

NJ Social Studies Network News

A Publication of the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

November 2014

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NJ Council for the Social Studies

REGISTER NOW for the **Annual Fall Conference of the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies** to be held on **October 22, 2014**. The conference will include speakers, exhibitors, videos, materials, over thirty workshops, and a great opportunity to meet and share with your colleagues. Go to www.njcss.org for the registration form. The registration deadline is **October 10, 2014**. Forms mailed before the deadline will receive an early-bird discount. You can sign-up online now using Paypal.

Become a member. These are tough times for social studies and we need everybody to make our voices heard and our concerns shared. Be part of the effort. One of the things that DeToqueville found so astounding when he visited the U.S. in the 1830s was how involved people were in organizations. Democracy was functioning because people were joining together on issues of mutual interest and making their views known. Recent research has shown that Americans are no longer the big "joiners" they once were and this is having a negative effect on political tolerance, discourse and involvement--the very goals for teaching social studies! Be part of the solution, not just by what you do in the classroom but by what you do with your life and your time! If you are unable to participate in this year's annual conference, you can still become a member of NJCSS. Go to www.njcss.org for the membership form.

NJSSSA

The next meeting of New Jersey social studies supervisors will be held on January 30, 2015 at NJPSA in Monroe. If you have not become a joint member of NJCSS and NJSSSA, you can still register by going to www.njcss.org.

National Council for the Social Studies

SAVE THE DATE: The annual NCSS conference will be held on **November 21-23, 2014** in Boston. Confirmed speakers include Ken Burns, Eric Foner and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. For additional information and to register, go to <http://www.socialstudies.org/conference>.

Social Studies Policies

Revised New Jersey State Social Studies Standards. The New Jersey Department of Education has incorporated the minor language changes that were suggested to clarify and consolidate some of the CPIs in the state social studies standards. You can find the revised standards at <http://www.nj.gov/education/news/2014/standards/SS.pdf>.

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 starting a local chapter at your high school. Visit <http://rhokappa.socialstudies.org> for more information.

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We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution enhances student understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy well as the contemporary relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The annual New Jersey State ***We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution*** High School Competition will be held on **January 21, 2015**. Contact agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu if you are interested in bringing a competing class or observing the state competition. If you are interested in free access to the *We the People* ebook, go to www.civiced.org.



Project Citizen involves students in understanding public policy and emphasizes responsible participation in local and state government. The New Jersey State Project Citizen Digital Portfolio Showcase will be held online. Digital portfolios must be submitted by **May 22, 2015**. If you plan to send a class project, register your class by **January 23, 2015** by emailing civiced.njclre.rutgers.edu. [Click](#) to see a 5-minute demonstration and discussion by students and teachers. For additional information about *Project Citizen* and projects from the last three years go to <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/projectcitizen.html>

Virtual Supreme Court competition offers teams of two high school students the opportunity to research cutting-edge constitutional law, write persuasive appellate briefs, argue against other students through video chats, and try to persuade a panel of attorneys during oral argument that their side is correct. The members of the grand-prize winning team will receive a free trip, including airfare and one night of hotel accommodations, to Washington, D.C. to attend the ConSource Constitution Day celebration in September 2015. Teachers interested in having their students participate should sign up at www.HarlanInstitute.org, add an account, read the problem, and get started! Send questions to info@harlaninstitute.org or info@consource.org.

The World of 7 Billion Student Video Contest can help bring technology and creativity into your high school social

studies classes. The contest challenges students to create a short (60 seconds or less) video illustrating the connection between world population growth and one of three global challenges: available farmland, global education, or the sixth extinction. Students can win up to \$1,000 and their teachers will receive free curriculum resources. The contest deadline is **February 19, 2015**. Go to www.worldof7billion.org/student-video-contest for guidelines and resources.



Office of Legislative Services State House Tour. Trained staff and volunteers provide tours and programs that match school curriculum and bring the lessons of the classroom to life in our State's capitol. Go to http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/visiting_teacher_guide.asp for additional information. To schedule a visit or ask a question, call the Tour Office at 609-847-3150.



Eagleton's Youth Political Participation Program "**State House Express**" program provides awards of up to \$350 to help eligible middle and high school classes to pay for bus rental costs to take classes on field trips to the State House in Trenton. Visit yppp.rutgers.edu for application details and teacher resources.

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The U.S. Department of State sponsors merit-based scholarship **Study Abroad Programs for U.S. High School Students**. For the National Security Language Initiative for Youth go to www.nsliforyouth.org for an application. Deadline: **Oct. 30**. For the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange go to www.yes-abroad.org for an application. Deadline: **Jan. 7, 2015**. For the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange with Germany go to

<http://www.usagermanyscholarship.org>. For information on other programs go to www.exchanges.state.gov.

Professional Development

Choices curriculum unit, **Confronting Genocide: Never Again**, will be demonstrated at Raritan Valley Community College on Thursday, **October 9**, 4-7 p.m. Designed for high school and college level classrooms, the workshop will examine how the United States has responded to five cases of genocide, and consider multiple perspectives on the role that the U.S. should play in confronting genocides around the world. Fee \$45. For a registration form go to http://www.raritanval.edu/uploadedFiles/community/Holocaust/Seminar%20for%20Educators_Confronting%20Genocide-Never%20Again.pdf

Teach Europe is a free, annual workshop for language arts and social studies teachers hosted by the **Rutgers Center for European Studies**. This year it is scheduled for **Friday, October 24, 2014** (8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m.). For further information contact european@rci.rutgers.edu or call 732-932-8551. To register click [HERE](#) or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z5GKHPR>.



