

The Chicago Freedom School

Race, Class, and the Colbert Nation

Alternative Spring Break Program

THE CHICAGO FREEDOM SCHOOL

The **Chicago Freedom School (CFS)** provides a space where young people and adult allies can exchange ideas, build new coalitions, study the work of past movements and deepen their understanding of current social problems. We support new generations of critical and independent thinking young people who use their unique experiences and power to create a just world. Our vision is that, in the spirit of the original freedom schools in Mississippi in the 1960s, CFS will become a place where young people from communities across Chicago can discover their own power to make change - not only for themselves, but also for their communities and the world.

At CFS we seek to:

- Develop and support leadership among youth across Chicago.
- Create a space where youth from across the city can gather to share ideas about social change and justice.
- Educate youth and adults about the history of social justice movements and apply lessons to today.
- Build the capacity of adult allies to understand and support youth-led social change.
- Develop spaces in local communities and schools where intergenerational dialogue about social justice and opportunities for organizing can occur.



The Spring Break Program

This 4-day spring break social justice immersion program will engage youth from around Chicago in examining the role of race and class in our society. Participants will have the opportunity to meet activists and organizers from around Chicago, reflect on their own position in society, and make plans for actions they can take to create a more just world. We will also discuss how Stephen Colbert uses satire to bring attention to glaring inequalities and what it means to be an ally to those in struggle.

Youth can sign up for one of two sessions:

March 29 - April 1, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

OR

April 5 - April 8, 9:00AM - 4:00 PM



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

ELIGIBILITY: Youth applicants must be ages 14 - 18 as of March 20, 2010. Students must be in 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade, or in a corresponding home school level. You must be able to commit to all four days of the program.

FEES: The cost of the Spring Break Program is \$300/participant. This fee covers breakfast, lunch, materials, and field trips for each day of the program.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Youth interested in applying to be Freedom Fellows should submit:

- Completed application form.
- Completed responses to the essay questions.
- The names and contact information of two adults (ages 21 or over) who are not members of the applicant's family (optional).



MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Chicago Freedom School, 719 S. State St., Ste. 3N, Chicago, IL 60605, ATTN: Hannah Jacoby

****DEADLINE: Friday, March 19, 2010****

Please keep the first page of this application for your reference.

QUESTIONS? Please call 312.435.1201 or email hannah@chicagofreedomschool.org.

APPLICATION FORM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

Full Name _____

School (if applicable) _____

Date of Birth _____

(The 2010 Spring Break Program is open to youth ages 14 - 17 as of March 20, 2010)

Email Address _____

Neighborhood/Area of Chicago in which you live: _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone number _____ Cell (or other) _____

How did you hear about the Chicago Freedom School?

Have you attended any Chicago Freedom School events? If so, which one(s)?
