in lending, providing technical assistance and offering financial surveillance and guidance. The IMF was forged in 1944 out of the ashes of World War II. Madame Lagarde reminded the delegates that the inseparable nature of economic stability and peace was the impetus for the agency's creation, noting the famous words of Winston Churchill, "Better to chat-chat than to war-war." The first woman to become finance minister of a G8 country, and the former head of a major international law firm based in the U.S., Madame Lagarde ascribed her success to two primary factors: "One is love and the other is being international." she said. "Love is what I was lucky to receive from my family, which gave me the confidence and energy to achieve what I have so far." Her international path started as a young woman when she traveled with France's national synchronized swimming team. She subsequently was selected for an American Field Service scholarship to attend high school in the United States.

"International has been the buzzword of my life," she said, "and it all started at your age." She strongly encouraged the delegates to travel, learn several languages and experience other cultures first-hand, "This opens your horizons. It changes your perspective. It transforms your life in multiple ways." Two questions she described as essential to ask frequently are Why? and Why not? "Don't always accept conventional wisdom or preconceived ideas," she counseled, "Asking 'why not?' epitomizes the United States of America and the sense of entrepreneurship, leadership, risk taking and innovation. When you see an opportunity or come to a crossroads in your life, ask yourself: Why not? Always helpful at any age." During a long and lively question and answer session, Madame Lagarde discussed recent events in the Ukraine, the evolution of the Eurozone, the IMF's close working partnership with the World Bank and the benefits and challenges of utilizing technology to speed development in emerging markets. With regard to her perception of the latest G20 meeting. Madame Lagarde was cautiously optimistic, "There is energy; there is enthusiasm. The pace of economic growth, how sustainable and inclusive that growth will be, and how growth will respect the planet we leave to you and your children - those are the questions."

[below right] Managing Director Christine Lagarde with Maryland delegates Albert Corvah and Kieran Murphy







SENATOR CARL LEVIN

Senate Armed Services Chairman Offers Insight on Life, Luck and Why Government Matters

Senator Carl Levin's unassuming demeanor belies his vaunted position in the United States Senate. The fourth-longest serving Member of the Senate today, and as Michigan's senior Senator, the longest in that state's history, Senator Levin has been a leader on major policy initiatives involving justice, safety and equality since he began his first term in 1979. Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee since 2007, Senator Levin had not personally been in the military, but requested that assignment upon election to the Senate because he felt it was "his way of providing service." "We don't hear enough about some of the great things that we do in government," he said, "and the differences we've made in peoples' lives." He noted that American military forces provide security not only at home, but for millions around the world. He credited the GI Bill after World War II with allowing 15 million veterans to attain a college education and cited Pell Grants and other federal student loan programs as critical to the country's future. The Head Start program for disadvantaged children and families, laws and agencies to protect the environment and laws to protect and support the disabled were also given as evidence of government's effectiveness. Born to a family of public servants, Senator Levin nevertheless was not single minded of purpose in pursing a Senate seat at the outset of his career. Noting several early disappointments when he was not

awarded or appointed to positions he had coveted, he gave the delegates this heartfelt counsel, "Just when you think you've had a streak of bad luck, it could turn out to be the best thing that ever happened to you. It happens all the time in life, where something that is disappointing or you think of as a setback, turns out to be a very lucky break." (Senator Levin's remarks in their entirety are available on the USSYP website: www.ussenateyouth.org.) The students had many questions for the Committee Chairman, including whether America can be the police officer for the world. "The world does need a police officer," he said, "because it doesn't have one. While we can't fulfill that role, we can make a difference. We have made a difference in a lot of places, although there are some where we have been less effective. But there is no other possibility except for us to join with allies like NATO or a coalition of the willing. I wish the world had a better alternative than always counting on our leadership, but it really doesn't." He also gave the students an excellent perspective on leadership and courage, guiding them to find a separate career they are passionate about as a primary pursuit before setting forth in local government on the path to politics. "That way you always have something else you want to do so you can vote your conscience," said he, as one who has.



Senator Carl Levin with Michigan delegates Katharine Wang and Jacqueline Qiu









CONGRESSMAN CORY GARDNER Energetic and Engaging Young Conservative Reflects Ideals of USSYP

U.S. Senate Youth Program alumnus Cory Gardner (CO – 1993), is the first Senate Youth alum to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Gardner (R-CO-4th) offered unique insights to the delegates on the opportunities that Washington Week provides them. Quoting French political thinker and author Alexis de Tocqueville, who admired Americans for the "desire that swells in their hearts to rise up" and serve their country, Congressman Gardner concurred that this trait is "uniquely American" and he is proud to be part of a nation where "people are ready to work for a better tomorrow." He regaled the delegates with the story of his first trip to the nation's capital, which was, in fact, to attend Washington Week. Having been raised in rural Colorado in an agricultural community, he was immediately struck by the contrast. Eager to return to D.C., he found early career roles working at an agricultural trade organization and as a staffer on the Hill. He returned to Colorado to serve in the state legislature before being elected to his current position. Having just recently thrown his hat into the ring for a high-profile Senate seat for the Centennial State, he told the delegates he hopes to "have a great impact" in the Senate. Congressman Gardner took time to answer questions ranging from his views on Colorado's recent legalization of marijuana

to the burden of the deficit on our nation's future. He reminded the students that "states are laboratories of democracy" and while he disagrees with the decision to legalize marijuana and is concerned particularly with the impact on children and adolescent health, he respects the open process leading to the ballot initiative. When asked what he would do if he only had one dollar to spend and could not divide it, he quickly answered that his priority would be to pay down the debt and reduce the burden for future generations. Known for his quick ascension to leadership circles in the Republican-controlled House, he reiterated his opposition to the newly implemented Affordable Care Act. His strong record of support for viable alternative renewable energy sources was also a key priority of his policy work, he said. Exhorting the delegates to never waver in their commitment to public service, his wide smile and unabashed excitement for his work should clearly motivate many in the audience to do all they could to follow suit.

