

# Upward Bound students go to Washington, D.C.

Christi Roberts of Fort Yukon and Roxanne Guthrie of Metlakatla will participate, through the Alaska Federation of Native's Alaska Student Higher Education Service's Upward Bound program, in a unique government study program in Washington, D.C. They will attend the 1979 Presidential Classroom for Young Americans. Christi and Roxanne will represent their communities and state as members of the Classroom's National Student Body. The Upward Bound project awarded them scholarships for this meaningful endeavor.

During the intensive one week program, Christi and Roxanne will join 400 other outstanding high school students from across the nation and overseas in an indepth study of government and politics through direct contact with government leaders and Washington observers. Students attend formal seminars at which national decision makers, carefully selected to be representative of the full spectrum of current political thought, discuss the numerous operations and responsibilities of the Federal government.

Each seminar is followed by a question-and-answer period in which students are free to challenge or weigh the point of view

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presented. Smaller, post-seminar discussion groups and "tie-together" sessions give the students an opportunity to evaluate what they have heard and make an informed judgement on the realities of the exercise of power in our modern democratic system.

Several of the seminars are on-site briefings at Federal agencies and on Capitol Hill. The curriculum focuses upon the nature of the Federal institutions and the decision making processes that are responsible for the formation of national public poli-

cies.

The goal of the program is to foster leadership potential and civic responsibility among the student leaders by exposing them to the dynamics of our democratic system at its nucleus — Washington, D.C.

Chartered in 1968 as a non-profit educational program, Presidential Classroom has provided more than 18,000 young people with first hand exposure to prominent government leaders and key observers of Washington, D.C. Among the past speakers have been Senators, Representatives, Justices of the Supreme

Court, Cabinet Secretaries, members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, foreign ambassadors, White House staff, news media personnel and high level executives from many different Federal agencies and the private sector.

Complementing the formal learning experience of the program is the opportunity for students to explore the geographic, cultural and socio-economic diversity of their peers

in the National Student Body. Sharing a common interest in leadership and government, the students represent a cross-section of American society and provide one another with valuable perspectives on our national diversity.