

NJ Social Studies Network News

A Publication of the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

September 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**. We moved to a two-day format because we were at capacity at last year's one-day conference. Each day includes 28 exciting workshops, many exhibits, a keynote speaker and awards. The conference and membership registration form, as well as a draft agenda, can be found online at the Council's website at www.njcss.org. The deadline for early bird registration is October 9. Don't wait. Register now!

If you are unable to join your colleagues for the fall conference, you can still become a member of the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies. Membership includes biannual scholarly journal as well as special on-line resources for members. Members become part of a community that advocates for policies and programs that support and enhance the teaching of social studies. The membership form is available at www.njcss.org.

The *Social Education Docket*: We are seeking brief comments (250 words) about the changes to APUSH, 1500 word articles on topics related to teaching the history of New Jersey, and 1500-word articles on the Spanish Civil War and addressing global climate change for the winter edition. Deadline: **November 1, 2015**.

National Council for the Social Studies

The annual NCSS conference will be held **November 13-15, 2015** in the New Orleans conference center. The conference includes tours, clinics, a film festival, speakers, meetings and lots and lots of workshops. For additional information and to register go to <http://www.socialstudies.org/conference>.

New Jersey Social Studies Supervisors Association

Membership in the NJ Social Studies Supervisors Association is open to current, former, and prospective educational supervisors; and educators designated by a school district, school or department to a leadership position in social studies education. Membership includes the NJCSS biannual journal and online resources, as well as three all-day meetings each year and a google group network. One year's joint membership in NJSSSA/NJCSS is \$40.

NJSSSA meetings for 2015-2016 will be held on:

- October 8, 2015
- January 15, 2016 and
- May 6, 2016.

National Council for History Education

The National Council for History Education is holding its annual conference, "Crossing Borders," at Niagara Falls, New York on **April 21-23, 2016**. Submit a workshop proposal by **October 19, 2015** using the form at <http://www.nche.net/conference/submitproposal>.

Resources for Teachers

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>
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- Resources available on the official [U.S. Department of Education 9/11 resource page](#)
- 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/ept11/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](#)

- **Icivics** 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.

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.

- **Uncover a pivotal time in American history**--not far from home from the 14 [Revolutionary Storylines](#) that give depth and context to the events that took place in New Jersey.
- **Meet a Revolutionary Neighbor.** If you lived during the 1770s, would you have been a Patriot, stayed loyal to the British Crown, or been neutral? People who lived in your community during the war had to make that choice, and the answer might not be as clear-cut as you'd think. Visit your revolutionary neighbors, with teachers' guides for classroom discussion at www.revolutionarynj.org/meet-your-revolutionary-neighbors.
- **Have a Revolutionary experience** following the [events calendar](#) which features dozens of Heritage Area Partner events scheduled for the fall, from reenactments and crafts classes to themed auctions and concerts.
- **Plan a Revolutionary field trip** to sites like [Historic Walnford](#), [Batsto Village](#) and [Historic Cold Spring Village](#).

Unleash the power and potential of the common core for history/social studies using online resources available from the **Constitutional Rights Foundation** at <http://www.crf-usa.org/common-core/blog>

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“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/>



New Jersey Mock Student Elections. The New Jersey Social Studies Supervisors and the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies are offering New Jersey teachers engaging classroom lessons and resources (some of which are perennial) to use with your students and the opportunity to have students in grades 5-12 vote in a Mock Student Election at the end of October each year. To register your class for the Mock Student Election and to find some classroom lessons you can use to prepare them to vote go to <http://www.njmockelection.org/>



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 www.njcss.org and <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/njlessons.html>. 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@njclre.rutgers.edu.



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.

Integrate economics into your world and US. History classes with free, online resources from the Council for Economic Education, ranging from personal finance, to investing, to global history, to the economics of war, at <http://www.councilforeconed.org/resource/econedlink/>

Social Studies Issues

For the first time since 2011, funding for high quality history, civics, geography and economics education has been included in the Senate ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act reauthorization). It was not included in the House version and some of the House conferees want to eliminate it. Please write to your member of Congress and ask him or her to sign the Dear Colleague letter (attached) by Cong. Ross and Cicilline.

To find out who your member of Congress is go to http://njgin.state.nj.us/state/NJ_CongressionalDistricts/ or <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/NJ>. Call the office or send an email to express your view.

In its version of the ESEA bill, the Senate included four provisions that create funding for high quality American history, civics, geography, and economics education. Some House Majority Conferees, however, want to eliminate as many new programs and grants as possible. This poses a direct threat to the Senate provisions that could inject much needed funding into the social studies. There has been no funding for social studies since 2011. We urge you to sign Rhode Island Cong. Cicilline’s (for Democrats) Florida Cong. Ross’s (for Republicans) letter urging the adoption of the social studies provisions in the Senate’s version of the bill. This will help NJ’s social studies teachers and NJ students.

