

# ***NJ Social Studies Network News***

***A Publication of the New Jersey Council for the Social Studies***

A print copy is available on our website, [www.njcss.org](http://www.njcss.org)

**January 2024**

[hb288@sasmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:hb288@sasmail.rutgers.edu)

## **NJCSS Student Recognition Awards**

**Deadline: March 15, 2024**

**NJCSS Middle School Students** (Grades 6-8)

**NJCSS High School Students** (Grades 9-12)

**NJCSS NJ College Students** (*Arlene Gardner Award*)

## **NJCSS Teacher of the Year Awards**

**Deadline: April 30, 2024**

**NJCSS Elementary Teacher Award** (Grades K-5)

**NJCSS Middle School Teacher Award** (Grades 6-8)

**NJCSS High School Teacher Award** (Grades 9-12)

## ***Teachers Know How to Turn Back Time!***

### **100 Years Ago (1924)**

#### **Greece Became an Independent Republic**

Greek politics, particularly between the two World Wars, involved a struggle for power between monarchists and republicans. Greece was proclaimed a republic in 1924, but George II returned to the throne in 1935, and a plebiscite in 1946 upheld the monarchy. It was finally abolished, however, by referendum on December 8, 1974, when more than two-thirds of the voters supported the establishment of a republic. [Source](#)

### **200 Years Ago (1824)**

#### **Election of 1824**

The presidential election of 1824 represents a watershed in American politics. The collapse of the Federalist Party and the illness of the "official candidate" of the Democratic-Republicans led to a slate of candidates who were all Democratic-Republicans. This led to the end of the Congressional Caucus system for nominating candidates, and eventually, the development of a new two-party system in the United States. In the election, Andrew Jackson won a plurality of both the popular and electoral vote. But John Quincy Adams became president. Four crucial elements of our election system were highlighted in the election of 1824: the nomination of candidates, the popular election of electors, the Electoral College, and the election of the president in the House when no candidate receives a majority in the Electoral College. [Source](#)

### **300 Years Ago (1724)**

#### **Pragmatic Sanction becomes State Law**

The Pragmatic Sanction stipulated the indivisibility of the Habsburg domains as well as the right of primogeniture of the male or female line (as Charles himself remained without a male heir). During Charles VI's lifetime, the European powers had promised to guarantee this rule, but after his death, his daughter Maria Theresa was forced to defend her claim to the Austrian throne against the competing claims of the electors of Saxony and Bavaria.

[Source](#)

### **400 Years Ago (1624)**

#### **Fort Amsterdam was constructed by the Dutch in Manhattan**

In 1624, 30 families were sponsored by Dutch West India Company moving from Nut Island to Manhattan Island, where Fort Amsterdam was being built. The Mohawk-Mahican War in the Hudson Valley led the company to relocate even more settlers to the vicinity of the new Fort Amsterdam. The fort also served as the center of trading activity. It contained a barracks, the church, a house for the West India Company director and a warehouse for the storage of company goods. The Seal of New York City recognizes 1625 for its founding. [Source](#)

### **500 Years Ago (1524)**

#### **Peasants Revolt in Germany**

Thomas Müntzer, Florian Geyer, and Hans Muller organized a revolt against what they saw as unchristian and inequitable policies of the Church and nobles. The peasants were poorly armed, lacked experienced leadership, and were not united. It is estimated that 100,000 German peasants were killed in the conflict, including Müntzer, Geyer, and Muller with hundreds of thousands more dying from starvation after the destruction of farmlands.

[Source](#)

### **NJ Amistad Commission's Exemplary Lessons Award**

The Award committee selects **two teachers** to receive the Amistad Commission's Exemplary Award: One teacher representing Grades K-8 and one teacher representing Grades 9-12.

Each award recipient receives \$2,500 in recognition of his or her extraordinary contributions. Additionally, the recipient's school district will receive \$2,500.

#### **The Exemplary Lesson Criteria:**

The lesson must include a list of all materials, resources, media, and technology used to create the lesson. Student projects should be included.

The lesson must identify the grade level, period in America History, and NJSLS

The lesson must be videoed and be no longer than 45 minutes.

Any students that can be visible in the video, **MUST HAVE** A district waiver for them to appear on a district/state website.

A written copy of the lesson plan, describing the time breakdown of each activity, (anticipatory, practice, assessment, and follow-up) activities.

The lesson must be approved by the school administrator and documentation must be provided.

