

NJ Social Studies Network News

A Publication of the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

June 2015

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NJ Council for the Social Studies

The NJCSS annual fall conference, *Invigorating Your Social Studies Classroom*, will be held over two days-- Tuesday, **October 20 for grades K-8** and Wednesday, **October 21 for grades 9-12**. The conference and membership registration form is online at the Council's website: www.njcss.org. Don't wait for September. Register now!

The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies will be presenting an Elementary (K-5) and Secondary (6-12) Teacher of the Year Award at its annual fall conference October 20-21, 2015. If you have an outstanding teacher at your school, send a nomination with three letters of recommendation using the Teacher of the Year Award forms at www.njcss.org to Joseph Kovacs, Awards Committee Chair, at kovjos17@yahoo.com. Nominations are due by **June 30, 2015**.

National Council for the Social Studies

SAVE THE DATES: The annual NCSS conference will be held **November 13-15, 2015** in New Orleans. Registration is open!

Awards and Prizes

NCSS social studies educator and program awards. NCSS is accepting nominations for the following 2015 awards and grants. Click on the links below for more information. Deadline: **June 26, 2015**.

- [Outstanding 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](#)

New Jersey Social Studies Teacher of the Year Awards

The *New Jersey Council for the Social Studies* will be presenting an Elementary (K-5) Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award at its annual fall conference on October 20, 2015 and a Secondary (6-12) Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award at its fall conference on October 21, 2015. If you have an outstanding teacher at your school, send a nomination with three letters of recommendation using the Teacher of the Year Award forms at www.njcss.org by **June 30, 2015** to Joseph Kovacs, Awards Committee Chair, at kovjos17@yahoo.com.

Student Events



Congratulations to Karan Menon, the student from John Adams Middle School in Edison, NJ, who won the 2015 **National Geographic Bee** in Washington, D.C. and a \$50,000 college scholarship. The teen outlasted over 4 million students and 53 other finalists from across the country. He won by correctly identifying the Congo River as the proposed site for the Grand Inga Dam, which will become the world's largest hydroelectric power plant.



Congratulations to Sarah David's 8th grade civics class at Gaudineer Middle School in Springfield, NJ. Her class' project, "Preventing Gang Violence," will be representing New Jersey at the National *Project Citizen* Showcase in July 2015.

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Mahatma Gandhi Peace and Harmony Art & Writing Contest invites middle and high school students to send original works of art or writing based on the quote: "Nonviolence is a weapon of the strong." The deadline for mailing an entry is **June 15th**. For more information go to <http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/stawards/gandhi.pdf>.

Professional Development

EdCamp Central New Jersey. On **June 6**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., an EdCamp Central New Jersey professional development workshop will be hosted at North Plainfield High School. The EdCamp model is based on the unconference idea--a flipped PD experience that taps into the expertise of the attendees, and relies on volunteers to facilitate discussions centered around best practices employed by the participants. You can decide to lead a workshop on an area you excel in or coordinate a meeting or you can choose to participate in one of the workshops. There is no cost and breakfast and lunch will be provided courtesy of WISE (Working in Support of Education) and National Geographic. To register go to <http://goo.gl/forms/5EBqgZikts>

The **College of Saint Elizabeth** is offering a new Graduate Certificate Program in *Holocaust and Genocide Education* beginning this Fall, 2015. The Program consists of five graduate courses that can be completed in one year and will be offered in a hybrid format so that two courses can be completed on one night per week. There is a reduced tuition rate of \$650 for the three-credit course. For further information about this program and information on how to apply, contact: Prof. Anne Langan PhD, Program Coordinator, at alangan@cse.edu

Summer Institutes

Advanced Teaching with Primary Sources Seminar. If you have participated in any of the Basic Teaching with Primary Sources workshops that have been offered by the NJ Center for Civic Education at Rutgers University over the past three years, you are invited to the Advanced TPS Seminar on **June 30**, from 9 to 3 p.m., at Rutgers to share, discuss and improve your lessons and prepare to facilitate a workshop in your school district about inquiry or evidence-based learning using primary sources. Register by **June 15th** by sending an email with a lesson incorporating primary sources to agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu.

The **Newseum** and **Facing History** are sponsoring a two-day workshop, *"What 9/11 Stories Tell,"* at the 911 Tribune Center in New York City on July 7 and 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For middle and high school teachers, the workshop will focus on how journalists, historians and students can reveal the impact of 9/11 through stories and research. Cost: \$50. Go to <http://tributewtc.org/education/for-teachers/professional-development-workshops> for more information and to register.

"Untold History Summer Institute" will be held Friday-Sunday, **July 10-12**, at the East Side Middle school in New York City. To reserve space contact Eric Singer at es1355@gmail.com.

