



# 2010 CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY

*a six-week distance learning program that culminates in  
a week-long residential program in Washington, D.C.*

JULY 18-24 | JULY 25-31

## MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR



I am delighted about your interest in being a part of the Bill of Rights Institute's *Constitutional Academy*. We have designed this program with students just like you in mind – students with the interest, intelligence, and motivation to explore critical questions about our past and future as Americans.

Our *Constitutional Academy* gives students like you the opportunity to read works by and about the Founders of the American republic and to engage in discussions about the meaning and implications of these works with other bright students. Our faculty will challenge you to understand the ideas of the American Founding as it was understood then, while also emphasizing how these ideas remain relevant today.

Through daily activities outside the classroom, our *Constitutional Academy* reinforces the ongoing conversation between past and future. Visits to cultural landmarks like Mount Vernon and the National Archives make America's past come alive in a way impossible through reading alone. In addition, we offer several hands-on learning opportunities that

encourage you to consider the ongoing importance of what you have learned.

Perhaps most importantly, you have the opportunity to make lasting friendships with your fellow *Constitutional Academy* students, built on the kind of camaraderie that can only come from sharing an intellectual journey.

Finally, the Bill of Rights Institute's *Constitutional Academy* is designed to prepare rising juniors and seniors like you for the transition from high school to college. In fact, you could say that the program gives you a head start on your college career – students who successfully complete the *Constitutional Academy* will be awarded three college credits!

Thank you for your interest in the Bill of Rights Institute's *Constitutional Academy*. I look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

*Jason Ross, Ph.D.*

*Vice President of Education Programs  
Bill of Rights Institute*

# WHY WAIT FOR COLLEGE WHEN YOU CAN EXPERIENCE IT NOW?



During the *Constitutional Academy* program, you will:

- ▶ Build new friendships with students from across the country who share your interest in history, civics and personal liberty
- ▶ Work with historical documents at the National Archives
- ▶ Visit local sites of historical and constitutional significance such as Mount Vernon and Monticello
- ▶ Interact with award-winning teachers and accomplished scholars from prestigious universities
- ▶ AND earn **THREE college credits at no additional cost!**

The Bill of Rights Institute's *Constitutional Academy* gives you the opportunity to jump start your college career—visit [www.ConstAcademy.org/Apply](http://www.ConstAcademy.org/Apply) and apply today!

*“I appreciate America more  
and I’m proud to be a citizen.”*

*–2009 Constitutional Academy  
Participant*

# THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY SAMPLE PROGRAM AGENDA

The *Constitutional Academy* includes an active week in Washington, D.C. From morning to night, you will engage in discussions, explore in and around our nation's capital, and enjoy fun and interesting activities – all while building new friendships with like-minded teens.

## SUNDAY

**Registration and Welcome**

**General Orientation**

**Evening Activity:**  
Welcome dinner and Icebreakers

## MONDAY

**Presentation:**  
Principles of American Independence

**Discussion:**  
Which rights are most important to you?

**All day trip to Monticello:**  
Experience Jefferson's unique mind through a visit to his distinctive home

## TUESDAY

**Presentation:**  
A Constitutional Republic

**Discussion:**  
What is a republic?

**Off-Site at Gunston Hall:**  
Explore the home of George Mason, a leading advocate for the Bill of Rights

## WEDNESDAY

**Presentation:**  
Private Property and Citizenship, Self-Interest, and Leadership

**Off-Site at Mount Vernon:**  
Visit and tour George Washington's home, learn about Washington's role in the crafting of the Constitution

## THURSDAY

**Presentation:**  
The Judiciary, the Rule of Law, and Personal Liberty

**Discussion:**  
What is liberty?

**Off-site at National Archives:**  
View the Founding Documents and go behind-the-scenes at the Archives

## FRIDAY

**Presentation:**  
The Executive, The Rule of Law, and Security

**Discussion:**  
Executive Power and the Bill of Rights Throughout History

**Activity:**  
Mock Supreme Court Case and Final Exam

**Evening activity:**  
Washington, D.C. Sightseeing Tour

*"I now realize that I have to be involved in my government."*

–2009 CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

## READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Students will read approximately 200 pages of writing by and about the leading minds of the American Founding era.

Students will reinforce their knowledge by participating in weekly online chats in the weeks before the Washington, D.C. program begins, where they may post online responses and engage in discussions with fellow participants and program scholars. At the end of their week in Washington, D.C., students will take a final exam and participate in a mock trial.

Finally, students will complete a term paper following the conclusion of the residential portion of the program. Students who successfully complete these requirements will earn three college credits from Ashland University.