Each Approved Exemplary Lesson will receive a \$300 award for use of their lesson. The submission of the lesson must be submitted before April 1, 2024.

Please submit a copy of your lesson to [Trevor.Melton@doe.nj.gov](mailto:Trevor.Melton@doe.nj.gov) **before April 1, 2024**.

# Teacher Resources

## National Endowment for the Humanities Summer PD for K-12 Teachers

[View All Programs](#)

Application Deadline is March 5, 2024

### Energizing Young Voters

Experience the long struggle for voting rights in an avatar game that will surprise you and empower you as a teacher. Learn to use data about voter turnout with your students to help them realize the power of younger people -- IF they vote.

Here's the registration link to the [training and information session on Monday evening, January 8 from 6:30 - 9 PM](#). It will include both the [Timeline of Suffrage](#) and [Truth About Turnout](#).

*Workshop is offered by Energizing Young Voters, an initiative of the League of Women Voters. Professional development credit can be awarded.*

### Apply Now for Summer 2024 Programs!



Applications are now open for the National Constitution Center's Summer Educator Institutes. Join teachers from across America and engage with constitutional scholars during one of four weeklong institutes at the National Constitution Center in July 2024.

**Building the US Constitution**  
July 7 - 12, 2024

**Landmarks of American History and Culture: Exploring the First Amendment**  
July 14 - 19, 2024

**Landmarks of American History and Culture: Exploring the First Amendment**  
July 21 - 26, 2024

**Reconstruction and the Second Founding**  
July 28 - August 2, 2024

[Register Today!](#)

## Monticello for Educators Digital Education Programs



We offer two different digital education programs for your K-12 students. Check out the program descriptions and email us at [digital.learning@monticello.org](mailto:digital.learning@monticello.org) with any questions!

On this hour-long virtual tour, a Monticello guide will lead your students in real-time through the first floor of Thomas Jefferson's mountaintop home. Learn about Thomas Jefferson and his ideas that helped shape a nation, Monticello as an architectural icon and the stories of the free and enslaved people who lived and labored on this plantation.

Pricing: This one-hour tour is \$20 and exclusively uses Zoom to connect. The cost of this program is waived for Title I schools.

Availability: We offer Live Virtual Tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year.

[Book a Live Virtual Tour online here](#) or email us to schedule!

### **Princeton Battlefield**

**Sunday, January 7, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**REGISTER TODAY!**



**Explore.Act.Tell.** teaches students to understand food insecurity concerns and complete projects with the goal of providing food and meals to their community. It is supported by the Albertsons Companies foundation.

[Explore.Act.Tell. Overview F on Vimeo](#)

A fully funded leadership program (grades 6-12)  
Lessons + Projects + Competition— and ready to use  
Community Service Learning/ PBL  
Win grants for your charity or school

[www.ExploreActTell.org/registration](http://www.ExploreActTell.org/registration)

## **TEEEM (The Empathy, Equality, Entrepreneurship Mission) Winter Webinar Series**

TEEEM ([www.teeem.org](http://www.teeem.org)) is a local nonprofit that connects students in New Jersey to humanitarian nonprofit organizations around the world. This winter TEEEM is offering three professional development online webinars featuring social entrepreneurs from Kenya, Ukraine, and Uganda. The webinars offer a great opportunity for social studies teachers to learn the stories of these inspirational leaders who are on the front lines addressing the most critical needs of people living in extreme poverty and conflict. Teachers will also explore ways to foster social entrepreneurial skills among their own students as they seek to encourage an empathetic action-oriented mind set.

The dates, times, topics/facilitators, and registration link are below:

- \*Thursday, January 11 (4:00 - 5:00 pm): Joseph Matara, The Grace Project, **Kenya**
- \*Thursday, February 8 (4:00 - 5:00 pm): Mark Kreynovich/Dillon Carroll, **Mission for Ukraine**
- \*Thursday, March 7 (4:00 - 5:00 pm): Jackson Kaguri, Nyaka, **Uganda**

[Register Today!](#)

## **Take a Look at these Publications from NJCSS Members**

[The History of Immigration: The Background to Today's Border and Asylum Crises](#)

[Academic Literacy and Writing](#)

*Dr. Harry Stein, City University of New York*

[Clifford Case and the Challenge of Liberal Republicanism](#)

*Dr. Bill Fernekes, Rutgers University*

[Made in Paterson: The Life and Legacy of U.S. Senator William Hughes](#)

*Daniel Willever, Ramsey Public Schools*

[Teaching Controversial Issues: Teachers' Freedom of Speech in the Classroom](#)

[The Return of Civics](#)

*Arlene Gardner, NJ Center for Civic Education*

## TEACHING DEMOCRACY PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

Spring 2024

Apply now for our FREE Teaching Democracy Professional Learning Community! Inspired by the [Tang Academy for American Democracy](#), this five-part virtual series is for teachers who cover the ancient world and/or the founding of the United States and have a passion for civics education. Build a community of peers as you dive deeply into history, civics, and museum-inspired pedagogy. Questions? Contact us at [aad@nyhistory.org](mailto:aad@nyhistory.org) or visit our website [here](#).



