

NJ Social Studies Network News

A Publication of the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

April 2015

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Arlene Gardner, Editor
Rutgers, The State University
640 Bartholomew Road, Suite 101-103
Piscataway, NJ 08854
(848) 445-3413
www.njcass.org

NJ Council for the Social Studies

FREE SPRING WORKSHOPS. The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies is offering three FREE after-school workshops this spring:

- **Discussion Strategies for the Social Studies Classroom**, for grades 5-12, at Busch Campus Center room 174, Rutgers University in Piscataway on Thursday, **April 16, 4-6 p.m.** Learn strategies to engage students in student-centered and student-led discussions including Socratic seminars.
- **DocsTeach**, for grades 6-12, at Jubilee Hall room 464, Seton Hall University in South Orange on Monday, **April 20, 3:45-5:30 p.m.** Turn your students into historians with ready to use primary-source based activities that develop historical thinking. Some of the activities include: Weighing the Evidence, Making Connections, Finding a Sequence, and Mapping History.
- **Teaching New Jersey History**, for grades 3-8, at Forcina Hall room 226, the College of New Jersey in Pennington on Thursday, **April 30, 4-6 p.m.** Participate in across-the-curriculum, standards-based lessons about New Jersey and

discuss how to use them to enhance student learning.

Light refreshments will be served. To reserve your space, go to <http://goo.gl/forms/7PY4SA7Qwf>

HOLD THE DATES: October 20-21, 2015. 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 6-12. A **Call for Workshop Proposals** for the conference is available online at www.njcass.org. Send us your proposal for a workshop at the fall conference about a great program or idea that you've incorporated into your classroom. Proposals are due by **June 1, 2015**.

NJ Social Studies Supervisors Association

NJSSSA is busy this spring!

NJSSSA Meeting focused on elementary social studies will be held on Thursday, **April 23**, 9am-3pm, at Busch Campus Center, Rutgers University, Piscataway. Go to <http://goo.gl/forms/SNJacqXxtK> to register.

NJSSSA Spring Meeting on Friday, **May 8** at NJPSA in Monroe.

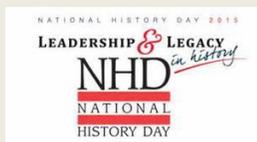
NJSSSA workshop for Pre-Service Teachers - Saturday, **May 9** at Ridge High School (Bernards Township). To register go to <http://goo.gl/forms/w6dBwjWAaL>

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Student Events



Project Citizen is a project based civic education program for students in grades 3-12. Students identify a problem in their community, research and develop a public policy to address the problem, develop an action plan to get their policy adopted, organize their materials into a portfolio for presentation to the appropriate governmental agency, and reflect on the learning experience. Students learn about government and how to be change agents. They hone their research, critical thinking and communication skills in the process! See projects from the last three years as well as a short video and an overview of the process and the portfolio at <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/projectcitizen.html>. If you would like to send a digital project to the State **Project Citizen** Showcase by **May 22**, register your class today by emailing civiced@njclre.rutgers.edu.



The 27th annual **New Jersey State Geographic Bee**, sponsored by National Geographic, was held on **March 27**, 2015 at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ. Qualifying students in grades 4-8 from 114 public and private schools throughout New Jersey participated. After a very challenging final elimination round in the afternoon, **Karan Menon**, an 8th grader at the **John Adams Middle School in Edison**, was crowned as the state champion. He will represent New Jersey in the national finals. If you would like to get your students involved in next year's competition, contact Debbie Mongiardo at debmongiardo@comcast.net.

Project Stay Gold, a student movement to abolish modern-day slavery, is presenting a student leadership building program, **anchors Away**, at the College of Morris in Randolph, on **April 15** at 7 p.m.

The **American Labor Museum** has invited students in grades 3-12 to submit projects (creative writing, visual arts or computer arts) that address four themes: Teacher's work in the classroom; teacher's role in the union; teacher's role in the community; teacher's impact upon the student. Selected students' projects will appear in a Museum exhibit entitled "Celebrating Teachers." Projects and

registrations forms must be received by **April 15th**. For a registration form and further information, please call the Museum at (973) 595-7953 or visit www.labormuseum.net.

The **Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund** is sponsoring a Memorial Day Student Video Contest. Submissions of short videos (5 minutes or less) will be accepted by students in grades 4-12, addressing: What does honor in times of war look like? The grand prize winner will win a trip to Washington, DC (with guardian) to participate in VVMF's Memorial Day ceremony on the National Mall. Three finalists will have their videos featured on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund website and on social media in the month of May, with exposure to over 300,000 followers. For more information go to: <https://vvmf.wordpress.com/2015/03/09/memorial-day-video-contest-open-for-students/>

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>.

