

NJ Social Studies Network News

A Publication of the New Jersey Center for Civic Education

May 2011

[Professional Development](#) • [Student Events](#) • [Resources for Teachers](#) • [Social Studies Issues](#)

NJ Council for the Social Studies

SAVE THE DATE: NJCSS Annual Conference: October 27, 2011.

This is your opportunity to meet with your colleagues, share and learn new ideas from each other and discuss issues of pressing interest to everybody.

SUBMIT A WORKSHOP PROPOSAL: [Click](#) for the NJCSS Conference Workshop Proposal Form. **Deadline: June 30, 2011.**

REGISTER NOW! Combined conference and membership registration fee is \$65 for teachers or \$80 for supervisors for joint membership in NJSSSA. See the attached forms or go to the NJCSS website at <http://www.njcss.org/index.php>.

Submit an article for the **Social Studies Docket**, the joint publication of the New Jersey and New York Councils for the Social Studies. Each issue includes theme-related and non-themed articles, lesson plans, learning activities, and book, movie and museum reviews designed for K-12 social studies teachers. The deadline for Winter-Spring issues is Sept. 1 and for Summer-Fall is Feb. 1. Upcoming Themes:

- Winter-Spring 2012 – Academic Freedom and Social Studies Approach to Global History
- Summer-Fall 2012 – Teaching about the Tea Party, Populist Movements, and the 2012 Election
- Winter-Spring 2013 – 150th Anniversary of Emancipation Proclamation and New York/New Jersey abolitionists

Submit your article to Alan Singer at Alan.J.Singer@hofstra.edu.

NJ Social Studies Supervisors Association

NJSSSA final meeting of the year will be held on **May 19, 2011** at the NJ Principals and Supervisors Association, 12 Center Dr., Monroe, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. In addition to a business meeting, there will be presentations by the DBQ Project and Rutgers Prof. Beth Rubin. RSVP to Kristin Fox, President, at kfox@bernardsboe.com or Steve Maher, Treasurer, at smaher@chatham-nj.org

Collegiate Alliance for Social Education

CASE, the statewide organization of New Jersey university faculty teaching pre-service teachers, is sponsoring a free conference for university faculty and pre-service teachers at Rutgers University's College Avenue Campus on **September 23, 2011** from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Engaging materials and programs for social studies teachers will be highlighted, with a focus on economic education this year. To register, contact Prof. James Daly at james.daly@shu.edu.

Student Events

East Brunswick High School represented New Jersey at the 24th annual *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution* National Competition on April 29-May 2, 2011 and placed third out of 52 competing schools from every state, the District of Columbia and the Mariana Islands. Congratulations to East Brunswick students and teacher Alan Brodman for their continuing excellent performance!

[Back to top](#)

The annual *Project Citizen* Portfolio Showcase and Oral Presentation will be held on Wednesday, **May 25, 2011** at Rutgers University in Piscataway. Classes and after-school programs for grades 5-12 are invited to participate. *Project Citizen* is a process-based program that helps students to understand public policy by identifying a local public policy problem, researching the problem--including interviews with local public policymakers-- identifying possible alternative solutions, selecting a solution that is both constitutional and practical, and developing an action plan for getting their solution implemented. It is both service learning and civic education. Class rosters must be submitted by May 6, 2011 to participate. [Click](#) to access the class roster. Contact civiced@njclre.rutgers.edu for more information or to observe this oral and written performance assessment. [Click](#) to see a 5-minute demonstration and discussion by students and teachers from last year's *Project Citizen Showcase*.

The deadline for the **Diversity Art and Essay Contest** sponsored by the Interfaith Dialog Center has been extended to **May 13th**. This year's theme is: "Who is my neighbor?" Prizes of \$100-\$1000 for first through third place and five honorable mentions will be awarded for grades 6-8 and grades 9-12 for essays and for visual art. The essays must be original and unpublished and written by one student. The works of art may be drawings, watercolor, oil paint, acrylic paint, collage, and mixed media (no sculpture), original, unpublished and prepared by one student. All entries must be submitted to Interfaith Dialog Center, 17 Academy St., Suite 701, Newark, NJ 07102. For additional information go to www.idcnj.org.