APPLY NOW

## WAMS TEACHER AMBASSADORS

Time is running out to apply for our [Teacher Ambassadors](#) program in conjunction with the [Women & the American Story](#) (WAMS) curriculum! WAMS Ambassadors are educators committed to not only incorporating more women's voices into their own instruction, but also helping other teachers do the same. They provide integral feedback on the creation of WAMS and design and lead WAMS-inspired professional development in their communities.



[APPLY HERE](#)

### CURRICULUM LIBRARY HIGHLIGHT

#### Tang Academy for American Democracy Video Series: Public Spaces, The Birth of Nations

Explore the fundamental role public spaces play in participatory democracy both in ancient Athens and the early United States. In ancient Athens, the agora (marketplace) and theater were important places for conversations, while coffeehouses and commons facilitated the exchange of ideas among groups in the early U.S.



[MORE FROM OUR CURRICULUM LIBRARY](#)

## Teaching Historical Inquiry

Join us on **January 11, from 3:00 to 4:30 PM ET** for a free session on teaching historical inquiry.

How can we better connect our students with individuals, groups, and events from times and places that may feel distant?

Primary sources! The thoughtful exploration of primary sources in **world history instruction** can be an inquiry-rich approach that supports student engagement and critical analysis. During this session, educators will unpack OER Project's approach to using primary sources and have the opportunity to practice using some of the strategies needed to jump-start or enhance student mastery of upcoming units of study.

This will be the second in a series of sessions scheduled during the 2023-24 school year.

[Register for this session now!](#)

Questions? You can reach us at [events@oerproject.com](mailto:events@oerproject.com).

## Retro Report - 2024 Civics Summer Institute

Retro Report is currently following students in schools across the country as they grapple with, debate and research the most complex issues their generation is facing. Retro Report will produce a digital video series that includes short films that provide context for key constitutional and political debates along with exemplars of student discourse and discussion.

This summer institute opportunity will allow us to bring together 25 secondary educators to pilot interactive resources, engage in virtual classroom exchanges and help promote the free classroom resources created in association with this initiative.

Please complete the application by **Monday, January 22, 2024**. Please contact David Olson at [dolson@retroreport.com](mailto:dolson@retroreport.com) with any questions.

FOR A LOOK AT THE COMPLETE ANNOUNCEMENT, VISIT: <https://bit.ly/RRCivics24>

### Responsibilities include:

- > You must be an active, secondary classroom teacher, in Social Studies or English/ELA, for the 2024-2025 academic year.
  - > Attend three virtual meetings in 2024: April, September, December.
- > Attend the in-person Summer Institute to engage with curricular materials and learn skills for teaching civil discourse.
  - > Pilot classroom materials created as part of this project, using at least three lessons/activities. Report results via surveys/meetings.
- > Participate in two "classroom exchanges" connected with this project between August and December, 2024, facilitated by the National Constitution Center and Retro Report.

### Benefits include:

- > \$500 stipend - paid at the end of the term
- > Paid travel, accommodations, and some meals for a Summer, in-person meeting in New York City. Held Sunday, July 21 to Tuesday, July 23, 2024.

## Professional Development with the New York Fed!

Explore More from the New York Fed  
Click on the image and text to register



**Student Research: Register by February 15th for your student team to pursue publication in the Journal of Future Economists**



**Save the Date: Our next in-person educator professional development program will be offered January 29, 2024. Register now!**



**Classroom visits: Invite a New York Fed educator into your classroom**

## Brown University's Choice Program



Teaching About the Vietnam War, Japanese American Incarceration in WWII, and Other AAPI Topics in the History Classroom

**Thursday, February 1, 2024 8:30 am  
Leonia, NJ**

## **NJ History Day**

### **Turning Points in History**

To celebrate our 50th anniversary, NHD's theme will be *Turning Points in History*. This year's theme invites you to consider questions of time and place, cause and effect, change over time, and impact and significance.