Representative Cory Gardner with Colorado delegates Chinmay Pandit and Tessa Slagle





LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOSEPH LENGYEL

A Powerful Perspective on Protecting the Homeland

Lieutenant General Joseph L. Lengyel serves as the Vice Chief, National Guard Bureau where he assists the Chief of the National Guard Bureau in ensuring that the more than half a million Army and Air National Guard personnel are accessible, capable and ready to protect the homeland and to provide combat capabilities to the Army and the Air Force. Lieutenant General Lengyel shared his life story and offered the students an in-depth perspective on the mission of the citizen soldiers, airmen and women who serve in the National Guard across the country. He knew, even as a small child, that he wanted to be an Air Force pilot like his father. The Air Force mission was embedded in his psyche from an early age, he explained, "Vigilance describes the Air Force ability to monitor the entire planet for threats; reach defines the capability to be anywhere on the entire planet; and power is having the critical force to protect the interests of the United States once the Air Force has arrived." Like the Air Force, the National Guard also has a three-pronged mission, and the General spoke of their similarities and differences. The first function of the National Guard mission is to, "fight the wars," supporting the overall strength of our nation's military. The second function, "protect the homeland," struck close to home for delegates who have seen the National Guard in action during times of natural disaster. Lastly, the National Guard "builds partnerships," currently maintaining partnerships with 68 foreign countries around the

world to support multilateral organizations such as NATO and the European Union, where America has strategic alliances. One of the biggest issues facing the National Guard in the coming decade, he said, are looming budget cuts. General Lengyel recognized the need for fiscal responsibility but stressed the importance of implementing any cuts in measured ways – ensuring that cutbacks do not negatively impact readiness, capacity or capability. The delegates were fast on their feet with questions for the General, including several questions about the National Guard assistance to communities after Superstorm Sandy. He spoke movingly of the visible relief that can be seen on the faces of survivors as the Guard's trucks and supplies arrive after a hurricane or other natural disaster. A question about unmanned aircraft prompted a discussion about drone technology, or, as General Lengyel pointed out, "They should be termed 'remotely manned aircraft', as there is a lot of manpower still involved." His view is that the usage of drone aircraft has a robust future as technology advances. In closing, as the parent of a teenager himself, General Lengyel urged all delegates to be nice to their parents, and said that he is sure that the 2014 USSYP class "will make a difference on this planet."

Lieutenant General Joseph Lengyel with Department of Defense Education Activity delegates Avalon Roche and Phillip Ramirez

The Outstanding 2014

MILITARY MENTOR TEAM

Competitively selected military officers designated by the Office of the Secretary of Defense were led by Senior Military Officer Major Anthony Krockel, USMC and Assistant Senior Military Officer Captain Ricardo Rodriguez, USA.



[Front row] left to right: 1st Lieutenant Meghan Booze, USAF; LCDR Danielle Hicks, USN; Major Anthony Krockel, USMC; Lieutenant General Joseph Lengyel; Captain Ricardo Rodriguez, USA; Lieutenant Mary Morgan, USCG; Lieutenant Jeffrey Janaro, USCG

[Second row] left to right: Captain Ainsley Allen, USAF; Lieutenant Lucrecha Calleance, USN; Captain Corey Chance, USAF; Lieutenant Pia Chapman, USN; Captain Yuwynn Ho, USMC

[Third row] left to right: Major Edward Bahdi, USA; Captain Neville Welch, USMC; LCDR Eugene McGuinness, USCG; Major Jason Park, ANG; Major Humberto Alvarez, USA; Lieutenant Anthony Coleman, USN





THE EXAMPLE OF NELSON MANDELA

Shines on USSYP Ambassador Lunch

Nelson Mandela's death in December 2013 evoked worldwide commendation of the life of one who exemplified leadership, courage and service to humanity in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles. South African diplomat, First Secretary Aluwani Museisi of South Africa's Embassy in Washington came before the delegates to commemorate the former President of the Rainbow Nation, and to impart lessons gleaned from Mandela's life and words for the audience of young people deeply committed to serving the common good. Mr. Museisi shared how Nelson Mandela had given up what could have been a comfortable life to fight against intransigent injustice. Twenty-seven years in prison did not diminish his abiding belief in the cause of equity and equality for all. For Mr. Mandela, education was a key in overturning years of inequality, as he said, "Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, the son of a mine worker can become the head of the mine, and a child of a farm worker can become the president of a great nation. It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given that separates one person from another." Mandela fought to better the lives of all Africans with the global view that "South Africa cannot be an island of prosperity in a sea of poverty." Importantly, after emerging victorious in the creation of a new nation, when he could have sought revenge and retribution, perhaps Mr. Mandela's greatest legacy is that he chose forgiveness. That was, as Mr. Museisi said, "The path less travelled. Nelson Mandela showed South Africa, and ultimately the world, that reconciliation is better

