



**Live. Learn. Learn to Live at Home as Global Citizens.**

February 5, 2020

Dear World Citizens and Their Parents:

In our life-long quest to understand where we live and where we come from in time & space, we are venturing further afield in two weeks, heading down from the mountains of our beloved Gila & into the Salt River valley around Phoenix. It's time to learn about art, biology, culture & humanity's 'capacity to endure' (eg. 'to-live-sustainably') while focusing upon three of the most engaging and *historically relevant* themes in human history, (i) international human rights, (ii) human migration, and (iii) how humanity deals with conflict.

**Here are the essentials:** A detailed itinerary will be provided asap.

**Who:** Any student whose schedule is made up of 50% or more of 10<sup>th</sup> grade classes

**What:** A 4-day trip to the International Border, the Phoenix area, and the Mogollon Rim in Arizona

**When:** Feb 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> (7:00 am Monday through 5:30 pm Thursday)

**Places we are Visiting:** The US Border Patrol station in Nogales, People Helping People educational office (e.g. humanitarian aid network) and a *Shrine for Migrants on the International Border near Arivaca Lake*, Public lands that have a wild character, the Art and Music Museums, Team Building at urban recreational facilities, and the Oak Flat Indigenous Rights Encampment.

**Why:** To engage in experiences that guide us in becoming conscious of the biological, social, economic and political realities that form our collective heritage.

**How Much:** \$85 standard fare; up to \$130 to help us cover all costs except staffing; \$40 "bare-bones" fare.

Travel, as you know, can be both enlightening & expensive. As always, ALCS faculty have endeavored to keep trips as affordable as possible, sleeping in campgrounds, taking advantage of student discounts, and packing as much as possible into 4 days of city & desert travel. 2020 marks the seventh consecutive year that ALCS has sponsored a multi-curricular trip for sophomores, & we hope that all students in the class will be able to attend this curricular road trip that offers students (1) a glimpse of a wider world beyond our Gila home country, and (2) an integrating context for understanding facts, issues & stories that are often hidden in plain sight.

The cost of this trip to the school – not including teacher and substitute salaries – comes to \$124 per student. This amount includes admission fees for three museums and an Apache community; recreational park; hiking; the cost of driving the bus; & 8 meals. As is our usual practice, we have a three-tiered fee structure for this trip. The "bare-bones" cost covers just the food we will purchase to feed your student. At \$5 per meal, that's \$40. The standard cost includes admission to a recreational park, the offices & museums we visit, and our camping fee; that brings the total to \$85. And the full-fare option, for those families able & willing to help us continue to provide such rewarding experiences to Grant County's teenagers, is \$130. That covers the cost of driving the bus and the Suburban. If coming up with the money to pay for this trip is a hardship, know that eligible households may take advantage of a subsidy funded by supporters in the community of \$20.00, bringing the

“bare-bones cost” to only \$20.00. This last option is available to families who qualify for the free or reduced lunch program. Please know that the Aldo faculty will never let a student’s financial challenges get in the way of attending a school trip.

On Monday Feb 24th, we are asking students to bring “a sack breakfast & a sack lunch” as well as 2 quarts of water each and snacks for the 2-mile hiking trail. We are also asking them to buy their own dinner in Phoenix on Wednesday. *Numerous affordable options for dinner—under \$10—are available in the part of Phoenix where we will be walking that evening.* We will return to ALCS around 5:30 PM on Thursday, Feb 27th.

The 10<sup>th</sup> grade trip offers students roughly equal time in museums and outdoors with feet on the trail, learning scientific concepts & cultural perspectives outside of the classroom. Additionally, students will also have the opportunity to (a) experience international border issues & indigenous rights movements through a humanitarian lens – cast in the light of their World History focus on the topic of natural rights -- and to (b) integrate our ongoing discussion about the global factors influencing the displacement and movement of people over the course of our globalized human history.

Even though we will be lower in elevation and in a warmer climate than Silver City for most of the trip, the principle of layering prevails; a jacket or fleece is necessary, as are closed-toed shoes, light clothes & a hat for warm days. So, too, are a warm sleeping bag and a shared tent necessary. And, while rain is a rare blessing here in this region of North America, it’s always possible—so students should bring rain gear.

A packing list is attached below. If you have any questions about the trip, don’t hesitate to contact me at 575-654-3622 or at [prankin@aldocs.org](mailto:prankin@aldocs.org).

With kind regards,  
Pete Rankin

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**10<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip 2020 (Feb 24th to 27th)**

*Please complete, detach & return with payment:*

Name of student: \_\_\_\_\_

- All medical information is up-to-date in our school records. If this is not true, then please let Jim McIntosh (ALCS school nurse) know as soon as possible.
- Our address & phone number are up-to-date in our school records. If not, please update these with Cathie or Andrea.
- I understand that if my child is later than 7:00 am Monday, they could be left behind.
- My child is taking prescription medications & I have notified Jim McIntosh (Nurse at ALCS) about these medications.

*Choose the best of the following options:*

- \$130 is attached; this fee represents the full per-student cost of the trip.
- An amount between \$40 and \$130 is attached.
- \$40 is attached; this fee represents the cost of food only.
- \$20.00 is attached; our family qualifies for the free and reduced lunch program.

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Conflict Awareness Trip (10th Grade) - Packing List

*Items with an asterisk (\*) beside them are available on loan from the school. "Loaners" require that students offer \$50 collateral as a guarantee that items are returned in good condition. Please let Pete Rankin ([prankin@aldocs.org](mailto:prankin@aldocs.org)) know if you need any of these items.*

- Duffel or "softside" travel bag (or backpack\*)
- Tent\*
- Cool-weather sleeping bag in a stuff-sack\*; should be rated 20 degrees or lower
- Sleeping pad\* (more important than you might think)
- Cap with a brim
- Rain poncho *or* raincoat and pants
- 2 sturdy water bottles or Camelback-style hydration system
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Sturdy hiking shoes
- Sandals for camp (very optional in winter)
- Mess kit (sturdy bowl, cup, spoon, fork)
- Trash bag
- Hand towel and washcloth
- Bandana
- A "sack breakfast & sack lunch" for the first day of the trip
- \$7-10 for dinner in downtown Phoenix on Wednesday, Feb 26th
- Toiletries: sunscreen, lip balm, soap, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant
- Journal, along with at least one pen & pencil
- 2 optional items for camp:
  - Lighter (for fire-starting)
  - Pocket knife with a 2-inch (or shorter) blade
  
- In general, you need **clothes for 4 days**: the clothes you wear to school on Monday, & a couple changes of clothes for Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday. The key word is **layering**.
  - 2 pair of socks; cotton is not recommended
  - Warm jacket—but probably not a "winter coat"; cotton is not recommended
  - Warm cap; cotton is not recommended
  - 1 long-sleeved shirt; cotton is not recommended
  - 2 short-sleeved shirts; cotton is not recommended
  - 1 pair of pants; long pants that convert into shorts are ideal; cotton is not recommended
  - Underwear, of course—including some sweatpants or long-johns for sleepwear
  - Also, a watch would be handy, so that we can stay on schedule; we are visiting a number of sites that require us to keep a strict appointment.

**Note:** All secret stashes of food should be shared with the chaperones :)