Awards and Prizes

The **Mildred Barry Garvin Prize** is an award of \$1,500 to a New Jersey teacher, guidance counselor, or school librarian for outstanding teaching of black American history at any grade level between kindergarten and high school. The prize is also awarded to individuals demonstrating outstanding performance in a related activity such as developing curriculum materials. The nomination form is at http://www.state.nj.us/state/historical/dos_his-award-form.html. Nominations for the 2016 prize must be submitted by **May 1, 2015**.

Social Studies Teacher of the Year Awards

The **New Jersey Council for the Social Studies** will be presenting an Elementary (K-5) Teacher of the Year Award at its annual fall conference on October 20, 2015 and a Secondary (6-12) 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.njcass.org by **June 15, 2015** to Joseph Kovacs, Awards Committee Chair, at kovjos17@yahoo.com.

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Professional Development

The Council for Economic Education is presenting a workshop for teachers, "*Learning, Earning & Investing for a New Generation: Join the Gen i Revolution,*" as part of the **Essex County College Financial Literacy Conference 2015**. This two-hour professional development workshop on **April 7**, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Essex County College in Newark, will provide high school teachers and youth educators with new materials and web-based tools to introduce important personal finance concepts to their students. To register go to <https://njeconomics.wufoo.com/forms/z1iipmu16hj1qo/>

The NJ Department of Education is sponsoring a series of webinars on **Using Primary Sources** by the National Archives: **April 8**, 3-4 p.m. for K-12 educators and **May 13**, 3:30-4:30 p.m. for elementary educators.

Free Holocaust Education training programs, *Echoes and Reflections*, will be held on **April 16** at Updike Farmstead in Princeton—register with Eve Mandel at eve@princetonhistory.org or 609-921-6748, x102—and on **June 30**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Cherry Hill—register with Helen Kirschbaum at hkirschbaum@jfedsnj.org or 856-751-9500 x1249.

The **NJ Council for the Humanities** is offering two spring workshops: *Social Justice in Young Adult Literature* at Montclair State University on Saturdays, **April 11 and 18** and *Teaching Ferguson and Beyond* at Kean University on Friday, **April 24th**. Register at njch.org

A free workshop on "Cooperatives in Your Community," a curriculum for high school students, will be presented by the NJ Council for Economic Education with the Rutgers University School of Environmental and Biological Sciences on April 21st from 4:15 to 6:30 p.m. at the Piscataway Library. To register go to <https://njeconomics.wufoo.com/forms/z7xw17h0q9r8dh/>

Rescuers During the Holocaust: Acts of Courage in Challenging Times is offered free of charge by the College of Saint Elizabeth on Tuesday, **April 21st**, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. For additional information and to register go to <http://www.cse.edu/about-cse/centers/herc/rescuers-during-the-holocaust.dot>

The Office of the Governor and The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education are sponsoring the

annual state-wide *Yom HaShoah Observance* on **April 22** at 7 p.m. at the Orange Avenue School in Cranford. For information call (609) 292-9274 or e-mail holocaust@doe.state.nj.us.

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. Seminars include: Teaching about War in American History **Apr. 23**; and U.S. Occupation of Postwar Japan **May 1**. Go to <http://rcha.rutgers.edu/institute-for-high-school-teachers/seminars/2014-2015-seminar-schedule> for full course descriptions and registration information.

The 2015 **Teaching the World Forum** will be held on **April 24th**. It will include presentations relevant to K-12 and teacher educators of all disciplines. Six professional development hours are available. If you are interested in registering, [please visit the event page on the Rutgers GSE Website](#). For questions contact Kathleen Myles at kathleen.myles@gse.rutgers.edu.

The **New Jersey State Bar Foundation** is sponsoring its 24th Annual *Law-Related Education Conference* on Friday, **May 1st**, at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick. Workshops include teaching about the U.S. Supreme Court, viewing events of the past through contemporary eyes, the Magna Carta and its lasting legacy, environmental law issues, the 14th Amendment for class discussion, and Citizens Making Change. The workshop is free; however, a \$20 refundable deposit is required. For additional information and a registration form go to www.njsbf.org.

