FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 17, 2016

AMERICAN VILLAGE TO HOST STUDENT MOCK ELECTION CONVENTION
Registrants have three dates to choose from: July 12, 13 or 14

Montgomery, Ala. – The American Village in Montevallo is hosting a free Student Mock Election Convention from July 12-14 to help teachers and students prepare for the upcoming “Alabama Votes” Student Mock Election.

Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12 as of the fall 2016 school year in public, private, faith-based, or home schools may participate. Students will be selected by their teachers or school administrators who will be able to choose one of three dates, July 12, 13, or 14. There is no fee to participate, and lunch will be provided.

Following is the Convention itinerary:
11 a.m. - Welcome, Convention Kickoff and Keynote
11:30 a.m. - Patrick Henry: A Call to Liberty
12 p.m. - Campaign Rally and Lunch
1:15 p.m. - Photos and Videos in the Oval Office
2 p.m. - Closing Session and Red, White & Blue Sendoff
2:45 p.m. - Depart the American Village

To register for the Student Mock Election Convention, teachers can go to the American Village website, www.americanvillage.org. Under the American Village Classroom tab, select Student Mock Election Convention. Fill out and submit the registration form. Participation is on a first-registered, first-served basis.

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Students and teachers will leave the program with ideas and materials to carry back to their schools on how to hold a successful convention and mock election. On October 25, 2016, the Office of the Alabama Secretary of State, along with the Alabama State Department of Education, the American Village, and Alabama Independent School Association, will host an “Alabama Votes” Student Mock Election for students in Grades 4-12 in the state of Alabama.

The aim of the mock election is to generate awareness and introduce Alabama’s student population to the concept of elections before voting age. This opportunity allows students to have an understanding of the electoral process by conducting a mock election for Alabama’s November 2016 General Election.

Ballots will be distributed to all 1,500 schools in the state through the Alabama State Department of Education, various homeschool networks, and the Alabama Independent School Association. Local schools will collect their data and forward it to the Central Office. From there, the Central Office will report results to the Office of the Secretary of State.

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