A S H L A N D



# ABOUT THE SCHOLARS

## **Program Director :**

### **Jason Ross, Ph.D., Director of Education Programs, Bill of Rights Institute**

Dr. Ross completed his Ph.D. in the Department of Government at Georgetown University in 2009. He is the recipient of numerous academic awards and fellowships, including the Richard M. Weaver Fellowship sponsored by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, the Humane Studies Fellowship sponsored by the Institute for Humane Studies, and the Civitas Fellowship sponsored by the Center for Public Justice.

## **Past Program Faculty :**

### **David Marion, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Hampden-Sydney College**

Dr. Marion received his Ph.D. from Northern Illinois University and is a scholar of Constitutional Law, American Public Administration, Public Policy, Jurisprudence, American National Government, and the Constitutional and Historical Dimensions of Public Service in America.

### **Mark Rozell, Ph.D., Professor of Public Policy, George Mason University**

Dr. Rozell is the author of nine books and editor of sixteen books on various aspects of American government, including the presidency, religion and politics, media and politics, and interest groups in elections. He serves as coeditor of the Georgetown University Press series on religion and politics.

### **Carey Roberts, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Arkansas Tech University**

Dr. Roberts earned a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina. He co-wrote a chapter in John Denson's *The American Presidency* entitled "The Presidency of Andrew Johnson." He has been active in speaking at scholarly panels and seminars around the country.

*"I am a better informed citizen and voter!"*

—2009 CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

## **ABOUT THE BILL OF RIGHTS INSTITUTE**

Founded in September 1999, the Bill of Rights Institute is a nonprofit organization committed to educate, motivate, and inspire young people to become informed and active citizens. In addition to creating curricula and conducting professional development programs for teachers, the Bill of Rights Institute also provides free resources and programs just for students like you. Visit [www.DoYouHaveTheRight.org](http://www.DoYouHaveTheRight.org) for more information.



## LOW COST, TREMENDOUS VALUE

Valued at over \$3,000 per student, the cost of the *Constitutional Academy* is only \$1,495! Student tuition for *Constitutional Academy* includes:

- ▶ A full schedule of educational and exciting events, including seminars, lectures, and tours
- ▶ Six nights lodging at the campus of Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia
- ▶ All meals
- ▶ All instructional materials and handouts
- ▶ 24-hour adult supervision and security
- ▶ 6 online classes
- ▶ Transportation between Marymount University and Ronald Reagan National Airport
- ▶ Visits to historic sites, entertainment, and admission to special events
- ▶ Evening tour of Washington, D.C. monuments
- ▶ And **three college credits** upon successful completion of all requirements at no extra cost!

## ELIGIBILITY

You must meet all the following criteria:

- ▶ Attend a public, private, charter, or home school
- ▶ Expect to be in Grade 11 or 12 during the 2010-2011 school year
- ▶ Achieve a GPA of at least 3.2 in all social studies classes (through the Fall 2009 semester), and a cumulative GPA of 3.2
- ▶ Completed at least two units of English, Math, Science, and Social Studies by the start of the *Constitutional Academy*

## FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available for qualified participants. Please visit [www.ConstAcademy.org/Aid](http://www.ConstAcademy.org/Aid) for more information.

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Your safety while participating in the *Constitutional Academy* is our number one priority. To ensure that we provide a safe environment, we expect you and your fellow participants to show maturity and use good judgment while participating in our programs. Participants who do not follow the Code of Conduct are subject to expulsion and will be sent home immediately, at their expense, with no tuition refund. Please visit [www.ConstAcademy.org](http://www.ConstAcademy.org) to view the complete Student Code of Conduct.

# THE APPLICATION PROCESS

## HOW TO APPLY :

1. Complete and submit the application package available online at [www.ConstAcademy.org/Apply](http://www.ConstAcademy.org/Apply).
2. Submit a writing sample—a class essay, term paper, school newspaper article, or another piece of your written work that showcases your writing skills.
3. Have a teacher complete and submit a Student Recommendation Form (available online).
4. Submit written application materials, along with a non-refundable processing fee of \$25 (check payable to the Bill of Rights Institute) to the address below.



## DEADLINES

**Application Packet Postmark Deadline:**  
April 15, 2010. **EXTENDED TO MAY 15, 2010.**

**Acceptances Mailed:** On a Rolling Basis.

**50% Deposit (\$748) Due:** within two weeks of acceptance, or send us one payment of \$1,346—a 10% savings!

**Final Payment Due:** May 31, 2010.



## CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY

The Bill of Rights Institute  
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Arlington, VA 22203

(800) 838-7870 ext. 11 | [www.ConstAcademy.org](http://www.ConstAcademy.org)