The **New Jersey Council for the Humanities** has a few spots left in its summer institute, *Making Local History Matter*, which will be held **July 13-15** at the Rutgers-Newark Campus. The program will provide teachers with tools to build students' historical research skills with hands-on projects that put students in the role of community historians. Newark will be used as a laboratory and model for community engaged historical research. Session presenters will include archivists, curators, and public historians working in both traditional and online formats. The 3-day, non-residential program offers 21 hours of professional development credit. Registration is \$50. For additional information and to register go to: <http://njch.org/programs/program-teacher-program/>

Gilder Lehrman's Literacy through History program is being offered for free on **June 26** and **August 13** at West Milford High School, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you are interested contact Greg Matlosz, West Milford social studies supervisor at greg.matlosz@wmtps.org or 973-697-1701, ext. 7056.

The **Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia** is offering four summer programs (8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) at the Federal Reserve Building in Philadelphia:

- *Keys to Financial Success*—**July 6-10**--for high school teachers. Registration fee: \$50.
- *Making Sense of Money and Banking*—**July 20-24**--for K-12 teachers. Registration Fee \$50.
- *World History and Economics*—**July 29**—for middle and high school teachers at Burlington County College in Mt. Laurel, NJ. Registration fee: \$20.

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- *Mini-Society*—August 4-6—for elementary teachers. Registration fee: \$30.

For additional information and to register go to www.philadelphiafed.org/education/teachers/training-programs/



Facing History is offering a seminar on *Race and Membership in U.S. History: From Segregation to Civil Rights* will be held August 17-21 at Montclair State University. Participants will consider how ideas of race and racism developed during the years of Jim Crow segregation and the Progressive Era and examine resistance to these ideas through the Civil Rights Movement. Registration fee \$50. [Click](#) for more information or to register.

The New Jersey Council for Economic Education is sponsoring a full-day workshop, *Common Sense: Economics for Life!* on Tuesday, Aug. 11th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Navisink Country Club. The workshop will focus on how markets work, entrepreneurship, the role of government and key elements of personal finance. Cost: \$10. To register go to:

<https://njeconomics.wufoo.com/forms/z1fm0dfh0jft03j/>

Global Exploration for Educators Organization (GEEO), offers 8-21-day professional development travel programs for teachers to India/Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bali/Lombok, Italy, Eastern Europe, Portugal/Spain, Greece, Uzbekistan, Vietnam/Cambodia, Thailand/Laos, Belize/Guatemala, Morocco, The Baltics, China, Eastern Turkey, Western Turkey, Zambia/Botswana/Namibia/South Africa, New Zealand, The Galapagos, Costa Rica, and Peru. Educators can earn graduate school credit and professional development credit while seeing the world. Deadline: June 1. Go to www.geeo.org for details.

Resources for Teachers



To commemorate the 350th anniversary of the founding of New Jersey, the New Jersey Historical Commission has sponsored 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 available on the Commission's website at <http://nj.gov/state/historical/>, and the NJ350 website at <http://officialnj350.com>, along with lessons.

Put a Little New Jersey in Your Classroom.

Commemorate the 350th anniversary of New Jersey by incorporating lessons about New Jersey into your curriculum! Over 30 lessons with correlations to New Jersey and common core standards, primary source documents and images and other handouts, focus questions, objectives, and links to additional resources and places to visit in New Jersey, are online at <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/njlessons.html> and www.njcss.org. Upper elementary teachers could use these lessons as a full curriculum about New Jersey history. More lessons for secondary grades will be added on a regular basis. If you have a lesson about New Jersey that you would like to share, send it to Arlene Gardner at agardner@njcre.rutgers.edu.



Crossroads of the American Revolution has a variety of educational resources about the American Revolution in New Jersey 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. To get a first-hand perspective about the American Revolution, visit "Your Revolutionary Neighbors," short stories about individuals who "lived, worked, struggled and fought in the American Revolution" at www.revolutionarynj.org/meet-your-revolutionary-neighbors.

"*Transformation and Remembrance*" is a documentary by NJEA's television series, Classroom Close-up, about a group of New Jersey educators visiting Holocaust sites in Germany, Czech Republic, Poland and the Netherlands and their students. The video can be found at <http://classroomcloseup.org/transformation-remembrance/>

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The 1719 **William Trent House Museum** at 15 Market Street in Trenton invites the public to work with professional archaeologists to try to locate the 1742 kitchen addition referenced in 18th-century maps and documents. Public "dig days" are **Saturdays June 6, 13 and 20** from 9:00 to 3:00. Artifacts from pre-contact Native Americans may be found, and of particular interest would be artifacts indicating the use and occupation of the Trent House by enslaved people of African heritage during the 18th and early 19th centuries. For more information contact 609-989-0087 or attrenthouseassociation@verizon.net.

Visit free historical and cultural sites in New Jersey over the summer:

Cape May County Park & Zoo. Explore more than 85 acres of lush country gardens at this county park, or bring the whole family to the Cape May County Zoo, a free attraction featuring more than 550 animals, representing more than 250 species. You can find lions, tigers and bears (plus much more!) at this exciting kid-friendly destination.

Princeton University Art Museum. More than 92,000 works of art showcase an array of styles, from ancient to contemporary. The Princeton University campus also is home to one of the country's most significant collections of 20th and 21st-century sculpture, presented as public artwork dispersed throughout the walkways and green spaces.