A turning point in history is more than just an important event that happened a long time ago. It is more than a new idea or a particular action taken by an individual. A turning point is an idea, event, or action that directly, or sometimes indirectly, causes change.

#### **NJ History Day Resources**

Margaret Renn, New Jersey State Coordinator

Email: [rennm@wpunj.edu](mailto:rennm@wpunj.edu)

## **NJ Center for Civic Education**

### **High School U.S. History Course Should Include Civics, Economics and New Jersey History: Resources and Professional Development now Available!**

The initial curriculum guide, which will be on the Center's website at <https://civiced.rutgers.edu/civics/high-school-civics-history-and-economics> by fall 2023, includes a variety of suggested civics, economics and New Jersey history lessons, activities, and resources for New Jersey high school teachers to integrate into their United States history course.

A professional development workshop to share, demonstrate and discuss the materials will be held at Rutgers University's Livingston Campus Center in Piscataway on October 9, 2024 (Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day). The workshop is free. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Materials will be provided. If you would like to satisfy this long-standing mandate, which has been codified in social studies standards, or if you are looking for some new ideas to enrich and enliven your U.S. History class, join us. To register go to <https://civiced.rutgers.edu/events/range.listevents/>

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024: Project Citizen (grades 3-12)**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2024: Infusing Civics, Economics and New Jersey history into High School U.S. History**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2024: Teaching Controversial issues and Media Literacy (K-12)**

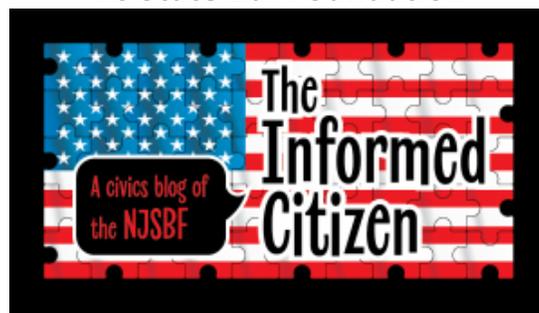
**Tuesday, April 16, 2024: Civics for grades K-5**

**Thursday, May 9, 2024: Engaging Students in Middle School Civics**

Contact Bob O'Dell at [ro205@scarletmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:ro205@scarletmail.rutgers.edu) or Arlene Gardner at [arlenega@sas.rutgers.edu](mailto:arlenega@sas.rutgers.edu) with questions.

## **The Informed Citizen Blog**

### **NJ State Bar Foundation**



Great resources and perspectives on issues

[informedcitizen.njsb.org](http://informedcitizen.njsb.org)

## **New Jersey Society, Sons of the American Revolution Announces Scholarship Contests for 2023 - 2024**

New Jersey Society, Sons of the American Revolution announces Youth Education Contests, Programs, and Grants **for grades 3 to 12** and the SAR History Teacher of the Year Grant. These include an

**Elementary School Poster Contest**

**Middle School Brochure Contest**

**High School Essay Contest, High School Oration Contest**

**Eagle Scouts Program**

**Junior ROTC Program**

**2023 Reverend John Witherspoon American History Teacher of the Year Grant.**

Awards range from \$25 for the Elementary poster contest to \$600 for the High School contests. State winners will be submitted to the National Society for entry into the national competition and additional scholarship prizes. National awards have scholarships of up to \$5,000 for the high school levels. For more information about the New Jersey Society, Sons of the American Revolution Council of Youth Programs, along with other teaching resources about the American Revolution, visit [www.njssar.org/edu](http://www.njssar.org/edu)

The 2022 SAR History Teacher of the Year Grant was awarded to **Robert N. Schulte**. Mr. Schulte teaches 8th grade Social Studies at **Reynolds Middle School, Hamilton (Mercer) Township School District**. Mr. Schulte has led seminars at the National Council for Social Studies on the importance of teaching the American Revolution. For more information about Mr. Schulte, visit [www.njssar.org/schulte](http://www.njssar.org/schulte)

Contact: Roger S. Williams, Chair, Education Committee, NJ Society, Sons of the American Revolution 609-389-5657

## **2024 Applications Are Open Now! Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. Summer Teacher Institutes and National Oratory Fellows**

Whether you are looking for a week-long summer teacher institute, or a year-long fellowship, Ford's Professional Development Programs offer teachers unparalleled experiences in and beyond D.C. Dig deep into primary sources and diverse perspectives; spark historical curiosity; and join an extraordinary network of fellow educators from around the country.

