

NJ Social Studies Network News

A Publication of the New Jersey Center for Civic Education

June 2014

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NJ Council for the Social Studies

Thank you for participating in the annual NJCSS election.
The 2014-2015 NJCSS board includes the following:

President: Bill Wingren, Montclair High School

Vice-president: Joseph Orlak, Supervisor, Pascack Valley
Regional High School District

Secretary: Angela Smith, Jefferson Middle School, Edison

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Schools

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Eileen Heddy, The College of New Jersey

John Khanlian, Retired educator, Moorestown

Joseph Kovacs, Middlesex County College

Executive Director: Arlene Gardner

The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies
and

the New Jersey Center for Civic Education

ARE MOVING

July 1, 2014 to:

Rutgers University, Busch Campus

640 Bartholomew Road Suite 103-105

Piscataway, NJ 08854

SAVE THE DATE: The next annual NJCSS Fall
Conference will be held on **October 22, 2014**. Get
approval before school ends!

If you would like to nominate an outstanding social studies
teacher for the NJCSS **Social Studies Teacher of the
Year Award**, use the Teacher of the Year Award at
www.njcss.org and send your supporting materials by
September 1, 2014. The award will be announced at the
annual fall conference in October.

NJCSS Committees will be meeting over the summer:

- Membership/Awards
- Communications/Publications
- Conference/Programs
- Education Policies

Join a committee by emailing agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu.

NJCSS Membership renewals will be sent in August. As a
member of NJCSS, you will be supporting the teaching of
social studies and keeping abreast of news and events.

National Council for the Social Studies

SAVE THE DATE: The annual conference will be held
November 21-23, 2014 in Boston. Confirmed speakers
include Ken Burns, Eric Foner and Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
Registration opens June 1st. Go to
<http://www.socialstudies.org/conference>.

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NCSS is accepting applications and nominations for the following Awards and Grants through **June 20, 2014**:

- Outstanding Secondary , Middle Level or Elementary Social Studies Teacher of the Year
- Grant for the Enhancement of Geographic Literacy
- Award for Global Understanding Given in Honor of James M. Becker
- FASSE Christa McAuliffe Reach for the Stars Award
- Jean Dresden Grambs Distinguished Career Research Award
- NCSS Exemplary Research Award

For more information and to apply or nominate a social studies teacher or program that you believe is worthy of recognition, go to: <http://www.socialstudies.org/awards>.

Student Events



Children's Author Trinkha Noble (center) with students and teacher Hope Wilkins at Livingston Elementary School in New Brunswick

At the March 19, 2014 NJCSS/NJSSSA sponsored conference for elementary educators, *"Student Growth: Reading and Writing Through Social Studies,"* Hope Wilkins won the doorprize for a visit to her classroom from the conference keynote speaker, children's author Trinkha Hakes Noble. Two weeks later the author visited Ms. Wilkin's fourth-grade class at Livingston Elementary School in New Brunswick. The students were very excited about the Ms. Noble's visit and enthusiastically remarked that she "gave them tips about writing" and shared "stories of how she got ideas for writing her books."



Dan Mladnick's 8th grade class at Highland Park Middle School placed first in the annual New Jersey State *Project Citizen Digital Portfolio Showcase*. The project was: "Fracking: Stop the Leaks." It will be sent to represent New Jersey at the National *Project Citizen Showcase* in California July 31-August 1, 2014. Michael Savino's civics class at Ridgefield Jr. High School placed second with "G.O.T. Votes? -- Get Out the Vote Initiatives," and Sarah David's class at Gaudineer Middle School in Springfield placed third with "Don't Underrate the Garden State." See the top three projects as well as those from 2012 and 2013 online at <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/pccportfolio.html>. [Click](#) to see a 5-minute video about how *Project Citizen* involves students in understanding public policy and develops research, critical thinking and communication skills for active citizenship.



Nominate a student from your school "who has spoken out and acted in order to make a positive difference" for the **Facing History and Ourselves Student Upstander Award**. "Upstanders" speak up in the face of injustice, ask questions, empathize, combat bigotry and nurture democracy. The student nominee will be honored at the Facing History and Ourselves Annual Benefit dinner in New York City on November 6, 2014. Complete the nomination form at <http://www.tfaforms.com/331688> by **June 15th**.



Rho Kappa, the National Social Studies Honor Society for high school students, provides national recognition and opportunities for exploration in the social studies. Sponsored by the National Council for the Social Studies, Rho Kappa is the only national organization that recognizes high school juniors and seniors for excellence in the field of social studies and participation in community service. Consider starting a local chapter at your high school. Visit <http://rhokappa.socialstudies.org> for more information.