Atlantic City Historical Museum. Presented by the Atlantic City Free Public Library, the Atlantic City Historical Museum is the perfect place to learn about the rich history and fascinating stories behind this one-of-a-kind seaside resort town. The museum is located on Garden Pier at the south New Jersey Avenue and Boardwalk, so after you visit to this free museum, walk along the boardwalk in the iconic sights.

Heritage Glass Museum. From antique glassworker tools and hand-blown glass to vintage bottles and paperweights, the Heritage Glass Museum in Glassboro features more than 200 years of South Jersey glass, and it won't cost you anything to visit. The museum is located in the stately Hollybush Mansion, built in 1847.

Howell's Living History Farm. Visit this early 1900s horse-powered farm for a glimpse into a bygone era. Admission is free to the Howell Living History Farm in Lambertville and activities such as summer camp, corn maze trips and hayrides require an additional cost.

The Center for Contemporary Art. Featuring a variety of contemporary art exhibits by emerging, established and

underrepresented artists in a range of media, The Center for Contemporary Art is a thought-provoking destination for visual arts. Located in Bedminster, admission is free (with a suggested donation of \$5), and classes for a cost are also available.

Empty Sky, 9/11 Memorial. Located in Liberty State Park in Jersey City, "Empty Sky" is the State of New Jersey's Official Memorial that honors those that lost their lives at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The brushed stainless steel walls are 210 feet long, 30 feet high, and free of charge to all visitors.

See more at: <http://www.visitnj.org/article/free-attractions-new-jersey#sthash.1O8xJXOm.dpuf>

Host International Exchange Students. Host or find families in your school district to host international high school exchange students supported by the U.S. Dept. of State. Hosting international exchange students supports cross-cultural understanding not only in local communities and schools, but around the world when the students return home and share their experience. The international exchange students are competitively selected and are provided on-going support throughout their exchange. Most of the students are here from roughly August 15 through June 15th. Learn more and fill out an interest form at www.hosting.state.gov or email youthprograms@state.gov.

Sept. 12th is Teacher Appreciation Day at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Discount tickets are available for teachers, staff, and families and friends for the rematch of the 2014 Rutgers football win in Seattle. The game will take place at Rutgers Stadium in Piscataway. For tickets and more information about Teacher Appreciation Day, contact the Rutgers Ticket Office at 866-445-4678 Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00 or email tickets@scarletknights.com.

Resources and lessons for teaching about September 11th:

- Center for Civic Education on 9/11 and the Constitution: [On American Identity, Diversity, and Common Ground](#) (grades 7–12) and [Remembering 9/11: Building Tolerance](#) (grades 5–8) at <http://new.civiced.org/resources/curriculum/constitution-day-and-citizenship-day>
- Resources available on the official [U.S. Department of Education 9/11 resource page](#)

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- NJ Holocaust website at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/holocaust/911/>
- NCSS: <http://www.socialstudies.org/resources/moments>
- Lessons at <http://www.eschoolnews.com/2011/08/23/resources-for-teaching-about-9-11/>
- PBS, "America Responds": <http://www.pbs.org/americaresponds/educators.html>
- <http://gresyn0.100webpace.net/lessons/Remembering911.pdf>
- "War, Terrorism, and our Classrooms": http://www.rethinkingschools.org/special_reports/sept11/index.shtml
- Databases of resources at http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson244.shtml and <http://www.teacherplanet.com/resource/911>.
- The September 11th Education Program <http://www.learnabout9-11.org/>
- For Action Initiative addressing the global context of 9/11 and how student can take action <http://www.foractioninitiative.org/lesson-plans>



Constitution Day Lessons. Most Americans know that July 4th is our nation's birthday. Far fewer Americans know that **September 17th** is the birthday of our government, the date in 1787 on which delegates to the Philadelphia Convention completed and signed the U.S. Constitution. **Constitution Day** is intended to celebrate not only the birthday of our government, but the ideas that make us Americans. Prepare for Constitution Day this year with some of the many resources available:

- **Constitutional Conversations** video series about religion and the constitution with University of Virginia scholar A.E. Dick Howard at <http://www.jamesmadison.gov/videos.php>

- **Center for Civic Education** at <http://new.civiced.org>
- **Constitutional Rights Foundation** at <http://www.crf-usa.org/constitution-day/constitution-day-lesson-plans-kindergarten-middle-and-high-school.html>
- I Civics offers games and lesson plans about the constitution at <https://www.icivics.org/teachers>
- **National Archives** at www.archives.gov/national-archives-experience/charters/constitution/constitution-day.html
- **National Constitution Center** at <http://constitutioncenter.org/learn>
- **Public Broadcasting Service** Rediscovering George Washington program at www.pbs.org/georgewashington/classroom/constitution_day.html

The lessons will be archived under "Resources" at <http://civiced.rutgers.edu> and www.njcss.org for the future.

New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

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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 newsletter to Arlene Gardner at agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu. Information will be included at the discretion of the editor.

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