Select either Cong. Ross or Cicilline depending on whether your member of Congress is a Democrat or Republican (indicated below with a D or R with the district, name and email address). You need to have your whole zipcode read. The topic is Education, specifically ESEA. Ask for a response. The deadline for the letter is **September 11th** so don’t wait!

District 1: Donald Norcross (D)
<https://norcross.house.gov/contact/email-me>

District 2: Frank LoBiondo (R)
<https://lobiondo.house.gov/contact-me>
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District 3: Tom Macarthur (R)
<https://macarthur.house/contact/email>

District 4: Chris Smith (R) <https://smith.house.gov/contact/>

District 5: Scott Garrett (R)

<https://garrett.house.gov/contact/>

District 6: Frank Pallone (D) <https://palloneforms.house.gov>

District 7: Leonard Lance (R)

<https://lance.house.gov/contact/email>

District 8: Albio Sires (D) <https://sires.house.gov/contact-me>

District 9: Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D)

<https://pascrell.house.gov/contact>

District 10: Donald Payne (D)

<https://payne.house.gov/contact>

District 11: Rodney Frelinghuysen (R)

<https://frelinghuysen.house.gov/contact-us/>

District 12: Bonnie Watson-Coleman (D)

<https://watsoncoleman.house.gov/contact/email>

Revised State Social Studies Standards. The 2009 state social studies standards have been minimally revised in 2014. The revised standards with the changes made highlighted are available online at the NJCSS website at www.njcss.org, under resources.

College, Career and Civic Life (C-3) Framework for Social Studies was developed by more than 20 national organizations led by the NCSS and educators in an effort to include knowledge and participation in civic life as part of the core goals of K-12 education. Its goal is twofold: 1. for states to use in upgrading their state social studies standards (that's not happening in NJ) and 2. for teachers and schools to use the Framework to strengthen their social studies programs. The Framework is an inquiry arc which sits on top of the four social studies disciplines—history, geography, civics and economics, supported by the Common Core Standards both for English Language Arts—reading, speaking, listening and writing.

Dimension 1 The teacher develops compelling questions and plans an investigation

Dimension 2: The teacher applies disciplinary tools and concepts from civics (perhaps the concept of justice), economics (such as the concept of opportunity cost), geography (for example, maps) and history (for example chronology).

Dimension 3: Students are asked to gather (research) and evaluate sources of information/evidence and develop claims/conclusions using the information/evidence.

Dimension 4: Students work collaboratively to communicate their conclusions and take action.

Teachers can download a pdf of the C3 Framework for free from the NCSS website at <http://www.socialstudies.org/>

Professional Development

The Diversity Council at Kean University is offering a four-course, 12-credit certificate in Teaching the Holocaust and Prejudice Reduction TUITION-FREE. It is designed for teachers and other educators in K-12 schools and responds to New Jersey's mandate to teach about Holocaust, genocide and prejudice in New Jersey schools. For additional information or to enroll, contact Janice Kroposky, Director of the Holocaust Resource Center and Diversity Council at 908-737-4633 or jkroposk@kean.edu

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. Go to the website for more information: <http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/programs/training/GraduateCertificateinHolocaustandGenocideEducation.pdf> or contact Prof. Anne Langan PhD, Program Coordinator, at alangan@cse.edu

Teacher Appreciation Day at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey is September 12th. 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.

The *Teaching with Primary Sources* program from the Library of Congress is offering four hours of professional development to explore online resources and teaching strategies for using primary sources with a common core focus, **Sept. 17-Oct. 8**, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Participants earn 15 continuing credit hours. For additional information and to register go to <https://forms.waynesburg.edu/machform/view.php?id=371467> or contact swise@waynesburg.edu.

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“Present But Not Accounted For.” More than 400 women were encamped at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-1778. Meet the officers' wives, the wives and mothers of the enlisted soldiers and volunteers, and other women who followed the army, on **September 23**, at [Peachfield](#), the Headquarters of The National Society of

Colonial Dames of America in the State of New Jersey, in Westampton, NJ. Admission is \$10 per person. Call 609/267-6996 or email colonialdamesnj@comcast.net.