The New Jersey Forum, presented by the New Jersey Historical Commission in partnership with The New Jersey State Archives, New Jersey State Museum and Kean University, will be held at Kean University on **November 21-22, 2014**. The Forum will feature notable public historians and scholars. Roundtable discussions and panel sessions will explore new research on New Jersey's history. For more information visit www.history.nj.gov or www.officialnj350.com.

The **Rutgers Institute for High School Teachers** provides teachers with an opportunity to work with noted scholars for in-depth study and analysis of topics central to their teaching. All workshops run 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Visit <http://rcha.rutgers.edu/institute-for-high-school-teachers/seminars/2014-2015-seminar-schedule> for a full schedule, course descriptions and registration information.

Princeton East Asia Seminar for K-12 teachers offers free seminars at Princeton University once a month on Saturdays, November 2014-May 2015 and a study tour of China and Japan or South Korea. For information contact Richard Chafey at chafey@princeton.edu or Lesley Solomon at lesley86@hotmail.com.



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 provide teachers with an expanded ability to help students develop critical thinking and evidence-based decision-making skills. The next workshop will be held on **December 9, 2014** at Rutgers University in Piscataway. The workshop will be repeated on **April 2, 2015**. [Click](#) for additional information and the registration form.

Resources for Teachers



Put a Little New Jersey in Your Classroom. To commemorate the 350th anniversary of New Jersey, the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies and the New Jersey Center for Civic Education have received a small grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission to collect, create and disseminate classroom lessons about New Jersey that will help teachers to teach about the people, places and events that shaped the development of the state, and to place historical events and sites in New Jersey into the broader context of United States and world history.

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Currently, 20 of the 60 lessons are online at <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/njlessons.html>. Additional lessons will be uploaded after they are piloted this fall. If you have a lesson about New Jersey that you would like to share, or if you would like to pilot any of the lessons email agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu.

With the 350th anniversary of the founding of New Jersey in 1664, the **New Jersey Historical Commission** is sponsoring the development of a series of 90 second videos, "It Happened Here in New Jersey," highlighting innovation, diversity and liberty in the history of New Jersey. The videos are being shown on NJTV and the videos and lessons are available on the Commission website at <http://nj.gov/state/historical/>, and the NJ350 website at <http://officialnj350.com/>.



Crossroads of the American Revolution has a variety of education resources about the American Revolution in New Jersey, including field trips, trunk shows, information about battles and encampments and a timeline, at www.revolutionarynj.org/learn; as well as lectures, walks, exhibits, reenactments and games from Bergen County to Cape May at www.revolutionarynj.org/events; and short stories about individuals who "lived, worked, struggled and fought in the American Revolution" at www.revolutionarynj.org/meet-your-revolutionary-neighbors. Visit your "Revolutionary Neighbors" to get a first-hand perspective on the American Revolution in New Jersey.

Tour Alice Paul's home. Saturday, **Oct. 11** and the second Saturday of each month a tour of Paulsdale, the Mt. Laurel birthplace of Quaker suffragist Alice Paul who led the final campaign that achieved women's right to vote, is offered at 12 noon and 1 p.m. For information contact Claire Schmieder, program associate, at claires@alicepaul.org or 856-231-1885.

Do you know a woman who made a significant impact on New Jersey history? Nominate her to be added to the New Jersey Women's History website! Nominees should be women who made a significant contribution to New Jersey women's history prior to 2000. Learn about current women highlighted on the website at www.njwomenshistory.org. To nominate a woman, or learn

more about our guidelines, visit <http://www.njwomenshistory.org/nominations>. The deadline for nominations is Friday, **January 30, 2015**. For more information, contact Kris Myers at 856-231-1885 or kmyers@alicepaul.org.

"Memory After Belsen". This documentary feature film follows the granddaughter of a survivor as she discovers the reality of her grandmother's experience. Her journey to the Bergen-Belsen grounds serves as a springboard for exploring issues of memory. Voices of leading scholars and educators contribute to this unique program on the future of Holocaust memory and how it is portrayed in contemporary culture through film, the arts, human rights initiatives and education. The film will be shown on Thursday, **November 20th** at 6:30 p.m., followed by a meeting with the filmmakers, at the Museum of Jewish Heritage, 36 Battery Place in New York. **RSVP:** joshua@strmedia.com. For more information: www.memoryafterbelsen.com

Gordon Thomas Ward provides unique historical programs for schools. Nationally recognized author, musician, and former teacher Gordon Thomas Ward is booking programs for schools. Schedule this unique and celebrated historian and raconteur for a very special presentation at your school or classroom! Many of his presentations can be expanded into WORKSHOPS or multi-day ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCY programs that combine a full-group presentation with dynamic visits to individual classrooms. These options allow for expanded Q&A time and opportunities to delve deeper into presentation topics or other areas such as: the writing process, ghost stories' segue to history, New Jersey's role in *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, and the process and importance of documenting local and personal history. Acoustic performances of original songs may also augment the workshop and residency experiences. Please visit www.gordonthomasward.com for additional information and correspondence.

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The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

Rutgers University, Busch Campus

640 Bartholomew Road, Suite 101-103

Piscataway, NJ 08854

848-445-3413

President: Bill Wingren, Montclair High School

Vice-president: Joseph Orlak, Supervisor, Pascack Valley
Regional High School District
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to Arlene Gardner at [agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu/](mailto:agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu)
Information will be included at the discretion of the
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