

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse youth experience the nation's capitol

Crystal Flintrop
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LA CROSSE, Wis. (WXOW) – Forty students from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse are spending the week in Washington, D.C., on a four-day, all-expenses-paid trip made possible by Herb Kohl Philanthropies.

Teens from local club sites in La Crosse, Holmen, West Salem, and beyond left Tuesday morning.



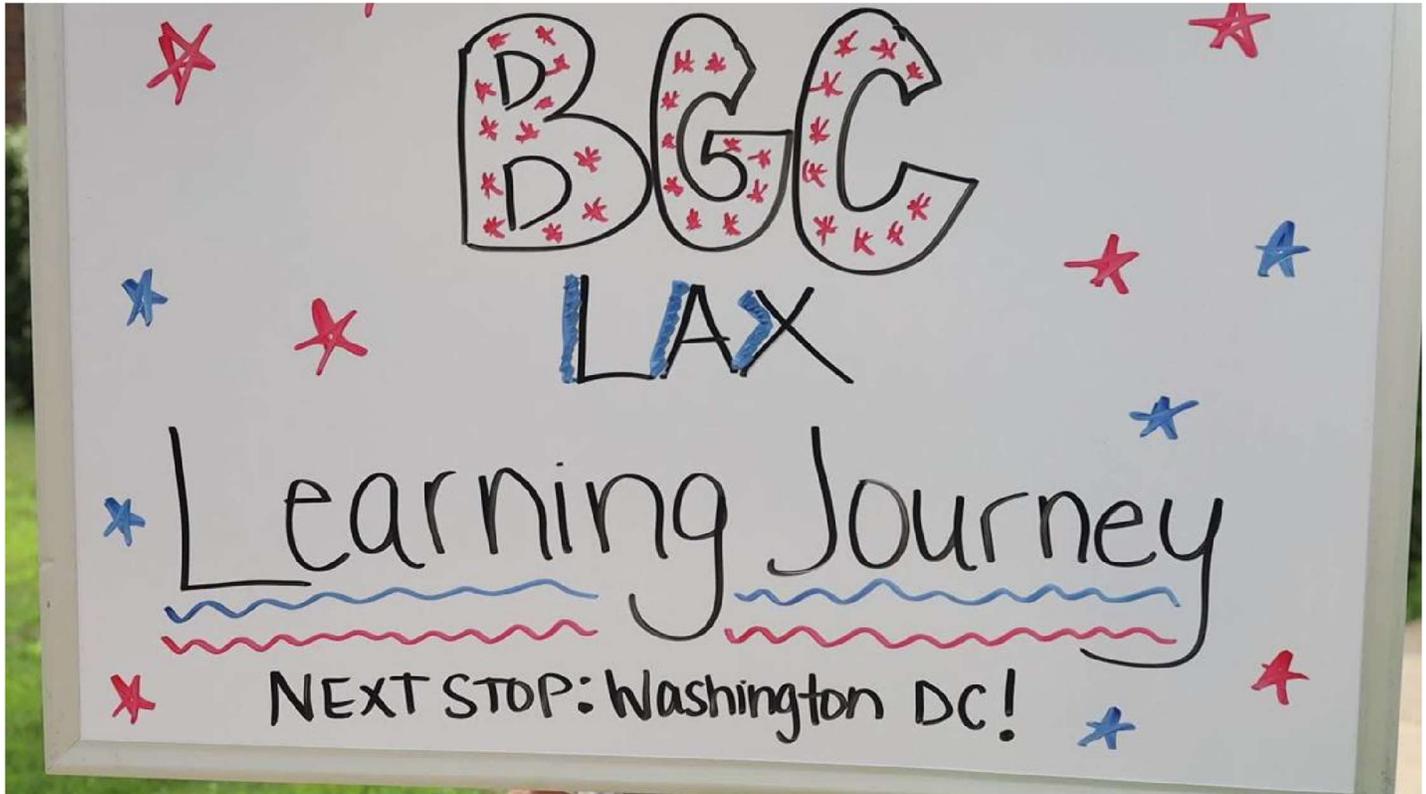
The group will explore national landmarks like the U.S. Capitol, Smithsonian museums, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Holocaust and 9/11 memorials.

For many, it's their first time leaving Wisconsin.



Rosa Myren, an 18-year-old recent graduate from Central High School, says this trip is a dream come true.

“It’s really cool and I’m really excited because I’ve never been out of Wisconsin before,” she said. “I’ve always been a history girl. I always loved history class, and I always liked to see the videos we watched in class—like the memorials—so I always wanted to be there and take photos and save my experience.”



The Boys & Girls Clubs call it a “Learning Journey”—designed to inspire leadership and help youth connect what they see in Washington to their own lives.

The group returns home Saturday night.

Crystal Flintrop

News/Sports Photographer

Crystal is originally from Waseca, Minnesota and attended Winona State University. She enjoys reading, hiking, spending time on the water and coffee.