than retribution. When he stepped out of that prison, the majority of Africans said, 'Give me a gun, Mandela. I will die for you.' He responded by courage, that only true leadership can have. He responded by leading people towards peace. In a time when the chief decisions were taken based on polls, if he had succumbed to the request for war, it would have been understandable. However, this was not the leadership Mr. Mandela espoused. He was not a leader for convenience." Mr. Museisi shared his personal story with the students describing his background in economics and love for diplomatic work. "After all, if we are all to coexist in peace and prosperity, we need to communicate effectively and find solutions to our common challenges," he said. The delegates were rife with questions: whether the racial inequalities of the past have been truly addressed in South Africa today, if he felt that lessons learned in forging peace in South Africa could be applied to the conflict in the Middle East or elsewhere, and guestions about water scarcity and other environmental issues. One student posed the thought that the United States is an opposite reflection of South Africa's "island of prosperity in a sea of poverty." Could America's urban areas be islands of poverty in a sea of prosperity? (Full video of this presentation is available on the USSYP website: www.ussenateyouth.org). Mr. Museisi, touted South Africa's beautiful cultural and environmental treasures encouraging the delegates to visit, and closed by reminding the students of Nelson Mandela's call to young people everywhere, "A brighter future beckons. The onus is on us, through hard work, honesty and integrity, to reach for the stars."

C-SPAN FEATURES WASHINGTON WEEK IN PRIME TIME

Public Affairs Network Founder Hosts Annual Town Hall with Students

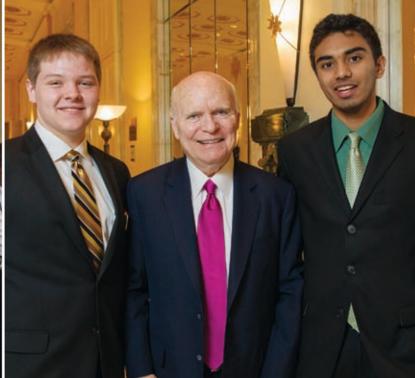
The Grand Ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel was once again transformed into a television studio for the well-known C-SPAN program Q and A hosted by C-SPAN Founder and Executive Chairman Brian Lamb, Mr. Lamb, in his sixth consecutive appearance with the program, begins Friday morning of Washington Week each year with a rarified opportunity for the students to contemplate, reflect and express their thoughts on the whirlwind of unparalleled moments and events they have experienced since arriving in D.C. Through his signature style of total objectivity, dry wit and singular focus on the subjects he interviews, Mr. Lamb creates a magical atmosphere where the students' natural eloquence and intellect shines. Asking what their favorite experiences were and why elicited a spectrum of responses from being awestruck at being able to speak live with astronauts in space at NASA to

being in the same room and conversing with the President to learning about specific aspects of judicial philosophy from Justice Scalia. More nuanced insights were also on display. Delegates revealed how the interaction with their fellow students had deeply influenced their senses of self, of motivation and of appreciation for the diversity of the country and value of civil discourse, tolerance and debate. "The experience of being able to talk to someone else who cares so deeply about public service, and has a passion to change things, was an incredible experience for me," said one, describing his appreciation for his USSYP roommate. The speakers' words, written verbatim in the copious notes taken throughout the week, were quoted often, already memorized by the truly outstanding young leaders. Video of the program in its entirety is available on the USSYP website: www.ussenateyouth.org.



[below right] Brian Lamb with Indiana delegates
Justin Garrard and Eashan Kumar









DISTINGUISHED EDUCATORS JOIN DELEGATES FOR WASHINGTON WEEK

The President of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and selection administrators from the states of the USSYP Senate Co-Chairs are invited to join the delegates each year for Washington Week. We thank our partners in education for all that they do to support the student selection process.

2014 DELEGATE FAREWELL SPEECHES AND DISTINGUISHED EDUCATORS An Evening to say Farewell

Washington Week tradition provides the students the opportunity to elect two delegates to offer farewell remarks. Delegates Madison Eckert of Nevada and Patrick Flanigan of Louisiana inspired and entertained their fellow delegates with emotional, thought-provoking and humorous speeches. The Farewell Dinner brought poignant closure to the week with a moving flag-folding ceremony by the Military Mentors and the Presentation of the Colors by the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard.



MS. BARBARA-JANE PARIS

President of the National Association of Secondary School Principals

Former president of the Texas Association Secondary School Principals and a longtime principal in Austin, Texas



MS. TOBIE LIEDES

Administrative Specialist and U.S. Senate Youth Program Coordinator

Representative of the Montana Office of Public Instruction



MS. CHARLOTTE WOEHLER

Curriculum and Instruction Representative of the Tennessee Department of Education

[above left] Delegate Madison Eckert of Nevada
[above right] Delegate Patrick Flanigan of Louisiana







HONORS FROM THEIR SENATORS



















SENATE RECEPTION ATTENDEES

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM 2014

58 Senators participated in the Washington Week 2014, either at speaking events or by attending the 52nd Annual USSYP Senate Reception where they congratulated their student delegates and presented them with their \$5,000 college scholarship certificates.



