Discovering Amistad is a unique educational organization which was formed in 2015. The organization owns and operates the Amistad replica, Connecticut’s flagship, which serves as a floating classroom. Our aim is to educate students on the story of the 1839 Amistad Uprising and the subsequent landmark Supreme Court decision while highlighting themes of social justice such as dehumanization, resistance, and modern-day comparisons. The interactive, proprietary curriculum addresses equity and adheres to the most up-to-date national C3 (College, Career and Civic Life) social studies framework. The programs are conducted by our trained educators virtually, in-classroom, and aboard the ship. History comes to life as we use the past as a framework for addressing present challenges related to diverse social issues and activism. Students and teachers alike have found that the curriculum has significantly increased their comprehension and the impact of our long-storied issues of freedom and slavery, oppression and empowerment and the achievement of justice.

Student Programs

One-Day Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration: One 50 minute session</th>
<th>Location: Virtual or in-person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target Audience: Individual classroom</td>
<td>Cost: Virtual $175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 students or less, middle and high school</td>
<td>In-Person $200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Amistad Story

- 30 minute story of the Amistad Rebellion designed for a general overview and introduction to the story of the Amistad.
- 20 minute interactive dialogue on racial injustice today. Using the Amistad rebellion as our platform for discussion, students will have a dialogue on what strengths they already possess to become active, and what skills they may want to acquire.

Content of the one-day program can be negotiated with the teacher.
Two-Day Program

Date/Time: to be scheduled
Duration: Two 50 minute sessions  
Target Audience: Individual classroom  
    30 students or less, middle or high school  
Cost: Virtual $325, In-Person $350

Description

Day 1 The Amistad story
• 30 minute story of the Amistad Rebellion designed for a general overview and introduction to the story of the Amistad.
• 20 minute interactive dialogue on racial injustice today. Using the Amistad rebellion as our platform for discussion, students will have a dialogue on what strengths they already possess to become active, and what skills they may want to acquire.

Day 2 Activism
• 30 minute activity where students learn about activists from the Amistad story and modern day. Students will examine the activists identity, cause, and strategy of enacting positive social change
• 20 minute activity where students interview fellow classmates on the individual activists they learned in the previous activity. Participants will compare and contrast the activism of past and present change agents by examining strategies of activism such as media, art, writing, community organizing, etc.

Three Day Program

Date/Time: to be scheduled
Duration: Three 50 minute sessions  
Target Audience: Individual classroom  
    30 students or less, middle and high school  
Cost: Virtual $450, In-Person $500

Description

Day 1 Dehumanization
• 30 minute story of the Amistad from Mende culture – Middle Passage – arrival at Cuba while focusing on aspects of dehumanization. Students will learn about:
  – Who were the Amistad Africans?
  – The Mende Peoples in West Africa and how their culture was so closely tied to land, geography and climate.
  – How European powers and illegal slave traders swept through the land in the early to mid-1800’s, kidnapping the inhabitants, separating families and forcing them to march to the coast of West Africa and board slave ships bound for Cuba.
• 20 minute interactive dialogue focusing on spotting examples of dehumanization today in full-class and break-out sessions.
Three Day Program – Cont’d

Day 2 Resistance
• 30 minute story of the Amistad from boarding Amistad to the Rebellion and Navigation to New York while focusing on the theme of resistance.
  – How 53 Africans were purchased on the island of Cuba and forced to board the Amistad as cargo.
  – How the Amistad Africans used all of their skills and resources to organize and free themselves in one of the most famous maritime rebellions off the coast of America.
  – How the Africans navigated the Amistad up the coast of Long Island.
• 20 minute interactive dialogue about organizing and rising-up. Students will discuss what strengths they already possess and what skills they need to acquire to become active.

Day 3 Legacy
• 30 minute story of the Amistad Africans from their arrest in New York, the trials and their return home while examining the legacy of their actions.
  – How the Amistad Africans were brought to New Haven to stand trial for murder and piracy, thus becoming an important part of Connecticut’s history.
  – How the Amistad case made its way all the way to the Supreme Court.
  – How the Amistad Africans made their journey home.
• 20 minute discussion on some of the traumatic effects caused by slavery, i.e., breaking up the family, loss of connection to land and loss of all family resources. Students will discuss our role and responsibilities today as we grapple with continued racial segregation in America.
**Amistad Ship Tour**

**Date/Time:** to be scheduled

Duration: 60 minutes  
Location: Current location of the ship  
Target Audience: Individual classroom  
35 students or less, all ages  
Cost:  
$200 as an add-on  
$250 tour only

**Description**

Students will receive a tour of the 128-foot replica *Amistad* ship. The tour will cover how and why the replica was built, differences with the original, and how we use the *Amistad* ship today. Everyone on board will learn about the Amistad story from its beginnings in West Africa, the Middle Passage, rebellion on the ship, and the court trials in the United States. Students will see how the 53 kidnapped Africans were able to plan and launch a successful rebellion against their illegal enslavement and how they ended up in Connecticut. This tour is available as an add on to in-person and virtual programming or it can be booked as itself.

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**Summer 2022 – Amistad Leadership Academy**

**Date:** to be announced

Duration: two weeks, daily sessions  
Location: Current location of the ship  
Target Audience: High school students,  
grades 10 to 12  
Cost: Free

The Amistad Leadership Academy is funded by private foundations and is free to participants. Dates and time schedule are flexible - program will take place Summer 2022 over a two-week period.

This program is designed for students grades 10-12 and post-secondary. Students will participate in a leadership-based program that will cover the following:

- Learn the history of the Amistad uprising of 1839 and its current-day implications
- Build leadership and teamwork skills
- Learn the impact and tools of non-violent activism
- Collaborate on a social justice-based service project