

PROGRAMS | STUDENTS TO RETURN JULY 4

## Cultural Leadership builds new leaders

In an effort to promote mutual respect and dispel stereotypes, 21 African American and Jewish high school students from St. Louis are finishing a four-week journey to learn about race relations, social justice issues and leadership. The students are participants in St. Louis's Cultural Leadership. During the trip, students met with civil rights leaders, journalists, members of Congress, professors, and community and religious leaders. The trip took students to New York City, Washington D.C., Atlanta, Birmingham, Selma, Montgomery, Utica, Jackson, the Mississippi Delta, New Orleans, Little Rock, and Memphis. Students departed from St. Louis on June 8 and will return on July 4.

Throughout the trip, students will meet with people who have been on the front lines of the civil rights movement and social justice struggles including Rev. Al

Sharpton, former New York City mayor Ed Koch, Congressman John Lewis, Senators Claire McCaskill and Joseph Lieberman, one of the Little Rock 9; and a Holocaust survivor.

One of the many highlights this summer will be a meeting in Philadelphia, Mississippi, sight of the murder of three civil rights workers in June 1964 during Freedom Summer.

The program does not concentrate solely on the past. Students will meet with activists working to change current situations such as the first black mayor of Greenville, Miss.; and the reporter who reopened the case of the murders of the three civil rights workers. In New Orleans students will help gut a house destroyed by Hurricane Katrina and meet with leaders of the only hospital that stayed open throughout the disaster.

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