ALABAMA

Senator Richard C. Shelby with Jared Hunter and Lisa Guraya



ALABAMA

Senator Jeff Sessions with Jared Hunter and Lisa Guraya



ALASKA

Senator Lisa Murkowski with John Walsworth and Shanelle Afcan



ALASKA

Senator Mark Begich with Shanelle Afcan and John Walsworth



ARIZONA

Senator Jeff Flake with Jonathan Coronel and Robert London



ARKANSAS

Senator Mark L. Pryor with Abhilasha Gokulan and Adam Williams



ARKANSAS

Senator John Boozman with Abhilasha Gokulan and Adam Williams



COLORADO

Senator Michael F. Bennet with Chinmay Pandit and Tessa Slagle



CONNECTICUT

Senator Richard Blumenthal with Jonathan Mumby and Yingxian Guo



GEORGIA

Senator Johnny Isakson with Jana Kelnhofer and Tammy VuPham



LOUISIANA

Senator David Vitter with Nathan Lilly and Patrick Flanigan



MAINE

Senator Susan M. Collins with Zachary Duperry and Carolyn Liziewski



HAWAII

Senator Mazie K. Hirono with Megan Batangan and Matthew Beattie-Callahan



IDAHO

Senator Michael Crapo with Taylor Adler and Catherine Yenne



MAINE

Senator Angus S. King, Jr. with Carolyn Liziewski and Zachary Duperry



MARYLAND

Senator Barbara A. Mikulski with Albert Corvah, William Bounds and Kieran Murphy



IDAHO

Senator James E. Risch with Taylor Adler and Catherine Yenne



INDIANA

Senator Daniel Coats with Justin Garrard and Eashan Kumar



MISSISSIPPI

Senator Thad Cochran with Representative Alan Nunnelee, Luke Kelly and John Kyle



MISSISSIPPI

Senator Roger F. Wicker with Luke Kelly and John Kyle



INDIANA

Senator Joe Donnelly with

Justin Garrard and Eashan Kumar



IOWA

Senator Charles Grassley with Edgar Thornton IV, Phillip Ramirez and Pablo Haake



MONTANA

Senator John E. Walsh with Sharidan Russell and Rachel Skaar



MONTANA

Senator Jon Tester with Sharidan Russell and Rachel Skaar



KANSAS

Senator Pat Roberts with Elizabeth Thomas and Caleb Hurst



KANSAS

Senator Jerry Moran with Caleb Hurst and Elizabeth Thomas



NEBRASKA

Senator Mike Johanns with Robert Larsen and Joseph Zach



NEBRASKA

Senator Deb Fischer with Robert Larsen and Joseph Zach



KENTUCKY

Senator Rand Paul with
Asya Akca and Matthew Thomas



LOUISIANA

Senator Mary L. Landrieu with Patrick Flanigan and Nathan Lilly



NEW HAMPSHIRE

Senator Jeanne Shaheen with Jesse Austin and Leah Stagnone



NEW HAMPSHIRE

Senator Kelly Ayotte with Jesse Austin and Leah Stagnone

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NEW JERSEY

Senator Robert Menendez with Rafael Nunez and Allison Berger



NEW JERSEY

Senator Cory Booker with Rafael Nunez and Allison Berger



SOUTH DAKOTA

Senator John Thune with Lane Haskell and Gina Elmore



TENNESSEE

Senator Lamar Alexander with Niman Mann and Daniel Rose



NEW MEXICO

Senator Tom Udall with Isabella Cervantes and Haley Hamblin



NEW MEXICO

Senator Martin Heinrich with Isabella Cervantes and Haley Hamblin



UTAH

Senator Mike Lee with Rachel Sybrowsky and Tyler Mansfield



VERMONT

Senator Patrick J. Leahy with Katrina Derderian and Christopher Prado



NORTH CAROLINA

Senator Kay R. Hagan with Tanner Glenn and Caroline Tervo



NORTH DAKOTA

Senator Heidi Heitkamp with Bethany Berntson and Tyler Toepke-Floyd



VIRGINIA

Senator Mark R. Warner and Senator Tim Kaine with Matthew Watts and Patrick Mumm



VIRGINIA

Senator Tim Kaine with Matthew Watts and Patrick Mumm



OKLAHOMA

Senator James M. Inhofe with Gloria Tso and Ryan Chapman



PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. with Stanley Marciniak III and Xiomara Salazar Flores



WEST VIRGINIA

Senator Joe Manchin with Dominic Raymond III and Adrienne Arnold



WISCONSIN

Senator Ron Johnson with Ross Dahlke and Neil Kline



PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Patrick J. Toomey with Stanley Marciniak III and Xiomara Salazar Flores



RHODE ISLAND

Senator Jack Reed with Reilly McGreen and Samuel Ackerman



WISCONSIN

Senator Tammy Baldwin with Ross Dahlke and Neil Kline



WYOMING

Senator Michael B. Enzi with Dakota Frederick and Joseph Rubino



SOUTH CAROLINA

Senator Tim Scott with Brandon Muniz and Tanner Slagle



SOUTH DAKOTA

Senator Tim Johnson with Gina Elmore and Lane Haskell



WYOMING

Senator John Barrasso with Dakota Frederick and Joseph Rubino

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Although each speaker had different views, backgrounds, and positions, there was a resounding theme throughout the week: in order to be a public servant, one must put their country above all. We, as the future leaders of this great country, must put the American people above partisanship, elections, ambition and fame. The goal as a public servant is not to become a household name, but rather to bring about beneficial change in every household.

