**ESSAY CONTEST OVERVIEW:** The British American Business Council of North Carolina sponsors the ACS British Studies program, which is a twelve day study/travel event in England that strives to bring British history to life by enabling students to explore and connect with 400 years of British history. Two students will be chosen from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School District via an essay contest.

**HOW TO ENTER:** By submitting a 1000-word essay answering one of the two questions listed below, any current junior-year student (rising senior) between the ages of 15-18, is eligible to enter the contest. Two students will be selected.

 •Deadline for submissions is **Monday, January 26, 2015.**

 •Late submissions will not be accepted.

 •The two-week program will take place in the UK from

 •All submissions should be sent to: **CMS Community Partnerships and Family Engagement, Government Center,**

**5th Floor, 600 E .4th Street Charlotte, NC 28202 – Courier 835.**

**TRIP DETAILS:** Round trip airfare from Charlotte to London will be provided by the British American Business Council of North Carolina (BABCNC). All accommodations and meals will be provided by the ACS. Attached is the tentative agenda for the program. For additional information, visit the ACS website at [www.acs-england.co.uk/britishstudies](http://www.acs-england.co.uk/britishstudies). **A valid passport must be obtained prior to travel dates. Please allow 2 months for processing.**

**THE PROCESS:** Representatives from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and the BABCNC will review all submissions and choose ten (10) finalists. Finalists will be notified by their high school principal. In addition, a letter from the BABCNC will be sent to the finalists’ homes. Finalists may be called for a face-to-face interview during the week of **February 2nd, 2015.** One or two students will be chosen to attend the two-week program. The winning students will be notified by **Monday, March 16, 2015.** All further information will be communicated to the student by the BABCNC via Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

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**Nomination Form – Complete this form and send with required essay (please print).**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Student Name & Age:** |  | **Age** |
| **High School:** |  |
| **Home Address (Street):** |  |
| **City, State, Zip:** |  |
| **Home Phone/Email:** |  |
| **Parent/Guardian Name:** |  |
| **Parent/Guardian Day Phone:** |  |
| **Parent/Guardian Signature:** |  |

**ESSAY QUESTIONS:** To be eligible, student must be a current junior-year high school student, age 15-18, within Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and must submit an essay of 1000 words answering one of the two following questions:

1) Which aspect of Britain or British culture interests you most?

2) Which British person (either past or present) you would most like to meet? Explain why.

**AGENDA OF ACTIVITIES**

**Week One**

Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral
Guided visit to Shakespeare's Globe in London, followed by a professional acting workshop

Backstage at the National Theatre

The City, the square mile – where London begins.

The City of London Museum

The Bank of England

The Monument

The Tate Gallery

The Houses of Parliament

Whitehall

Trafalgar Square

The National Portrait Gallery

**Week Two**

Wimbledon, home of the tennis championships

Putney, the starting place for the Oxford- Cambridge boat races

Visit the Globe Theatre and attend a production

Tower of London

Greenwich Observatory and Maritime Museum

Oxford University

Imperial War Museum

South Bank Centre

Attend a West End show

Brighton and The Royal Pavilion

**Enter The Contest To Win A Two-Week Trip To England!**

**The Charlotte Chapter of the British American Business Council is sponsoring an essay contest, which will send one or two Charlotte-Mecklenburg School juniors to England for a two-week study/travel program from June 22 – July 4, 2015.**

The program – entitled the British Studies Summer Program – is conducted by American Community Schools (ACS). ACS International Schools enrolls a total of 2,300 students aged between 2½ and 18, from over 60 countries, at three London area campuses in England. The schools are non-sectarian and co-educational, with both day and boarding available. Based on international and American research, principles, and educational practices, ACS is committed to maintaining the highest standards of scholarship and citizenship.

The ACS British Studies Summer Program was created to explore the enduring impact of British culture. Established in 1996, the program is committed to the ideal of creative, multi-disciplined education. The close interaction between student, teacher and location not only galvanizes this approach, it also generates an enthusiastic forum for collaborative learning. Maintaining high standards is an ACS priority – a priority that guarantees the future success and development of this intensive, two-week study/travel program. **The British Studies Summer Program is limited to 14 students, two of which will come from this contest.**

In addition to being an excellent supplement for high school courses in European history, English literature, art and theatre, the program is great fun. Through the immediacy of on-site experience, students are encouraged to explore, comprehend, and connect seemingly disparate monuments, art and events from the past 400 years of British history. Making sense of the past brings history to life, turning learning into a voyage of discovery.

**Full contest information and an agenda of the two week trip, are on the following pages.**

**Who is eligible? CMS high school juniors**

**What is required? A 1000-word essay (see following page)**

**When is the deadline? Monday, January 26, 2015**

**\*\*\* Enter Today! \*\*\***