



September 10, 2015

Dear NCGS Community,

The National Coalition of Girls' Schools is delighted to offer our member schools the opportunity to participate in a leadership trip to the Grand Canyon in the summer of 2016 in association with our strategic partner, [Grand Classroom](#). The retreat is designed to bring together groups of high school-aged student leaders – and their faculty advisers – from NCGS schools across North America to share ideas and hone their leadership skills in one of the most inspiring destinations on earth.

Participants will take advantage of all the outdoors has to offer and will learn through hands-on experience with facilitators and expert guides. With a particular focus on developing strong female leadership, the girls will engage in a range of team building activities and collaborative work. There will also be many opportunities for self-reflection and goal-setting, both personally and as a leadership team.

As you well know, one of the biggest challenges in girls' education is helping young women find their voice. The overarching goal of the retreat is to instill confidence and provide girls with tools and skills that they can bring back to campus to share with their peers and to lead more effectively and empathically. Reflections from 2015 participants demonstrate the benefits of the leadership retreat:

“It's safe to say that the girls have truly enjoyed the trip and have savored every experience and opportunity. I am so proud of how they've stepped out of their comfort zones and tried new things.”

—2015 Faculty Participant, Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, Villanova, PA

“We talked a lot about different styles of leadership, which helped me realize that all kinds of people—including myself—can be leaders, and each type of leader is valuable in a group.”

—2015 Student Participant, Marlborough School, Los Angeles, CA

NCGS is partnering with the professional travel company Grand Classroom, which has many years of experience leading successful trips for NCGS member schools, to plan every aspect of the retreat. They will provide marketing materials and handle all of the planning, registration, and accounts receivable for the retreat. **For every five participants, one adult chaperone – preferably the student government or leadership adviser – from your school will travel for free, as a complimentary guest.** The trip price is all-inclusive. It includes three meals a day, hotel accommodations, round trip transportation, all entry fees, leadership activities, professional guides, and medical insurance.

For more information visit the Trip Website:

<https://trips.grandclassroom.com/Trip/Index?uniqueUrl=NCGSleadershipRetreat2016>

To register, contact Laura Friedman at laurafriedman@grandclassroom.com or 434-975-2629.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan K. Murphy".

Megan Murphy
Executive Director NCGS
mmurphy@ncgs.org



NCGS Leadership Retreat in the Grand Canyon

NCGS, in collaboration with Grand Classroom, is delighted to offer our member schools this exciting opportunity for students and their faculty advisers to:

- Build relationships with students from other NCGS schools, share ideas, and hone leadership skills
- Explore the beautiful settings and participate in a range of hands-on activities in the Grand Canyon
- Gain confidence and discover tools that will help them be more effective, empathic leaders
 - Key themes include: leadership styles, effective communication, self-esteem, female leadership

Trip Highlights Include:

- Tour Antelope Canyon with a Navajo Guide
- Float trip on the Colorado River
- Hike the South Kaibab Trail in Grand Canyon National Park
- Swim at Slide Rock State Park
- Visit Sunset Volcano Crater & Wupatki National Monuments



“This trip was truly incredible. Not only did it provide me with an opportunity to expand my leadership skills, but I got to do so while exploring beautiful unique sites with both old friends and new.”

**—2015 Student Participant,
Marlborough School, Los Angeles, CA**

Visit the Trip Website:

<https://trips.grandclassroom.com/Trip/Index?uniqueUrl=NCGSleadershipRetreat2016>

Location: Grand Canyon

Dates: June 18-22, 2016

All-Inclusive Price: \$2,489

Registration Deadline: 12/20/2015

**To Register: Contact Laura
Freidman at 424.975.2629 or
laurafriedman@grandclassroom.com**