LISA GURAYA - AL 2014

Our interactions were characterized by a remarkable ability to compromise with one another. At one point, Judge Henry told us to ask the question, "What is the best thing my opponent has said?" A general lack of tolerance, empathy, and compromise seems to be a pervasive problem in our government, but to see that this group of future leaders was willing to listen attentively to each other and then accept a differing point of view truly renews one's hope for the future. I am confident that, when this group inherits the responsibility, we will rise to the occasion to advance, not our own agendas, but the collective welfare of the nation.

JUSTIN GARRARD - IN 2014

Monday afternoon, Courtroom, Supreme Court. "Why is America free?" asked Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Before I listened to Justice Scalia speak, I would have promptly responded that we are a free country because we have a constitution which protects our freedoms. He forced us to think not about the freedoms protected in the Constitution, but instead about the structure of the government as a whole. He forced us to redefine why we are free in the context of how we are free. His interpretation of justice was one so foreign to me; however, after listening to him explain his own ideas for an hour, my own were broadened and changed.

CAROLYN LIZIEWSKI - ME 2014

One of the most interesting points in the week was sitting in the silence of the Supreme Court chambers awaiting the arrival of Justice Scalia. With such pomp and circumstance you would have expected a Zeus-like figure to emerge from the back to speak and yet out came Justice Scalia, a normal man in a suit eager to share his passion and philosophy for U.S. law. A friendly reminder that those who serve this nation are not much different from us. They too were once eager young people looking for a chance to help wherever they could. This was reiterated with Senator Corker who spoke of his path to the Senate which was dominated by his work in helping his local community find housing. And was also revealed in the stories of Senators Clay and Calhoun shared by Senate Historian Donald Ritchie.

GABRIEL UNRUH - MO 2014

Meeting President Barack Obama was undoubtedly the most impactful experience I had during a week filled with many extraordinary—and often surreal—experiences. When he walked into the room, everyone seemed to draw a collective breath and for a moment, we all stood awestruck. As the President of the United States, a leader who is at once powerful, charismatic, and inspiring, spoke to us, one piece of advice particularly resonated with me. "Don't ever become cynical," he said. "Be optimistic because you are our country's future." President Obama reaffirmed my passion for helping others through meaningful leadership and reminded me that no dream is too big with hard work and hope.

YINGXIAN GUO - CT 2014

The people who are crazy enough to believe that they can change the world are often the ones who do. Washington Week teaches delegates three pillars: Leadership, Education, and Public Service. Delegates will never forget these pillars with which they can achieve anything they set their sights on. That is why the U.S. Senate Youth Program forges lifelong friendships, and develops Senators, Congressmen, state legislators and governors. That is why one day our president will be a Senate Youth alum. Congressman Gardner, an alumnus of the program, reminds us that our problems are not unique but our solutions must be. The Senate Youth Program develops citizens who are prepared to create solutions for America.

JONATHAN MACK - MA 2014

I had the pleasure of hearing from three Senators during Washington Week—Senator Jon Tester, Senator Bob Corker, and Senator Carl Levin—and was able to see several others during the Senate Reception. However, it was the opportunity to meet my own senator, Senator Chuck Grassley, which stands out most in my mind. I had never met one of my elected officials before, so being able to shake Senator Grassley's hand, look him in the eye, and have a conversation with him was an amazing experience

PHILLIP RAMIREZ - DODEA 2014

One particular speaker that really stood out to me was Secretary of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Shaun Donovan. Not only did he provide encouraging words about the next generation of leaders and the future of homelessness in the U.S., but he also disclosed what brought him into his line of work. Having lived in the city environment, he witnessed the effects of homelessness in action and from then on sought to make a difference. In his parting words, he encouraged us to follow our passions that lead us to change the world, and that government is "more than just policy. It's about the people we serve."

JESSE AUSTIN - NH 2014

Another part of the program that I enjoyed was meeting various accomplished women in politics today like Elizabeth MacDonough, who is the Senate's first female Parliamentarian, and Madame Christine Lagarde, the first female Managing Director for the International Monetary Fund. Though not involved in politics, another female speaker that particularly inspired me was Dr. Michelle Thaller of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. I had seen Dr. Thaller featured in many science programs on television before so, suffice it to say, I was thrilled when I got a chance to personally meet and talk with her. Dr. Thaller's enthusiasm for discovering the mysteries of the cosmos reminds me never to lose the childlike curiosity with which we are all born with, one which she carries with her so well.

TIDDY MAUTI - DE 2014



The military mentors implanted wisdom that will impact the way I look at everyday life. To be mentored by individuals as decorated and knowledgeable as they were is incredible to me. From the military mentors, I resolved to be proactive and passionate; to never doubt my full potential, because I can accomplish incredible things if only I try.

GINA ELMORE - SD 2014

USSYP taught us to never stand for injustice but always look for societal improvement. USSYP left us knowing that while we cannot live forever, we can create something that can last generations. USSYP made us understand that politics is the art and science of bringing people together to make positive change and is not the evil that many perceive it to be.

