



5,6,7,8 November 2015

Freedom's Foundation

at Valley Forge™

Since 1987, the AMVETS National Service Foundation has offered this unique four-day educational experience at Freedom's Foundation in Valley Forge, Pa., to give young people a better appreciation of the freedoms they enjoy. First place department winners of the 9th grade National Americanism Essay Contest receive an all-expense paid trip to the seminar.

**** PLEASE NOTE ***

*If your department does not conduct such a contest, it **SHOULD** still select a deserving student to benefit from this once in a lifetime experience. It costs your Department "\$0." Students selected must be 10th or 11th graders. (Minimum age is 15 by 31 October or earlier and have completed 9th grade.) Tenth grade is the ideal grade; they should be prepared to represent themselves, their families, their schools and AMVETS in an exemplary manner. Consider:*



- ↓ Amvets "Juniors"
- ↓ Scouts – Eagle or Gold Award
- ↓ High School Honor Students

Every year Departments leave money on the table and deprive worthy young Americans the opportunity for a life changing experience. Not to mention a super PR hook for AMVETS in their local communities. *Please focus on this simple task that will pay huge dividends for a deserving youth.*

*** Student Testimonial ***

I would like to sincerely thank AMVETS for giving me the opportunity to experience a once in a lifetime event. "The Spirit of America" Youth Conference which I attended at Valley Forge is one that I will never forget.

The opportunity to meet youth from across our nation, the seminars, speakers, field trips, banquet, and other events made an indelible impression on my life. I had fun and learned so much.

Thanks so much for an amazing weekend, one, which I will cherish forever.

All posts and departments are encouraged to sponsor, at their own expense, additional students. Names and addresses of students being sponsored by Posts or Departments must reach the National Programs Department by 31 August. Fee for 2015 will again be \$500 plus R/T Air Fare. (Approx. \$1,000)

Questions – Please call Beryl Love, Nat. Programs Director

AMVETS - Spirit of America Youth Conference

SAMPLE

Thursday, November 6, 2014

- 7:00p Dinner
- 8:00 Orientation and Program Overview
- 8:30 Ice Breakers
- Committee Meetings



Friday, November 7, 2014

- 7:30a Breakfast
- 9:00 A Visit with *Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson*
- 10:00 Freedom Summit I –
Constitutional Law Seminar

Dr. Bruce Murphy

*Fred Morgan Kirby Professor of Civil Rights,
Lafayette College*

Dr. Graham Lee

*Department of Political Science
St. Joseph University*



12:30p Lunch

- 1:30 Freedom Summit II
- 3:45 Break
- 4:30 AMVETS workshop
- 5:30 Committee meetings
- 6:30 Dinner
- 7:30 Medal of Honor Workshop
- 8:30 Leadership Carnival
- 10:00 Swap Meet and Ice Cream Social



Saturday, November 8, 2014

- 7:00a Breakfast
- 8:00 Depart for Philadelphia
- 9:00 Mock Trial at the Criminal Justice Center
- 12:00p Lunch at Reading Terminal Market
- 1:00 Tour Colonial Philadelphia
 - *Independence Hall
 - *Liberty Bell
 - *Franklin Court, Franklins Grave & Franklin Print Shop
 - *Carpenters Hall
 - *Christ Church
 - *Betsy Ross House



- 6:30 Banquet
- 7:30 *Leading Significant Lives*
Dan LeClerc



- 8:30 Closing Orientation
- 9:00 Vesper Service
- 9:30 Signer Ceremony
- 10:00 Dance

Sunday, November 9, 2014

- 7:45a Flag Ceremony
- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 Tour of Valley Forge
- 12:00p Departures for Home



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