"... a unique platform for educators to exchange insights, collaborate, and broaden our horizons, thus empowering us to make a profound impact on the lives of our students."- Set in Stone 2023 Participant

### ***The Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation - Civil War Washington - July 7-12, 2024***

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Explore the gritty, complex, precarious city that was wartime Washington through the lives of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass and individual citizens and residents of the nation's capital.

### ***Set in Stone: Civil War Memory, Monuments and Myths - July 21-26, 2024***

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Examine how people have sculpted the narrative of United States history through monuments and memorials in our nation's capital. Investigate how the legacies of the Civil War and Reconstruction – slavery, freedom, race and power – shape public memory.

### ***National Oratory Fellows School Year 2024-2025***

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Build your own leadership skills and cultivate student voices by learning the art and science behind compelling and effective public speaking and integrating it into your classroom. As a fellow, you will develop and strengthen skills to teach text analysis, public speaking, performance and speech writing in your classroom.

## Just for Students!

### **Panasonic Foundation and the Foundation for Impact on Literacy and Learning** ***Eco Citizenship Contest***



The Panasonic Foundation and FILL have collaborated for ten years in New Jersey and five years in Colorado to provide the Student Eco Citizenship Program at no cost to classrooms in these states. This is an important contest and activity supporting our interdisciplinary learning standards for Climate Education in Social Studies.

***The 2023-2024 program is open for registration and will continue to ask students in grades 5-8 to define environmental issues, create actions to solve the issue, apply the actions in their community to help solve the problem and lastly evaluate their actions conducted and share their results.***

Student teams will be able to submit their work into the annual Eco Diary competition.

**Ten New Jersey student teams and five Colorado student teams will be awarded prizes along with their teacher!**

### **REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE!**

A promotional graphic for the Eco Citizenship Program. It features three young girls smiling and holding a document. The text "EMPOWER AND EDUCATE TOMORROW'S ECO CITIZENS" is prominently displayed. Below the image, there is a list of steps for the program and a registration link. The graphic also includes logos for the Panasonic Foundation and the Foundation for Impact on Literacy and Learning (FILL).

**EMPOWER AND EDUCATE TOMORROW'S ECO CITIZENS**

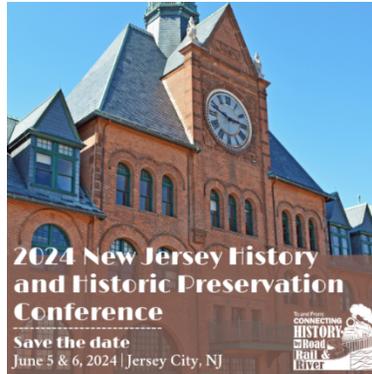
FREE lessons and resources for grades 5-8.

- 1 Student teams create a solution to an environmental issue
- 2 Implement the solution
- 3 Document outcomes in an eco diary
- 4 Submit eco diary into statewide competition for opportunity to win team & teacher prizes

To register visit: [www.EcoCitizenship.org](http://www.EcoCitizenship.org)

## Professional Conferences

### **2024 New Jersey History and Historic Preservation Conference – Jersey City – June 5-6, 2024**



### **NCSS Future Conferences – PLAN AHEAD!**

**NOVEMBER 22 – 24 2024**

104th NCSS Annual Conference

John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, 900 Boylston St **Boston, MA** 02115

**DECEMBER 5 – 7 2025**

105th NCSS Annual Conference

Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt Vernon Pl, NW **Washington, DC** 20001

**DECEMBER 4 – 6 2026**

106th NCSS Annual Conference

Hyatt Regency **Chicago**, 151 E. Wacker Dr Chicago, IL 60601

### **NJ Council for the Social Studies (NJCSS)**

*President:* Michael Kenduck

*Vice President:* Joseph Dwyer

*Secretary:* Christine Gehringer

*Treasurer:* Kaitlyn Mahaffey

*Executive Director and Editor:* Hank Bitten

### **NJ Social Studies Supervisors Association (NJSSSA)**

*President,* Nicole Sanyigo

*Vice-President,* Aldo Deodino

*Secretary,* Cindy Assini

*Treasurer,* Gabrielle Rendek

#### **Schedule of Meetings for 2023-24**

**Friday, January 26, 2024** Virtual 9AM-12PM

**Friday, May 17, 2024**

in person at NJPSA in Monroe 9AM-3PM (breakfast and lunch served)