DANIEL HAMIDI - CA 2014

I love physics and I have an interest in astronomy so it is obvious what day was my favorite --- the NASA headquarters. I was like a little kid in a candy shop. Mr. Bolden was a phenomenal speaker and gave insight to the fact that you never know exactly where you will end up in life. He stressed that you have to persevere through tough challenges and never lose your integrity.

JONATHAN MUMBY - CT 2014

Contrary to popular perception, I experienced a Washington, D.C. full of people who only want the best for our country. From the outside looking in, things can start to look misguided and uneventful, but I saw the hard work being done day in and day out. Even more importantly, I have faith that our country is in good hands with our generation. As President Obama told us, "Do not be cynical," for it is our generation who must carry the torch of democracy onto the next generation.

JOSEPH ZACH - NE 2014

The military mentors really made Washington Week what it was for me. Yes, the military mentors served to make sure none of us were left behind in one of the tunnels connecting the Senate office buildings, but they also served as an adult perspective into the whole week. Listening to political leaders that I had seen on Yahoo! News every day for the past year was awe-inspiring, even if I did not agree with their political views. However, the military mentors helped me decipher between "this politician is famous" and "this person said something that I strongly disagree with." The mentors made every delegate feel welcome at every meal and social situation. Captain Welch, in particular, often provided me with the most thought provoking ideas and commentary, most of which I could never receive in school.

JANA KELNHOFER - GA 2014

I realized I would never be able to give justice to the magnitude of Washington Week on the Thursday during which we visited NASA, met President Obama, and attended a National Symphony concert. That night, as I tried to summarize the day's events for my Dad, I forgot to mention our question and answer session with astronauts on the International Space Station. I had communicated with space and failed to remember it!

ELIZABETH (BETTY) THOMAS - KS 2014

Often I believe that the American public, and especially young students interested in politics, have the tendency to elevate our public servants to a level which we believe we cannot achieve. However, after hearing Senator Tester's booming laugh and Senator Corker's sincerity when talking about what he has done in office, it made me realize that these politicians and public servants aren't people we can merely aspire to be like; they are people we can be. Hearing from leaders of every branch of government gave me a greater understanding and appreciation for our nation's unique governmental structure and how the government functions as a whole. After leaving Washington Week, the concepts I had so often heard about in AP Government class became so much clearer, and I gained a new appreciation for the foresight and vision of the Founding Fathers.

MATTHEW BEATTIE - CALLAHAN - HI 2014

There was one question, posed by our military mentor Capt.

Neville Welch (USMC) to my mentor group that kept returning to me throughout the week, as we heard new speakers, visited new places, and I met new delegates: "What really matters?" For George Washington, as we learned upon visiting Mount Vernon, it was not personal glory or power that mattered, but insuring a peaceful, democratic transfer of power for the sake of all future Americans. The International Monetary Fund's Managing Director Christine Lagarde and South African emissary Aluwani Museisi explained to us what matters to them was not solely the improvement of their respective countries but the advancement of the world as a whole, united by a common goal of peace and prosperity for all.

PABLO HAAKE - IA 2014

Of all the aspects of this amazing program, it was my fellow delegates that made this week incredible. They are some of the kindest and most intelligent people I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. I made many friendships on this trip that I know will last a lifetime and I could not have asked for a better group of people to share this incredible experience with. After spending a week with this impressive group of students I feel confident in saying that President Lincoln need not worry, with future leaders such as these our "government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

REILLY MCGREEN - RI 2014

Looking back, one starts to realize the gravity of the "Washington Week" experience. The people we met and the things we saw were of such a unique nature that the scholarship portion of the award begins to look like a mere afterthought. One of the most striking events of the week was our supper in the rotunda of the National Archives. Dining with the 103 other delegates as well as other distinguished guests including Senator Bob Corker in front of the founding documents of the nation we love was a powerful event in my life. We ate shrimp and rice in the presence of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison; something that very few people can say that they've done.

DANIEL CARTER - MO 2014



Our present culture sometimes supports negativity and cynicism, but Washington Week showed me that I have other options in life. This week inspired me to never stop dreaming, to take what you are given and somehow make it better, and to pour your heart and soul into something, "not because it's easy, but because it is hard." And for that I am forever grateful.

TROY BRIDSON - MA 2014

Charles F. Bolden, Jr. told us: "Do all that you can with what you've been given, wherever you are." I will remember President Barack Obama's words of wisdom: "Don't be cynical. Be optimistic because you are our country's future." And I know that I cannot be cynical. Because as Representative Cory Gardner of Colorado pointed out, "We have a passion to rise—that we will always be better than the day before." Leaving USSYP, I know what I need to do. Specifically, at Justice Scalia's suggestion, I need to read the Federalist Papers from cover to cover. But also, I need to exercise this newfound knowledge and passion for public service so that I can leave the world a better place than it was yesterday.

PRISCILLA GUO - NY 2014

A notable program speaker, Madame Christine Lagarde, asked us a simple but meaningful question that summed up this whole week: she told us to always ask "Why? And Why not?" My fellow delegates served as the prime example of this quote as they continue their future endeavors and challenge the world around them. I am so glad I chose "Why not?" when applying for this program. I would have missed out on the best week of my life.

