

East Coast Trip 2025 Program Handbook



East Coast Trip 2023 – Times Square, NYC

East Coast Trip Information and FAQs

The biennial East Coast Trip is a wonderful opportunity for students (and adult chaperones) to visit historical sites in our nation's capital and to explore learning opportunities and culture in New York City. The trip is optional but highly encouraged for students during their 7th or 8th grade years. Please explore the webpage below from our trip provider, Worldstrides, for detailed information. The ECT 2025 will be supervised by Principal Kristen Okabayashi and one of the Hope middle school teachers. <https://worldstrides.com/custom/2025-hope-lutheran-school-dc-210602/>

When is the trip and how/when do I sign up?

ECT 2025 trip dates will include departing on Sunday, April 27, 2025 and returning on Friday, May 2, 2025. You may sign up online at worldstrides.com/signup (using Trip ID#210602), by phone, or by mail (see information on webpage for details).

Who can go on the trip?

ECT 2025 is open to all Hope students who will be enrolled in 7th and 8th grade during the 2024-2025 school year. Adult chaperones are also welcome to join us on the trip. 7th and 8th grade students and adults from our sister school Concordia Seattle are also eligible to sign up for this trip.

How much does the trip cost and what does it include?

The trip price is \$2,949 if students are enrolled with the early bird registration with quadruple room pricing. Pricing for adult chaperones with double rooms is \$3,414 with early bird registration. There is an additional charge for adults who prefer a single room (available when you sign up or can be added later). The trip includes airfare, hotels, meals, and all entrance fees. Not included are snacks and souvenirs.

What places will we go on the trip?

Travelers from Hope School and Concordia Seattle will have a trip custom-designed for our schools, which includes six days in Washington DC and New York City. Sites visited are carefully selected for our trip and will include the Capitol, the White House, the Washington Monument, Arlington National Cemetery, the Statue of Liberty, the 9/11 Memorial, a Broadway show, Times Square, and Central Park.

Is fundraising available for the trip? Yes! See below.

ECT 2023 NYC urban park

Updated Oct 2023



East Coast Trip Fundraising

Fundraising is optional and depends on parent interest. Fundraising is organized entirely by families and all fundraisers need to be approved by Hope Principal Kristen Okabayashi. Fundraising typically generates about \$35 to \$50 per hour worked, depending on the group and how robust it is. Some students have had their trip paid entirely from funds raised. All fundraising groups at Hope have a limit of six events per school year.

What fundraisers have been utilized on past trips?

The East Coast trip group has traditionally run hot lunches on Fridays with the pizza lunch. Prior to the pandemic, some groups have also offered lunch on Mondays with a variety of lunch items (teriyaki, hot dogs, or subway sandwiches). Other fundraisers have included a spaghetti dinner, a night out at a restaurant in West Seattle, an art walk at Hope, coupon books, a car wash, etc. Lunches have typically been the most

successful fundraiser by far. Fundraisers should be selected to maximize the ability to raise money (i.e. not bake sales or other small events).



Who is in charge of determining fundraising?

The ECT 2025 fundraising group has two parent co-chairs. Parents who are interested in fundraising can let these volunteers know and the group can discuss and choose specific fundraisers to offer. The ECT fundraising has a bank account and a debit card. Hope youth minister and parent Jonathan Kopecky has volunteered to serve as the trip treasurer; he will keep track of all fundraising income and expenses for ECT 2025, in addition to recording fundraising hours.

ECT 2022 Washington Monument

Who benefits from dollars raised in fundraising?

To maximize the opportunity for students to attend the trip, funds raised can only be used for student trips, not adult chaperone trips. Funds raised will be assigned a dollar amount per hour to be credited back to the adults who submit hours towards fundraising efforts. Please note that the funds raised will be paid once the school year is over, with the first payments going out in June 2024 and a second payment in late June 2025. Families still need to pay for the trip according to the payment schedule assigned by WorldStrides. Student volunteer hours are not typically included in fundraising hours; student involvement is highly encouraged.

How do I track fundraising hours?

Adults should keep track of their hours used towards fundraising and submit them in a timely manner to volunteer Jonathan Kopecky at jkopecky@hopesattle.org. Track hours to the nearest ¼ hour. Jonathan may set up an app to track this. **Please note fundraising hours do not count as PIP hours, and vice versa.**

If the group decides to do a fundraiser, what is the process we need to follow?

All fundraising events need to be approved by Kristen Okabayashi. The fundraising chair(s) should submit a proposal to Kristen which will include the name, dates, description, and planned costs and profits of the event (see attached fundraising template).

Contact Information

Trip Leader Kristen Okabayashi kokabayashi@hopesattle.org

Fundraising Co-Chairs Stephanie Latif & Kristen Warfield
ectfundraising@hopesattle.org.

Fundraising Treasurer Jonathan Kopecky jkopecky@hopesattle.org

***ECT 2017
Teddy Roosevelt's
home Sagamore Hill***