A one-day workshop for secondary school teachers, *Islam in the West*, will be held on **May 2** at Princeton University, sponsored by Princeton University's Program in Near Eastern Studies and the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia. Information and registration is at (<http://www.fpri.org/events/2015/05/islam-west>).

On the **70th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz** bring your students to meet local Holocaust Survivors at Brookdale Community College on **May 12**, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For more information go to <http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/programs/051315Tomorrow.pdf>.

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A workshop for grade 4-8 teachers will be held at **Ellis Island** on **May 21st**. A \$125 registration fee includes ferry, lunch and resources. Registration deadline: **April 21**. To register email jcameron-bush@saveellislan.org

New Perspectives on the Past: 2015 New Jersey History & Historic Preservation Conference offers more than 20 educational sessions and field workshops over two days (**June 3-4**) at the Hotel ML in Mount Laurel. For more information and to register visit the conference website: <http://njpreservationconference.org/>.

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Summer Institutes

Stockton University is offering a humanities institute, "***Why Humanities Matter***," for English/Language Arts and Social Studies educators in July 2015. The Institute will explore the relationship of the humanities to the social and political issues that shape our world. Teachers will come away from the institute with practical classroom activities that align with the Common Core ELA standards as well as the NJ Social Studies essential questions. They will earn 24 PD hours and have the option to earn 3 graduate credits at Stockton. The \$50 registration fee includes meals and a field trip. Deadline: **April 15th**. The application is available at blogs.stockton.edu/humanities. For questions email maas.institute@stockton.edu

Historical, Geographic and Cultural Explorations is a workshop for teachers about Canada to be held in Montréal and Québec City **June 28-July 3**. A \$649 registration fee covers transportation during the Institute, lecturer fees, admission to educational sites, curriculum materials, double-occupancy at four star hotels, and some meals. Application deadline **April 15**. Apply online at <http://www.umaine.edu/teachingcanada/>

NEH Summer Institute for Teachers: ***Voices Across Time: Teaching American History Through Song*** will be held **June 29-July 31** at the University of Pittsburgh. This five-week summer institute will allow 25 secondary school teachers to explore topics in American history through the lens of music. Additional information, along with application materials, is available at www.voices.pitt.edu or email: amerimus@pitt.edu.

The **Alliance for Learning World History** is offering a ***World History Institute*** for middle and high school teachers in Pittsburgh **July 13-19**. Tuition, room and board is \$1500. To apply go to <http://www.alliance.pitt.edu>. Deadline: **April 24th**.

The **Program for Teaching East Asia** is accepting applications on rolling-admission basis for its **July 13-17**, 2015 summer institute, ***Korea's Journey into the 21st Century: Historical Contexts, Contemporary Issues***. In this four-day residential summer institute on the University of Colorado Campus, secondary teachers will consider modern and contemporary South Korea's distinct history, geography, intra-peninsular and international relations, and transnational cultural transmissions Deadline: **April 30**.

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For more information and to register go to:

<http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/ncta/downloads/KoreaSI2015APPEExtendedApr3015.pdf>

Putting the Pieces Together: Integrating Civics and Economics into Teaching History. The NJ Council for Economic Education and the NJ Center for Civic Education are sponsoring their third joint summer institute **July 22-23** at Rutgers University in Piscataway. This two-day program for middle and high school U.S. history, economics and civics teachers includes ten hours of professional development focused on decision-making in the past and today. A \$50 registration fee is required. Application deadline: **May 30**. Go to <http://civiced.rutgers.edu> or www.njcss.org for an application and additional information.

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

“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/>



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.



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.

Gamify Your Classroom: A Field Guide for Game-Based Learning, by NJCSS board member Matt Farber, is available from Peter Lang Publishing, as well as on [Amazon](http://Amazon.com). The explains how to implement game-based learning and gamification techniques to the everyday teaching, including practical lesson plan ideas, games to play and links to further research. See his webinar [Using Games to Teach Global Interconnectedness](#).

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The **IEEE History Center** is seeking educators interested in developing lessons and related materials tying social studies to STEM. Interested educators should send their name, school and other relevant background information to Michael Geselowitz at mgeselowitz@ieee.org. The IEEE is the professional organization of electrical and electronic engineers dedicated to advancing innovation and technological excellence. See existing classroom lessons on engineering and technology in history at <http://ethw.org/ETHW:About-Education>

Join the “Game-Based Social Studies” twitter chat on **April 13** at 7 p.m. at <http://www.sschat.org>.

New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

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Executive Director and Editor: Arlene Gardner

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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