ISABELLA CERVANTES - NM 2014

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DELEGATES TOURED HISTORIC SITES IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

























CANDID PHOTOS FROM WASHINGTON WEEK 2014







OFFICIAL SENATOR AND STUDENT DELEGATE ROSTER

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM 2014

ALABAMA



Senator Richard C. Shelby



Senator Jeff Sessions



Lisa Guraya Oak Mountain High School



Jared Hunter Saint James High School

ALASKA



Senator Lisa Murkowski



Senator Mark Begich



Shanelle Afcan Mt. Edgecumbe High School



John Walsworth Homer High School

ARIZONA



Senator John McCain



Senator Jeff Flake



Jonathan Coronel Corona del Sol High School



Robert London Blue Ridge High School

ARKANSAS



Mark L. Pryor



Senator John Boozman



Abhilasha Gokulan Little Rock Central



Adam Williams Valley View High School

CALIFORNIA



Dianne Feinstein



Senator Barbara Boxer



High School

Valencia High School



Sabrina Van Zuiden Hilltop High School

COLORADO



Senator Mark Udall



Senator Michael F. Bennet



Chinmay Pandit Fossil Ridge High School



Tessa Slagle Rangely High School

CONNECTICUT



Senator Richard Blumenthal



Christopher Murphy



Yingxian Guo West Haven High School Bloomfield High School





Thomas R. Carper



Senator



Tiddy Mauti Hodgson Vocational



William Bounds

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton



Maria Bayon Woodrow Wilson Senior High School



Malachi Byrd Cesar Chavez Public Policy Charter School

FLORIDA



Bill Nelson



Marco Rubio



Charles Krumholz Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts



Pembroke Pines Charter High School



Kaiserslautern American High School, Germany, DoDEA

GEORGIA



Saxby Chambliss



Senator Johnny Isakson



Jana Kelnhofer Oconee County High School



Tammy VuPham Atlanta International School

HAWAII

IDAHO



Brian Schatz



Senator Mazie K. Hirono



Megan Batangan Kamehameha Schools



Matthew Beattie-Callahan Iolani School

DELAWARE





Christopher A. Coons



Technical School



Delmar High School





Michael Crapo



Senator James E. Risch



Taylor Adler The Community School



Vallivue High School

ILLINOIS



Senator Richard J. Durbin



Senator Mark Kirk



Austin Tuttle Williamsville High School



Mary-Margaret Koch York Community High School

LOUISIANA



Senator Mary L. Landrieu



Senator Pa David Vitter M



Patrick Flanigan Mandeville High School



Nathan Lilly Dutchtown High School

INDIANA



Senator Daniel Coats



Senator Joe Donnelly



Justin Garrard Lebanon High School



Eashan Kumar Munster High School

MAINE



Senator Susan M. Collins



Senator Angus S. King, Jr.



Zachary Duperry Deering High School



Carolyn Liziewski Catherine McAuley High School

IOWA



Senator Charles Grassley



Senator Tom Harkin



Pablo Haake Davenport Central High School



Edgar Thornton IV Iowa City High School



Philip Ramirez Vilseck High School, Germany, DoDEA

MARYLAND



Senator Barbara A. Mikulski



Senator Benjamin L. Cardin



Albert Corvah Howard High School



Kieran Murphy James M. Bennett High School

KANSAS



Senator Pat Roberts



Senator Jerry Moran



Caleb Hurst Burrton High School



Elizabeth Thomas Shawnee Mission West High School

MASSACHUSETTS



Senator Elizabeth Warren



Senator Edward J. Markey



Troy Bridson Hanover High School



Jonathan Mack Longmeadow High School

KENTUCKY



Senator Mitch McConnell



Senator Rand Paul



Asya Akca Kentucky Country Day



Matthew Thomas Rowan County High School

MICHIGAN



Senator Carl Levin



Senator Debbie Stabenow



Jacqueline Qiu Skyline High School



Katharine Wang Washtenaw International High School

MINNESOTA



Senator Amy Klobuchar



Senator Al Franken



Timothy Bergeland Hopkins High School



Priyanka Narayan Wayzata High School





Senator

Harry Reid

Senator Dean Heller

Senator



Madison Eckert Reno High School



Garrett Kalt Churchill County High School

MISSISSIPPI



Thad Cochran



Roger F. Wicker



Luke Kelly East Central High School



Desoto Central High School

NEW HAMPSHIRE



Jeanne Shaheen



Kelly Ayotte Newfound Regional High School



Leah Stagnone Campbell High School

MISSOURI



Claire McCaskill



Senator Roy Blunt



Daniel Carter Oakville High School



Gabriel Unruh Platte County High School

NEW JERSEY



Robert Menendez



Senator Cory Booker



Allison Berger Kent Place School



Rafael Nunez Irvington High School

MONTANA



Senator Jon Tester



Senator John E. Walsh



Sharidan Russell Polson High School



Rachel Skaar Capital High School

NEW MEXICO



Senator Tom Udall



Senator Martin Heinrich



Isabella Cervantes Las Cruces High School



Haley Hamblin Moriarty High School

NEBRASKA



Mike Johanns



Senator Deb Fischer



Papillion-LaVista South High School



Joseph Zach Skutt Catholic High School

NEW YORK



Charles E. Schumer



Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand



Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK High School



Priscilla Guo Hunter College High School

NORTH CAROLINA



Senator Richard Burr



Senator Kay R. Hagan



Tanner Glenn

High School

Corinth Holders



Caroline Tervo JT Hoggard High School

NORTH DAKOTA



Senator John Hoeven



Senator Heidi Heitkamp



Valley City Jr-Sr High School



Tyler Toepke-Floyd Wishek High School

OHIO



Senator Sherrod Brown



Senator Rob Portman



Mansi Arora Olentangy Liberty High School



Unioto High School

OKLAHOMA



James M. Inhofe



Senator Tom Coburn



Ryan Chapman Norman North High School



Bartlesville High School

OREGON



Ron Wyden



Senator Jeff Merkley



Max Denning



PENNSYLVANIA



Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.



