

## Southwest National Parks 2024

<b>Who goes?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All 9-12th graders</li> <li>● HS Capstone Planning Committee/potential chaperones: Ms. Baragar, Ms. Guppy, Ms. Light, Mr. Nicholson Ms. Roush, Ms. Voss</li> </ul>
<b>When?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>5 nights/6 days between March 3-16, 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Once we know how many students want to travel, we can negotiate with the airlines for the best rates and dates.</li> <li>○ Final dates will be shared before Thanksgiving</li> <li>○ If the final dates don't work for your family, your deposit will be refunded.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>What is on the itinerary &amp; Where?</b>  <p>**We want students to have a voice in some of the things we see and do from stewardship to exploring so we have listed some of the many things we can do in and around the area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Day 1             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Travel Day- Flight</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Day 2-5             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stewardship - people or environmental focused</li> <li>○ Destinations, may include but not limited to:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bryce Canyon National Park</li> <li>■ Zion National Park</li> <li>■ Grand Canyon National Park</li> <li>■ Hoover Dam</li> <li>■ Marble Canyon</li> <li>■ Antelope Canyon</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Activities w/in those locations: could be hiking, atvs, horseback rides, mule rides, sand boarding, guided tours</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Day 6 Travel Day- Flight home</li> </ul>
<b>About How Much?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Estimating our actual costs to be \$1800/student             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>iCademy is capping the student out-of-pocket cost at \$1000</b></li> <li>○ This cost includes ALL lodging, transportation, meals, entrance, and tour fees</li> <li>○ This cost does NOT include souvenirs and snacks</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Why?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Travel is one of iCademy's foundations...we believe experiencing other people and places makes us wiser and kinder!</li> <li>● We planned this experience in this part of the US for the vast diversity in topography as well as the tie-ins we can make to our school wide study of water(SDG#6).</li> <li>● This experience also provides one more opportunity to travel "close-to-home" before a larger international trip next year.</li> </ul>
<b>Payment Schedule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>October 27, 2023 - \$200</b> (refundable deposit) <a href="#">Sign up here</a> to let us know your plans to join us!</li> <li>● <b>Official dates will be released before Thanksgiving</b></li> <li>● <b>December 14, 2023 - \$400</b> (non-refundable)</li> <li>● <b>February 13, 2024 - \$400</b> - final payment, non-refundable</li> </ul> <p>To make other payment arrangements or for financial assistance, please reach out to <a href="mailto:jody.voss@icademyglobal.org">jody.voss@icademyglobal.org</a></p>

## Fundraising Opportunities

Fudge Fundraiser	October/November 2023 - details coming before October break
Biggby Coffee Coupons and Hungry Howie's Pizza Certificate Sale	February 2024 ***This will likely wrap up after final payments are due for our trip. If you are planning to participate in this fundraiser, we will extend your final payment to the completion of the fundraiser.
Other ideas	Do you have other ideas for fundraisers? We would love to hear them! Please send ideas to Ms. Voss or Mr. Meredith

### Other ways you can earn money for your trip:

- ★ Ask grandparents/family for money for your birthday or for Christmas.
- ★ Ask family/friends to donate their empty bottles/cans to you. Return those cans/bottles for cash and put the \$\$ towards your trip.
- ★ Rake leaves/shovel snow for your neighbors and family.
- ★ Babysit or help clean houses

## FAQ's

### Why aren't the dates specific?

We need to know the number of students interested and wanting to travel. Once we have that information we can work with airlines to negotiate the best rates and lock in our dates of travel.

### How will we be traveling?

We will be traveling by plane to get closer to our destinations and then we will be using a charter bus to travel to the specific locations.

### When will a detailed itinerary be solidified?

An itinerary will be solidified when we have the flight information. The activities at each location will be determined by the group of student travelers based on their interests! It is important to the Capstone planning team that students have voice and choice in the activities we participate in.

### Can my parent/guardian join?

Our goal at the High School level is to build confidence and independence in our students. For this reason, we have staff chaperones instead of parent chaperones. It is important for us that students know their chaperone to increase comfort and connection within their school community.

### Can I be in charge of my own medication?

Staff members will be responsible for all medication and will dispense medication as prescribed by your doctor. We will also provide over-the-counter medications on an as needed basis if permission is given by parents before travel. A specific medication form will be provided to student travelers before we travel.

### What impacts the cost of the trip?

We have done our best to estimate costs. Final costs will be dependent on the rates we can negotiate with airlines, bus companies, hotels, etc. Again, our final student count is very important in helping us determine the actual cost. If we are able to reduce the cost significantly, we will communicate that with you and reduce the final payment amounts.

### What about coursework during the dates of travel?

Course work for the week of travel will be exempt for the student travelers. Any course work assigned prior to the trip will need to be completed before travel. We do not bring along student devices, as we want the focus of this trip to be the experience.