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Social Studies Policies

Revised New Jersey State Social Studies Standards.

The New Jersey Department of Education is mandated to review the state standards every five years. The proposed revisions, which are aimed at helping to clarify some of the language and consolidate some of the CPIs, are fairly minimal. You can see them online at <http://www.nj.gov/education/news/2014/standards/SS.pdf>. The public review and comment period ends **June 20, 2014**. You can send your comments to socialstudiesstandards@doe.state.nj.us. Even if you do not want to send comments, you should look at the proposed revisions since they will most likely be adopted.

A **NJ State Department of Education** task force developing **model assessments** for US History I, US History II and World History will be working over the summer with the goal of posting several draft assessment documents on the NJDOE website in the fall. The assessment prompts will include primary and secondary documents. Students will be asked to use evidence from these documents (e.g., maps, charts, political cartoons, newspaper articles, foundational documents, speeches, journal entries) and incorporate content knowledge to support their responses. Plans are also being made for the development of K-8 model curriculum.

The **Massachusetts Board of Higher Education** adopted a first-in-the-nation [policy](#) on civic learning for public college and university students and will work with the Commonwealth's community colleges, state universities and University of Massachusetts campuses to incorporate civic learning as an "expected outcome" for undergraduate students beginning in the 2014-15 academic year.

Let your U.S. Senators know that you want funding for social studies included in the **2015 Appropriations Bill**. The Senate unanimously passed a resolution last month that recognized the crucial function that civic education serves in the preservation and improvement of our democracy. Urge the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Services to put this resolution into action by including funding for social studies in the 2015 federal appropriations bill as it is being marked up. Go to the NJCSS website at www.njcss.org for the email addresses for Senators Booker and Menendez as well as the members of the Senate Subcommittee.

Professional Development



Colonial Williamsburg has six elementary, two middle and two high school summer programs for teachers in **June and July 2014**. The sessions for elementary teachers will focus on the colonial and the early nation period "on location" in Williamsburg, and nearby Jamestown and Yorktown. The program for middle school teachers will focus on the period from 1607 to the Civil War and will include a visit to historic sites in Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown, and Richmond, Virginia. The program for high school teachers will use a thematic approach to American history to debate issues of unity vs. diversity, private wealth vs. commonwealth, law vs. ethics, and freedom vs. equality. The cost is \$2,200; however 18 scholarships are available for teachers from New Jersey for this summer. For additional information visit <http://www.history.org/teach>



Put a Little New Jersey in Your Classroom. With support from the New Jersey Historical Commission in celebration of the 350th anniversary of New Jersey, the NJ Center for Civic Education and the NJCSS are sponsoring summer workshops to help teachers integrate lessons and materials about New Jersey's history and government into their social studies curriculum while preparing students to meet New Jersey social studies and Common Core ELA standards. A workshop for **grade 2-5 teachers** will be held on **July 9, 2014** and one for **grade 6-12 teachers** on **July 10, 2014**. Both workshops will be held at Rutgers University in Piscataway. **TWO SPACES are still available for the July 9th workshop.** If you are interested, go to www.njcss.org or <http://civiced.rutgers.edu> for more information and a registration form and send your registration form immediately.

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Putting the Pieces Together: Integrating Civics and Economics with History, Geography and Common Core, a two day summer institute for middle and high school U.S. history, economics and civics teachers sponsored by the NJ Center for Civic Education and the NJ Council for Economic Education, will be held on **July 23-24, 2014** at Rutgers University. The focus will be on economic and civic choices or decisions and their impact and consequences in history. The program will include lectures and discussions with scholars and practitioners, as well as interactive classroom activities. **THREE SPACES are still available for this two-day workshop.** If you are interested, go to www.njcss.org or <http://civiced.rutgers.edu> for more information and a registration form and send your registration form immediately.

Summer Constitutional Seminars at James Madison's Montpelier in Virginia include "The Presidency and the Constitution" on **July 18-20**, and "Suffrage in America" on **July 23-25**. The cost for educators for each two-day workshop is \$50. There are a limited number of scholarships available for New Jersey teachers. To find out more information and to register go to <http://learn.montpelier.org/seminars>.