Senator Patrick J. Toomey



Stanley Marciniak III North Hills High School



Xiomara Salazar Flores Berwick Area High School

RHODE ISLAND



Jack Reed



Sheldon Whitehouse



Samuel Ackerman Cumberland High School



Reilly McGreen South Kingstown High School

SOUTH CAROLINA



Lindsey Graham



Senator Tim Scott



Brandon Muniz Aiken High School



Tanner Slagle The Scholars Academy

SOUTH DAKOTA



Senator Tim Johnson



Senator John Thune



Hot Springs High School



Lane Haskell St. Thomas More High School







Parkrose High School



McMinnville High School





Lamar Alexander



Senator Bob Corker



Niman Mann Ravenwood High School Overton High School



Daniel Rose

TEXAS



Senator John Cornyn



Senator Ted Cruz



Sachin Gupta Byron Nelson High School



Sarah Lanford Memorial Senior High School

UTAH



Senator Orrin G. Hatch



Senator Mike Lee



Tyler Mansfield Uintah High School



Rachel Sybrowsky Timpview High School

VERMONT



Senator Patrick J. Leahy



Senator Bernard Sanders



Katrina Derderian Rice Memorial High School



Christopher Prado Colchester High School

VIRGINIA



Senator Mark R. Warner



Senator Tim Kaine



Patrick Mumm Princess Anne High School



Matthew Watts Grafton High School

WASHINGTON



Senator Patty Murray



Senator Maria Cantwell



William Khadivi Mountlake Terrace High School



Mitchell Wahlmeier Edmonds-Woodway High School

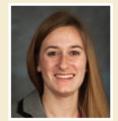
WEST VIRGINIA



Senator John D. Rockefeller, IV



Senator Joe Manchin III



Adrienne Arnold George Washington High School



Dominic Raymond III Trinity Christian School

WISCONSIN



Senator Ron Johnson



Senator Tammy Baldwin



Ross Dahlke Westfield Area High School



Neil Kline Unity High School

WYOMING



Senator Michael B. Enzi



Senator John Barrasso



Dakota Frederick Guernsey-Sunrise High School



Joseph Rubino Laramie High School

A FAMILY, A FOUNDATION, A LEGACY



GEORGE HEARST



PHOEBE A.HEARST



WILLIAM R. HEARST



GEORGE R. HEARST, SR.



RANDOLPH A. HEARST

For 52 years, the United States Senate Youth Program has brought thousands of America's brightest young students to Washington, returning them home with insight into their heritage and scholarships to further their education. Each year the students leave with lasting impressions of their week including new friendships forged in shared experiences which many term "life-changing."

Although they did not live to see the program's creation, the progenitors of The Hearst Foundations are with the USSYP delegates each year in spirit. An exemplar of American success, George Hearst was born on a farm in Missouri and went west to seek his fortune in mining. Through industry and acumen he developed the family fortune, eventually becoming a U.S. Senator for California. At the time of his death in 1891, he had served four years of his six-year term. His wife, pioneering philanthropist Phoebe Apperson Hearst, distinguished herself as one of America's most accomplished women, dedicating herself to educational and children's causes. She co-founded the National Parent Teachers Association in 1897, and when she died one educator said, "Her charities were as broad as the sea and as silent as the quiet of the night."

William Randolph Hearst, their only child, was born in 1863 and became one of the great legends of American journalism – establishing vast media holdings and new forms of communication as his newspapers detailed the history of the 20th century. During his life he gave millions of dollars to colleges, hospitals, kindergartens and museums and in the decade before his death he established the two foundations that bear his name.

The United States Senate Youth Program was envisioned by William Randolph Hearst's sons, George R. Hearst and Randolph A. Hearst, who worked with the Senate Leadership of the day – Senators Kuchel, Mansfield, Dirksen and Humphrey – to establish and authorize the program in 1962. Since inception, the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders and the Vice President of the United States have served as the program's Honorary Co-Chairs; two Senators, one of each party, serve as annual Co-Chairs; and an eight-Senator bipartisan panel serves as the annual Advisory Committee. The Hearst Foundations fully fund and administer all operational aspects of the program including college scholarships and yearly grants to the state departments of education to support the selection of delegates.

The Hearst Foundations continue to support numerous charitable and educational organizations across the country. The Foundations' two flagship initiatives are the United States Senate Youth Program and the annual William Randolph Hearst Journalism Awards Program, begun in 1960, to encourage journalistic excellence and to support journalism education at accredited undergraduate schools of journalism across the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HEARST FOUNDATIONS PLEASE ACCESS: WWW.HEARSTFDN.ORG



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