

[REDACTED]
DALY CITY, CALIFORNIA, 94015
[REDACTED]

December 15, 1993

Mr. Brian Lamb
Chairman & Chief Exec. Officer
C-SPAN
Suite #650
400 North Capitol Str., NW
Washington, DC, 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb,

On behalf of [REDACTED] I wish to thank you for your support of the
Close Up Foundation.

This school year our students participated in the week long program in
Washington, D.C. and Williamsburg, Virginia during the week of November 14,
1993. I cannot tell you how much each of the participants enjoyed this
educational adventure.

We are most grateful for your special efforts on behalf of this organization and
hope that you continue to show your support.

I am enclosing some student letters to share with you our gratitude.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Close Up Advisor

[REDACTED] :rr

enc:

[REDACTED]
San Francisco, CA 94159
December 2, 1993

Mr. Brian Lamb
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
C-SPAN
Suite 650
400 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb:

I am a senior attending [REDACTED] in Daly City, California, and I have recently traveled to Washington D.C. via the Close Up Foundation of Northern California. A total of eight students from our school decided to venture into the great city of Washington D.C. and discover the government and the political process through a hands-on experience. I am glad to have been part of this momentous experience of exploring our nation's capital. A city of great people and historical events, of national and political monuments; the home of the President, Congress, the Supreme Court, and the bureaucracy--this is Washington D.C., a city of action and a place where every act affects the rest of our country.

Our trip to Washington, Close Up style, enabled us to explore the government from the inside and see how it really works. Going to Washington D.C. was the ultimate experience in learning, and not just in academic learning. For me, it was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Among many other things, I experienced the intense beauty and immensity of our country and understood that nothing is more important in a democratic system than the informed participation of the citizens in the political process.

One of the many places that we visited was the Freedom Plaza, from where I seized this quote: "Whatever we are looking for, we come to Washington in millions to stand in silence and try to find it." (Bruce Catton) For me, this one quote most memorably describes the unique program of Close Up.

My school and I thank you greatly for your support of this excellent program and hope that you will continue to sponsor Close Up--the institution without walls.

Yours truly,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Daly City CA 94015
December 5, 1993

Mr. Brian Lamb
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
C-SPAN
Suite 650
400 North Capital Street, NW
Washington DC 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb:

Thank you for supporting the Closeup Program. I just couldn't describe how wonderful the program was. In this week-long trip, my thinking on government had leveled up.

Before I participated in the program, I always felt I knew everything on the subject. I believed many students who were lacked in the school would agree with it. As I participated in the program, I started realize the limited amount of knowledge and experience toward the government. What I learnt from the textbook was the fundamental part.

I felt very fortunate to attend the NAFTA debate in the House of Representative. However, the process which I saw in the House was quite astonishing. In my imagination, I believed the representatives would sit orderly and spoke with respect to each other. I was basically amazed by the chaotic situation inside the House. However, they still had their jobs completed.

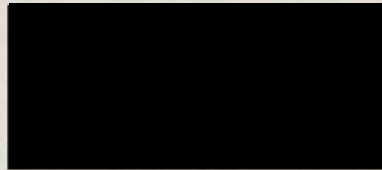
This was an exhausting week. However, during this period, my thinking opened up. I grew from the person in the confined classroom to one who experienced the real process behind our democracy. I felt very fortunate to participate in the program and I would like you to continue the support to this most worth Closeup Program. Thank you!

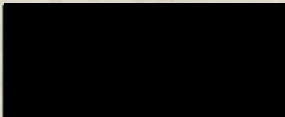
Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Brian Lamb,

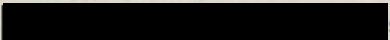
I would really like to commend you for your strong support in the Close Up program. It is people like you who make this program possible. I had a wonderful experience with the program. I might even go again next year as a senior because it was so rewarding and fun. I really encourage you to continue your support so my sisters and others will be able to experience this program. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

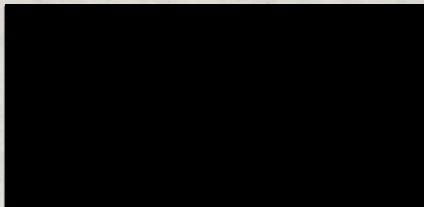



Daly City, Ca. 94015

Dear Mr. Brian Lamb,

I, one of the  students who participated in Close Up this year, would like to thank you for your contributions to Close Up. I just wanted to tell you that in the short week I was there I learned more about the government and Washington, D.C. than I think I will ever learn in a classroom. To put it simply, it was an awakening for me. It is something I will never forget and I cannot wait until I have another opportunity to back. Again, I would like to thank you and C-SPAN for your time and effort.

