

# NJ Social Studies Network News

A Publication of the New Jersey Center for Civic Education

May 2014

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## NJ Council for the Social Studies

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

If you are interested in presenting a workshop at the fall social studies conference, use the **Call for Proposals** form at [www.njcss.org](http://www.njcss.org) to send your proposal by **June 1, 2014**.

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](http://www.njcss.org) and send your supporting materials by **September 1, 2014**. The award will be announced at the annual fall conference in October.

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.

## NJ Social Studies Supervisors Association

The spring meeting for supervisors will be held on **May 16, 2014**. The tentative agenda include: SGO update and activities, information about Common Core and PARCC, a presentation by Pearson on social studies materials, Board elections, and a discussion on middle school social studies. The program will be held at NJPSA in Monroe. It will begin with breakfast at 8:15 a.m. Members are asked to pay \$10 towards food service and nonmembers \$20. To register go to <http://tinyurl.com/NJSSSA-May-16>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9-10: Put a Little New Jersey in Your Classroom  
July 23-24: Integrating Civics and Economics  
July 30: Advanced Teaching with Primary Sources  
Oct. 22: NJCSS Annual Fall Conference  
Nov. 21-23: NCSS Conference, Boston, MA  
Dec. 9: Basic Teaching with Primary Sources

## National Council for the Social Studies



NCSS is accepting nominations for **Outstanding Social Studies Teacher of the Year** until **May 31, 2014**. Anyone may nominate. Self-nominations will be accepted. NCSS Membership is required. Social studies teachers for grades K-6, 5-8, and 7-12. For additional information and an application form go to [http://www.socialstudies.org/get\\_involved/ncss\\_outstanding\\_social\\_studies\\_teacher\\_of\\_the\\_year](http://www.socialstudies.org/get_involved/ncss_outstanding_social_studies_teacher_of_the_year)

**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 1<sup>st</sup>. Go to <http://www.socialstudies.org/conference>.

NCSS Members can find a collection of classroom activities, teaching ideas, and articles from *Social Education*, *Middle Level Learning*, and *Social Studies and the Young Learner* at <http://www.socialstudies.org/teacherslibrary>

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## Student Events



**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 applying to start a local chapter at your high school. For more information, go to <http://rhokappa.socialstudies.org>.



The New Jersey state finals for the **National Geography Bee** were held on April 4, 2014 at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ. The annual competition is organized by the National Geographic Society and is currently sponsored by Google Earth and Plum Creek. Charles Mills from Trinity Christian School in Montville won the state competition and will represent New Jersey at the National Geography Bee in May. Karan Menon from John Adams Middle School in Edison placed second. Congratulations to them and to all participating students!



**NJ History Day.** Congratulations to the New Jersey students who won first place for papers, performances, documentaries, websites and exhibits at the New Jersey History Day Competition at William Paterson College on May 3 and qualify for the National History Day Competition! For a list of winners by category go to <http://nj.nhd.org/>



**Project Citizen** involves students in understanding public policy and emphasizes responsible participation in local and state government. Students learn how to interact with government agencies to effect change. [Click](#) to see a 5-minute demonstration and discussion by students and teachers from the 2011 *Project Citizen Showcase*. The class project portfolios from 2012 and 2013 are online at <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/pcportfolio.html>. To participate in the annual *Project Citizen* Digital Showcase, register your class by emailing [civiced@njclre.rutgers.edu](mailto:civiced@njclre.rutgers.edu). Class projects for 2013-14 will be accepted until **May 23, 2014**. For additional information about *Project Citizen*, go to <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/projectcitizen.html>

## Professional Development

The **New Jersey Geographic Alliance** is offering professional development "**Flow Education**" on **May 17<sup>th</sup>, May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 7<sup>th</sup>, and June 14<sup>th</sup>**. Participants will get field experience on the water. Free materials, including maps, books, and sample lesson plans will be handed out at the workshops. Teachers may receive up to \$200 for participating. For information and to register go to [http://njga.org/?page\\_id=132](http://njga.org/?page_id=132)