A Path Appears. Pulitzer Prize Winners Nicholas Kristof & Sheryl WuDunn will talk about their inspiring book, "A Path Appears," on **September 30** at 7:00 p.m. at Brookdale Community College. For additional information go to <http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/programs/workshops/093015Kristof.pdf>

The **Rutgers Institute for High School Teachers** is offering the following programs taught by Rutgers faculty and held at the Rutgers New Brunswick campus this fall from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.:

- *Anglo-Saxon Literature from Beowulf to the Battle of Maldon*—Oct. 16
- *Slave Culture and Resistance in History and Memory*—Oct. 23
- *Shakespeare and Performance: teaching and Reading*—Oct. 30
- *The Ottoman World Empire*—Nov. 13
- *Health, Culture and Society*—Nov. 18
- *Lincoln and the Civil War*—Dec. 11

For additional information and to register go to rcha.rutgers.edu

The **National Consortium for Teaching about Asia** (NCTA) and the **Program for Teaching East Asia** (TEA) at the University of Colorado are now registering for fall 2015 online courses for secondary teachers, including:

- *Precarious Japan: Global Issues in Contemporary Japan.* September 17-December 2. Application Deadline: Wed., September 9. [Details and application.](#)
- *China Under Mao: Modernization, Mobilization, and Mass Campaign,* Sept 21-Dec 21. [Details and registration.](#)
- *NCTA Book Group: China in Ten Words, by Yu Hua,* Oct. 5-Dec.12. [Details and registration.](#) *Modern Chinese Literature 1980-2000.* Sep 16-Oct 21. [Register here.](#)

For additional information go to <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea>

The Rutgers Center for European Studies is hosting its annual **Teach Europe** workshop for teachers on Friday, **October 30th** from 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the Rutgers New Brunswick campus. Designed for language arts, social The **National History Club** brings students and teachers from around the country with a real passion for history together in discovering, learning, reading, writing, teaching

and living history. Activities are shared by each club and navigates its course. For more information contact Robert Nasson at rnasson@nationalhistoryclub.org

The **NJ Historical Commission** is sponsoring a workshop, "**Fighting for Justice: 20th century Activism in New Jersey,**" on **November 21, 2015** at the Paul Robeson center at Rutgers University in Newark. Join authors, scholars and activists as they explore a century marked by the pursuit of justice and equality for all. Cost is \$35. Deadline to register is November 16th. For additional information and to register go to http://nj.gov/state/historical/dos_his_2015-1121.html.



Put a Little New Jersey in Your Classroom. Middle and high school teachers are invited to a one-day workshop to learn about and to help develop lessons about New Jersey history and government that will enhance and your U.S. History classes more real. The workshop will be on **December 8, 2015** at Busch Campus Center, Rutgers University in Piscataway. To register go to <http://civiced.rutgers.edu/>.

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>.

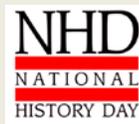
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and living history. Activities are shared by each club and navigates its course. For more information contact Robert Nasson at rnasson@nationalhistoryclub.org

U.S. Senate Youth program. Every public/non-public high school in New Jersey is invited to nominate one junior or senior serving in an elected or selected capacity in a student government, civic, or educational organization to complete the application to become one of New Jersey's two representatives in the U.S. Senate Youth program in Washington, D.C. in March 2016. Deadline for nominations: **October 9, 2015**. For more information go to <http://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/ss/syp/>. For questions contact Beverly Plein at Beverly.plein@doe.state.nj.us.

Raritan Valley College Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies is offering a program, "High School learning through Experience," with holocaust and genocide survivors on Monday, **October 26** from 9 a.m. to noon at the College. For more information and to register go to <http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/programs/workshops/102615hs.pdf>.

The *American Labor Museum* and the Passaic County Education Association invite students grades 3-12 to submit a creative writing, visual arts, or computer arts project addressing teachers' work in the classroom, role in the union, role in the community, and impact on the student. Original projects and registration forms must be received by **November 14th**. Selected student projects will appear in an exhibit, *Celebrating Teachers*, at the museum, which will be unveiled with a reception on November 21, 2015 at 1 p.m. For a registration form and/or further information, call (973) 595-7953 or email labormuseum@aol.com



National History Day. The theme for the 2015-2016 National History Day program is "Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange in History". Dates for the regional and state New Jersey History Day events will be available soon.



New Jersey Council for the Social Studies

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution is the largest civic education program in the country. The curriculum enhances student understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy well as the contemporary relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The materials are easily integrated into a civics, U.S. History or U.S. Government class, or as a stand-alone curriculum. If you are interested in considering this program you can have **free** 28-day access to the *We the People* ebook by going to www.civiced.org. The annual New Jersey State *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution* High School Competition will be held on **January 29, 2016**. Contact agardner@njclre.rutgers.edu if you are interested in bringing a competing class or observing the state competition.



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 the end of **May 2016**. The middle and high school class projects with the highest scores will be sent to the National Project Citizen Showcase. [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>.

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.

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President: Joseph Orlak, Supervisor, Pascack Valley Regional High School District
Vice President: Brian Cameron, Supervisor, Garfield Public Schools

Secretary: Angela Smith, Jefferson Middle School,
Edison

Treasurer: Christine Gehringer, Supervisor,
Washington Twp. Public Schools, Sewell

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

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