Sincerely,



Dear Mr. Brian Lamb,

I am [REDACTED], a high school student attending [REDACTED] in Daly City California. I recently attended a program called Close-Up. It was a great experience for me & helped me learn a great deal more about my country.

During the trip, which lasted a week, students from all over the United States were participating in such things as meeting their state representatives & senators, listening in on the NAFTA debates, & getting to know, up close, the capitol of the United States of America & what it was founded on. I can honestly say that the week I was in Washington D.C. was the most interesting & best learning experience I will (most likely) ever have.

I understand that you support the Close-Up program. In doing so, you are helping to enrich the lives of many teen-agers.

Thank You

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
High School Senior
Recent participant of the Northern California Program
through the Close Up Program

Mr. Brian Lamb:
(in response to your dedicated sponsorship of the
Northern California Program through the **Close Up Foundation**)

Three weeks ago, I was in a daze. I had just left the SAT testing center and realized that, "Hey, I'm a senior." I thought if all the various things that I wanted to do as a freshman growing up at Westmoor High School---those cool things that only seniors get to do. "Hmmm....," I thought. "Homecoming? Already missed it. Grad Night? Oh yeah, that's at the end of the year. What's that thing called, that trip to Washington... yeah--that's cool."

So I rushed to the counseling office the following Monday and asked the advisor about the trip. "It's in two weeks!!" I gulped and pretty much gave up right there. I couldn't raise 1100 dollars in ten days. That's impossible. I went home and played video games---with nothing to do.

Mom came home and almost magically, more than coincidentally, asked, "You know that trip to Washington, D.C.? Is it too late for you to go?"

I told her the situation and she looked at me quizzically, "It's not too late, trust me."

So that night mom and I wrote a few dozen letters to all my relatives stating that I am trying to go on an "Educational Trek to the Heart of our great country." We sent the letters the next morning and three days later - I had extra the full amount and extra spending money.

I felt so lucky; my relatives actually cared and, "Hey, I'm getting out of school for a whole week!!! What a deal."

Disillusioned with the thought that this was a just a big "get-out-of-school-field-trip," I ignorantly pack my Game Boy and CD player anticipating something not unlike a six day cruise.

I WAS WRONG.

It hit me in the plane. I woke up as the stewardess mentioned over the intercom that "You are now in our nation's capital. Welcome to Washington D.C." I looked out the window to my left and was captured by the majesty of the Washington Monument shadowed by Capitol Hill at sunset. From then on, I realized that this is more than getting out of school - this is different.

We got to the hotel and I met my roommates, one of which (from Kansas City, Missouri) greeted me with "Yer' frum Californi - Damn, you surfers must be shot at a lot. What are you anyway? You Philippines?" It is so different meeting people your age from across the country. You feel as if there is a whole world you have been missing - which you have.

We immediately go in to workshops led by instructors who are truly top notch and the opportunity to speak your mind and find that the opinions of others are not always your's is incredible. Having never been in this position or even given an opportunity like this, you are simply overwhelmed with the intensity of discussion and the reality of first hand experience. There is nothing like it. I have never spent 16 straight hours doing something that wasn't either screwing around or eating. I had never been so tired after one week --- but want to stay for more.

I wish could tell you everything about my experience - I feel as if i am not doing Close-Up it's due justice but I'd have to write a novel to express what this trip really means to me and a couple hundred of students of which I shared this experience with. Close-Up is an extremely efficient program that provides the opportunity for students to study their government in a way that no textbook ever could. The ability to think, form your own opinion and the chance to ACT is the idealistic premise that Close-Up feeds off of and this premise is what creates the leaders of tomorrow.

I will be graduating this school year and will leave everything at home as I go to college but I will never leave my trip to Washington at home; it will be with me forever.

Thank You for supporting this Special Program,

[REDACTED]