My Trip to Washington, D.C.

I want to thank the members of the World Affairs Club for subsidizing my trip to the Youth Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. It was an awesome experience, which combined fun and education. My companions and I learned so much—this trip really enlarged our understanding. I want to communicate my gratitude to those who provided this wonderful opportunity. I’d like to share some of the highlights of my trip.

After arriving, we took the subway into the center of the city. That was a new experience for me, and at first I found it scary to be submerged beneath the ground in a speeding train! But soon I was enjoying it. My teacher, the other students, and I proceeded to the hotel. There we joined an orientation session that was in progress. We got our schedule for the next day, enjoyed a group dinner, and went to bed.

The next day began with a chance to meet with the representative for our district. She and her staff members explained a lot of things to us and encouraged us to ask questions. We were also able to sit in while she chaired a subcommittee meeting. It was very enlightening to see people working on new laws. Later, we sat in the visitors’ gallery and watched a session of Congress. Then we had dinner and another group session, where more public officials promoted the idea of public service.

The trip enhanced my understanding of how our government works. It is more interesting to me now that I have seen part of it in person. Even though I am just starting middle school, I am thinking of a career that might someday propel me into public office. Thank you again for making this trip possible.

Malik Winston