Professional Development

The **New Jersey Office of Historic Sites** is offering three (3) hours of professional development credit to New Jersey elementary education and social studies teachers who participate in the annual SPIRIT OF JERSEY State History Fair on Saturday, **May 7, 2011**, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Historic Village at Allaire State Park, Farmingdale. Activities include military encampments, Revolutionary and Civil War periods, a 19th Century baseball game, period music and crafts, living history demonstrations, historic character portrayals and exhibits by historical societies and museums. Professional development documentation certificates may be obtained at the Double Trouble State Park exhibit during the fair. No registration is required. Admission is free but a \$5 per car parking donation is requested. For more information go to www.njhistoryfair.org.

Interactive and Online Tools for Teaching Financial Education Workshop on Thursday, **May 12, 2011**, 4:00-7:00 p.m. at HSBC National Center for Economic and Financial Education, 122 East 42nd St at Lexington, Suite 2600, New York City. Light dinner included. There is no fee to participate. To sign up for the workshop, go to <http://www.councilforeconed.org/nationalcenter/workshops.php>. For more information on the HSBC National Center workshops visit www.councilforeconed.org/nationalcenter.

Join Mrs. Paul for Afternoon tea at Paulsdale on Sunday, **May 22**, 2 p.m. at Paulsdale, a National Historic Landmark, 128 Hooton Rd., Mt. Laurel. A live performer portrays Mrs. Paul's reaction as she reads her daughter Alice's description of her life as a militant suffragist in 1909 England. In her letters, Alice writes of public riots, repeated arrests and hunger strikes in jail. Price is \$35. Register by Wednesday, May 18. For more information or to register, contact the Alice Paul Institute, at info@alicepaul.org or 856-231-1885.

A Master Teacher Institute in Holocaust Education is being offered to middle and high school teachers in New Jersey. New courses will begin in September 2011. Each course will meet five times over the semester. The program is designed to develop expert teachers in Holocaust studies who will serve as resource providers in their schools, districts, and communities. Participants will receive resource materials; access to leading scholars in Holocaust studies, including access to Rutgers faculty and resources; and professional development credit. To be eligible, teachers must have a minimum of three years teaching experience and three years of involvement with Holocaust/genocide education. For further information or to download an application, visit <http://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu> or call 732-932-2033. There is no fee to participate in this program.

The **National Constitution Center** is offering the *Women of Power Show*. It takes a look at extraordinary women throughout history. Students learn about the issues women faced while trying to secure equal rights. The show also explores passage of the 19th Amendment and the new roles of women in society. Students learn about courageous women who defied the norms of society and paved a path for future generations. They discover America through the stories of the women who persevered to establish equality for ALL citizens. For more information or to book the program, contact thcp@constitutioncenter.org.

[Back to top](#)

Summer Institutes

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Summer Institute **July 10-13, 2011**. Focused on the history and principles of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the *We the People* materials are easily integrated into a civics, U.S. History or U.S. Government class, or as a stand-alone curriculum. A four day Summer Institute for teachers from New Jersey and Pennsylvania will be held at the Rutgers Conference Center in New Brunswick. Participating teachers will receive curriculum materials and certificates for 30 hours of professional development and free classroom sets of books. The Institute is free; however, a \$30 non-refundable registration fee is required to reserve your place. Deadline for applications extended to **May 20, 2011 (DON'T WAIT!)**. [Click](#) for additional information and a registration form.

The **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** is hosting its annual National Conference for Social Studies Educators, **July 13-15, 2011** at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. The program is designed for secondary educators and community college faculty who have five or less years of experience in teaching about the Holocaust although educators with more or less experience may also attend if there is sufficient space. The conference is free and participants will receive free books and teaching materials, lunch on two days and a \$100 voucher to use in the Museum Shop. Participants must assume the transportation and hotel costs; however, a limited number of scholarships are available. Go to <http://www.ushmm.org/education/foreducators/prodev/belfer/> to learn more and to register online.

The **New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation** is sponsoring a summer professional development workshop, *Just the Facts*, on **July 20, 2011** from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. This workshop will provide educators with the important skills to assist their students in researching the Vietnam War. The morning will include a scholarly presentation and the afternoon will be more hands-on with investigations of photographs, primary documents, and oral histories. Contact Katie Henry at khenry@njvvmf.org for a registration form. Fee: \$40. Deadline: July 13, 2011.

NCSS Summer Institute on **Teaching with Documents and Works of Art** is offered jointly by the National Archives and the Smithsonian American Art Museum **July 27-29, 2011**. Fee of \$299 for NCSS members, \$339 for nonmembers. Go to www.socialstudies.org/workshops.

