



COLUMBIA WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Dear Friends,

Preparing the next generation of leaders, scholars, and decision-makers to thrive in a complex and rapidly changing world - where our national interests are intertwined with the global community - is one of the greatest challenges facing our country. It requires a renewed enthusiasm for global studies in our high schools. Too many American students today fall behind their counterparts from other countries in their knowledge and understanding of world history, geography, and current international events.

Developed by the World Affairs Councils of America as a flagship youth education program, Academic WorldQuest™ is a fun, friendly, and engaging team-based knowledge competition designed for high school students keen to learn more about current international politics, geography, global economics, history, and world cultures. WACA has expanded the program to some 50 Councils that host local AWQ competitions annually that engage nearly 5,000 high school students nationwide.

The Columbia World Affairs Council boasts over 20 years of participation in Academic WorldQuest and begins outreach to regional high schools in the fall of each year. Typically, teams will prepare in an after-school setting over the course of several months. In spring, teams throughout the region will first compete in our locally sponsored competition. We have hosted teams from AC Flora, Chapin, Dutch Fork, Lexington, and River Bluff High Schools, as well as the Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology from Lawrenceville, Georgia. In partnership with the University of South Carolina's Walker Institute of International Studies, the local competition is hosted on USC campus and also offers a first glimpse at the many opportunities to pursue international studies in higher education. Finally, the winning team is invited to the Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest™ National Competition in Washington D.C. The national competition is attended by the nation's most promising high school students each year, along with their parents, teachers, and chaperones.



The National Academic WorldQuest Championship Weekend provides a unique opportunity for students to visit the nation's capital, perhaps for the first time, and includes the AWQ National Competition, unique programming planned to enhance the global education experience, and an opportunity to meet and engage with approximately 250 like-minded peers from around the United States.

The Columbia World Affairs Council invites you to become a sponsoring partner and supporter of our ongoing effort to support America's future global leaders. Through your support, net proceeds will fund our initiative to host the flagship global education program and travel expenses for our winning team to attend the National AWQ Championship Weekend.

The Columbia World Affairs Council is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 non-partisan organization, and all donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Our Federal tax id is 57-0972662.

We are excited about this year's competition and hope you will join us in becoming a sponsor for this program.

Sincerely,

Dickson Monk

Executive Director

Columbia World Affairs Council

2026

ESTIMATED BUDGET OVERVIEW

PROJECTED EXPENSES	DESCRIPTION	COST
MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES	I.E. PENCILS, PENS, FOLDERS	\$100
FOOD & BEVERAGES	BREAKFAST SNACKS, WATER BOTTLES, COFFEE, LUNCH	\$560
TROPHIES & AWARDS	1ST/2ND/3RD PLACE	\$800
T-SHIRTS	FOR ALL COMPETITORS	\$500
EMCEE/QUESTION READER	DICKSON MONK	\$0
VENUE	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, WALKER INSTITUTE	\$0
AIRFARE	ROUND TRIP FOR 5 STUDENTS & 2 CHAPERONES	\$2,450
HOTEL	ROOMS FOR 5 STUDENTS & 2 CHAPERONES, 2 NIGHT STAYS	\$2,520
CAB/TRANSFER FEES	TRANSPORTATION	\$250
MEAL ALLOWANCES	\$40/EACH FOR 2 DAYS	\$560
CONTINGUENCY	FOR UNFORSEEN EXPENSES	\$500
TOTAL		\$8,240

For more information, call 803.348.4490 or e-mail dmonk@columbiaworldaffairs.org

Payment for sponsorships accepted with credit cards, checks, or via PayPal at columbiaworldaffairs.org. Make checks payable to:

Columbia World Affairs Council
2210 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

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