The **Council for Economic Education** is sponsoring "**Integrating Economics, U.S. History and the C3 Frameworks**" on **May 20** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Science, Industry and Business Library at 35<sup>th</sup> and Madison in Manhattan. Receive a complimentary copy of *Focus: Understanding Economics in U.S. History*, best practices in how to align lessons with the C3 framework and six continuing education credits. To register go to <http://www.councilforeconed.org/resource/integrating-economics-u-s-history-and-the-c3-frameworks/>

**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>.

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**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. Each one-day professional development program will include discussions, lesson demonstrations and development, materials, breakfast and lunch. A \$25 registration and application form are due by **May 30, 2014**. Go to [www.njcss.org](http://www.njcss.org) or <http://civiced.rutgers.edu> for more information and a registration form.



**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. Application deadline extended to **May 30, 2014**. Go to [www.njcss.org](http://www.njcss.org) or <http://civiced.rutgers.edu> for a registration form.

**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 I, 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.



**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. The next workshop is scheduled for **December 9, 2014** for grade 3-12 teachers. For teachers who have participated in prior professional development and would like to be trained to offer professional development in their school districts, advanced training will be held on **July 30, 2014**. [Click](#) for additional information and the registration forms or go to <http://www.njcss.org> or <http://civiced.rutgers.edu>.

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**Global Exploration for Educators Organization (GEEO)** is offering travel programs for teachers for summer 2014 to Japan, India/Nepal, Italy, Portugal/Spain, Amalfi Coast, Greece, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Thailand/Laos, Cambodia, China, Russia/Mongolia/China, Turkey, South Africa/Mozambique/Zimbabwe/Botswana, Morocco, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Peru, and the Galapagos Islands. For additional information go to [www.geeo.org](http://www.geeo.org) or call 1-877-600-0105. Registration deadline: **June 1**.



**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/>

## Resources for Teachers



With the 350<sup>th</sup> 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/>, the NJ350 website at <https://officialnj350>.

The **New Jersey Historical Commission** is also offering a series of lectures, **New Jersey: A History of the Garden State**, by leading historians, exploring New Jersey's history from its Native American heritage to its role in the American Revolution, industrialization, urbanization, immigration, and today. The remaining lecture will be held on Saturday, **May 17<sup>th</sup>** 2-3:30 p.m. at Monmouth County Library in Manalapan. For additional information go to [www.history.nj.gov](http://www.history.nj.gov).



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](mailto:agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu).

**Hannah Caldwell Day**—On June 7, 1780, the Battle of Connecticut Farms, one of the last battles in the northern colonies during the American Revolutionary War, took place in what is now Union Township in Union County. The battle enabled the colonists to rebuff the attempt by the British in New York City to reach the Continental Army's encampment at Jockey Hollow in Morristown. In the battle, Hannah Caldwell, the wife of Rev. James Caldwell who was the chaplain for the Continental Army, was killed and her house burned. June 7<sup>th</sup> is Hannah Caldwell Day and a reenactment of the battle will take place at her home (rebuilt in 1782), the Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Avenue, Union. For more information about Hannah Caldwell Day contact Barbara La Mort at the Union Township Historical Society: 908-687-0048.

The **Museum of Early Crafts & Trades** in Madison, NJ, is offering an exhibits lecture series, "The American Revolution in New Jersey: Where the Battlefield Meets the Homefront":

- Sunday May 4th at 2pm--James J. Gigantino presents "Slavery and Abolition in Revolutionary New Jersey"
- Sunday June 1st at 2pm--Eleanor H. McConnell presents "New Jersey's Early Iron and Salt Industries"
- Sunday July 13th at 2pm--Todd W. Braisted presents "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.

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The 10<sup>th</sup> annual *Spirit of the Jersey's State History Fair* will be held on Saturday, **May 10, 2014**, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (RAIN OR SHINE) at Washington Crossing State Park in Titusville, NJ. Parking \$8. For more information email [historyfair@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:historyfair@dep.state.nj.us) or call 609-737-0623.

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@niclre.rutgers.edu/](mailto:agardner@niclre.rutgers.edu) Information will be included at the discretion of the editor.

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