Financial Education Boot Camp 2014, sponsored by the NJ Council for Economic Education and the NJ State Department of Education, is a free five-hour workshop that will provide an understanding of 25 key metrics associated with financial capability as well as information about common consumer frauds and creative ways to teach personal finance topics using technology tools. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, **July 30, 2014** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Raritan Valley College in Branchburg, NJ. For more information and to register go to <http://education.state.nj.us/events/details.php?recid=20856>

The Council for Economic Education is offering **14 workshops** this summer for NY Metro-Area educators, including:

- Teaching Economics Using "Children's Literature" and "Play Dough," [July 16](#).
- Learning about Wall Street on Wall Street, [July 22](#). Includes personalized tour of the Museum of American Finance.
- Learning, Earning, and Investing: Learning the Jargon, Then Visiting Wall Street, [August 6 & 7](#). Field Trip – NYSE, Museum of American Finance and Federal Reserve Bank.

All workshops are free, but space is limited so [register](#) early!



NCSS-sponsored summer institute *Freedom Summer's 50th Anniversary: Investigating the Civil Rights Movement* at Seattle University, WA July 30-August 1, 2014. This three-day workshop will provide a varied program of civil rights panelists, demonstration of the Freedom Summer Storypath curriculum, and middle and secondary students sharing their learning experiences. Workshop participants will interact with the curriculum while learning from primary documents and civil rights workers about Freedom Summer. [Register here](#)

Freedoms Foundation is presenting "*Teaching American History and the Medal of Honor Legacy*" from **July 20–25** at Valley Forge, PA. The program includes scholarly lectures about World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan and pedagogical discussions, as well as a tour of Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell and the Declaration House in Philadelphia, and training in the use of the Medal of Honor Character Development materials. At least 20 full scholarships are available for those who [register online](#).

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Teaching with Primary Sources: Evidence-Based Learning is a statewide project of the New Jersey Center for Civic Education and the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies to help students develop critical thinking and evidence-based decision-making skills. For teachers who have participated in a TPS workshop during 2010-2014 and would like to be trained to offer professional development in their school districts, an **ADVANCED** workshop will be held on **July 30, 2014**. To register, email agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu and send a lesson involving primary sources. The next **BASIC** workshop will be held on **December 9, 2014** at Rutgers University in Piscataway. [Click](#) for additional information and the December 9 registration form or go to <http://www.njcss.org> or <http://civiced.rutgers.edu>.

Resources for Teachers



With the 350th anniversary of the founding of New Jersey in 1664, there will be many events throughout the year commemorating, celebrating and educating about New Jersey. The *New Jersey Historical Commission* is sponsoring the development of a series of videos, "It Happened Here in New Jersey," highlighting innovation, diversity and liberty in the history of New Jersey. The videos will be shown on NJTV and the videos and lessons will be available on the Commission website at <http://nj.gov/state/historical/>, and the NJ350 website at <http://officialnj350.com/>.

The *NJ Center for Civic Education* and the *NJ Council for the Social Studies* have received a small grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission to identify, develop, pilot and disseminate classroom lesson about New Jersey. If you have an outstanding lesson about New Jersey that you would like to share, or if you would like to pilot some of the lessons being developed, please contact agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu. The lessons will be on the NJ350 and NJCSS websites starting this September.

Crossroads of the American Revolution is developing a series, "Meet Your Revolutionary Neighbors," that includes short stories about individuals who "lived, worked, struggled and fought in the American Revolution" that will engage adults and students alike in appreciating New Jersey's contributions. See the stories as they develop at <http://www.revolutionarynj.org/share-your-story/>

An exhibit of lithographs about the Revolutionary War in New Jersey will be on display **June 23-August 26, 2014** at the Ford Mansion on the grounds of the Morristown National Historic Park. Come to the opening reception on Thursday, July 3, 2014 from 5 to 7 p.m. Call or email Debbie Lynch at dlynch@revolutionarynj.org or 609-292-0170.

New Jersey: State of Invention Conference will be held on Saturday, **June 28, 2014**, 1:00-4:30 p.m., at Alexander Library, Rutgers University in New Brunswick. Exhibit and Reception: 4:30-6:00. Spend an enlightening and entertaining afternoon learning about New Jersey's inventive past, present and future! For more information contact Grace Agnew at gagnew@rutgers.edu. To register go to <http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/njinvents>.

The *Museum of Early Crafts & Trades* in Madison, NJ, is offering the last of its exhibits lecture series, "The American Revolution in New Jersey: Where the Battlefield Meets the Homefront" on Sunday **July 13th** at 2pm: "A Nest of Tories': The American vs. American Battle of Fort Lee, 1781". To reserve a seat call: 973-377-2982 ext.10. Price: \$7 Non-Members, \$5 Seniors/Students, \$3 members.

If you have information about an event, resources, professional development or other activity of interest to social studies educators, please send it by the end of the month for inclusion in the next month's enewsletter to Arlene Gardner at agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu. Information will be included at the discretion of the editor.

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