The **American Red Cross** will conduct its 4th Annual [Exploring Humanitarian Law Summer Institute](#) in Washington, D.C. **August 1-4, 2011**. The training institute is intended for secondary school teachers and college faculty who are interested in teaching EHL in the classroom. Participants will receive the EHL curriculum and resources to enable them to explore humanitarian law and principles. EHL offers activities that can be used as a whole or mixed and matched into current lessons. High-quality materials, including news accounts, photos, letters, videos, case studies and interactive projects bring real events and people to life, helping to connect lessons of the past with events of today. Registration is \$150 and a limited number of scholarships are available. For more information, please email: EHL@usa.redcross.org.

Resources for Teachers

Conflict Resolution and United States History offers an engaging way to involve students in grades 5-12 in considering historical documents and multiple perspectives in order to better understand what happened in the past and why. The printed materials include a CD with primary source documents, student overheads and power points for case studies of conflicts in American history ranging from the colonial period through the 1990s as well as a DVD. Go to <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/CONFLICT/overview.shtml> for a sample lesson, 4-minute video, teacher comments and an order form. Contact civiced@njclre.rutgers.edu for additional information or questions.

Free online lessons from the **Constitutional Rights Foundation** include: America's Economic Crisis Lessons, America Responds to terrorism, Brown v. Board 50th Anniversary, Educating about Immigration, Educating about Intellectual Property, Election central Resources, School-based Service Learning and more. For an index of free online lessons go to <http://www.crf-usa.org/online-lessons-index/free-lessons-index.html>.

C-SPAN Classroom is a free membership service dedicated to supporting educators' use of C-SPAN programming in their classrooms. The website, <http://c-spanclassroom.org>, provides access to hundreds of video clips which you can download and

[Back to top](#)

stream online, lesson plans, conference and fellowship opportunities for educators. Right now, C-SPAN is offering a FREE Presidential Timeline Poster to all new C-SPAN Classroom members. In addition, teachers and students can win prizes by competing in StudentCam, an annual documentary competition. For more information email educate@c-span.org.

Electronic New Jersey provides online access to an expanding set of curriculum units—now 23—using New Jersey history content for instruction about core themes in U. S. History. For classroom teachers grades 5-12. You can access the materials at <http://njdigitalhighway.org/enj/> or <http://njdigitalhighway.org/educators.php>.

Free resource materials about Africa from the New Jersey Center for Civic Education. Eight units from the early African kingdoms of the 7th century to the emerging democracies of the 21st century are available [online](#).

Free Interdisciplinary social studies and language arts lessons for grades 4-12 are available [online](#).

The **Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History** invites schools to become affiliates and join its network of American history schools and receive professional development, free and discounted publications, documents, recorded lectures, traveling exhibits, technical assistance, advice and guidance. To apply contact affiliates@gilderlehrman.org, call 646-366-9666 or visit www.gilderlehrman.org for more information.

Historical Documents of New Jersey and the United States, including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the U.S. Constitution and the New Jersey Constitution, is available for free from the New Jersey State Bar Foundation. Contact 1-800-FREELAW or www.njsbf.org to request copies for your class. It is also available [online](#).

iCivics, the web-based education project spearheaded by retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, is designed to reinvigorate civics teaching and learning about the Supreme Court, the judiciary and how the three branches of government work together for upper elementary and middle school grades through online games and lessons. The ever-expanding materials can be found at <http://www.icivics.org>.

Teachers College Columbia University has developed a curriculum about the federal budget, national debt and national deficit called *Understanding Fiscal Responsibility*, organized around the core question "How should we address our nation's fiscal challenges today and in the future in a manner that is consistent with our values and traditions?" It aims to provide multiple perspectives about the challenging fiscal issues to help youth become informed citizens and make their own decisions. Go to <http://understandingfiscalresponsibility.org/>.

Teaching Global History: A Social Studies Approach, by Hofstra University Professor Alan Singer, offers an alternative thoughtful approach to pre-packaged textbook outlines and materials for high school classes. It is available in paperback from Routledge. Go to <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415875493/>.

[Back to top](#)

Thanks for your support, and please feel free to contact our office with any questions, or for additional information on any of the programs we offer.

If you have information that you would like to share with other New Jersey social studies teachers and/or supervisors, please send it by the end of the month for the next month's E-newsletter.

New Jersey Center for Civic Education
Rutgers, The State University
Lucy Stone Hall, B208-216
Piscataway, NJ 08854
(848) 445-3413 (phone) • (732) 445-3420 (fax)
civiced@njclre.rutgers.edu • <http://civiced.rutgers.edu>

Please note that the Center's area code has changed from 732 to 848 as part of the new Rutgers University telephone system.