

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

February 2024

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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)

Congratulations Hanan Attiyah!

Middle States Council for the Social Studies Teacher of the Year Award

Also, the NJCSS Teacher of the Year

Flemington-Raritan Public Schools

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 NJSL

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 **before April 1, 2024.**

Resources on Climate from the NJ Department of Education

[Contact the Climate Change Education Unit](#)

[Announcement](#)

[Instructional Resources](#)

[Understanding Climate in New Jersey](#)

Grant Opportunities from the NJ Department of Education

[Expanding Access to Climate Change and NJ Student Learning Through Climate Change Learning Collaborative-Competitive](#) **Deadline: 2/13/2024**

[Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and NJ Student Learning Standards Through Interdisciplinary Learning and Community Resilience Projects-Competitive](#) **Deadline: 2/29/2024**

[Establishing Advanced Placement African American Studies Grant-Competitive](#) **Deadline: 2/13/2024**

[Advanced Placement for International Baccalaureate Course Expansion-Competitive](#) **Deadline: 2/13/2024**

Teaching Your Students About the Presidential Elections for President's Day Challenging Questions on the 12, 20, 22, 25th Amendments

Does the 12th Amendment allow the possibility of a President and Vice President from different parties being elected if no one receives 270 Electoral votes because of damaged or challenged votes that cannot be certified?

Does the 20th Amendment clearly define who would become president if the President-elect died, became incapacitated, or does not qualify to become President on January 20?

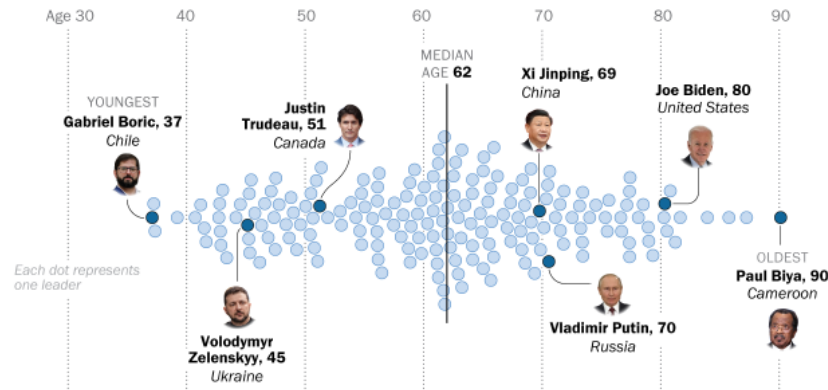
Does the 22nd Amendment preclude a president who has served two terms from being elected Vice-President or Speaker of the House of Representatives?

Does the 25th Amendment provide for an orderly plan if both the President and Vice-president became incapacitated at the same time? Would this be challenged if the Speaker of the House was from a different political party than the elected president and vice-president?

Talking About the Chronological Age of World Leaders

Most global leaders are in their 50s and 60s

Country leader's age



Note: Figures are through March 24, 2023. The data is limited to heads of government, excluding figurehead leaders and monarchs. Data is available for 187 of 193 UN member states. Ibrahim Traoré in Burkina Faso is the world's youngest leader at 34 or 35, but he is excluded from this analysis as his precise birthdate could not be determined.

Source: Pew Research Center analysis of government biographies and regional news articles.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The framers of our constitution required a president to be 35 years of age or older. In 1800, the life expectancy of a person in the United States was age 40. Today the global average life expectancy is age 70 and in the United States it is estimated at age 79. George Washington was elected president at age 57 and he retired at age 65. John Adams was elected at age 61. The average age of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention was age 42 with 14 delegates over the age of 50, (Roger Sherman was age 66 and Ben Franklin was age 81.)

Our oldest presidents are:

Joseph Biden, elected at age 78.

Donald Trump, elected at age 70.

Ronald Reagan, elected at age 69 and retired at age 77. He lived to age 93.

William Henry Harrison, elected at age 68 years and passed 54 days later.

James Buchanan, elected at age 65 and retired at age 69. He lived to age 77.

George H. W. Bush, elected at age 64 and retired at age 68. He lived to age 94.

Zachary Taylor, elected at age 64 and passed at age 65.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, elected at age 62 and retired at age 70. He lived to age 78.

Andrew Jackson, elected at age 61 and retired at age 69. He lived to age 78.

John Adams, elected at age 61 and retired at age 65. He lived to age 90.

Gerald Ford, elected at age 61 and retired at age 63. He lived top age 93.

Harry S. Truman, elected at age 60 and retired at age 68. He lived to age 88.

Teacher Resources

Religious Worlds of New York Summer Institute

Helping K-12 Teachers and Students Explore the Religious Lives of their Diverse Neighbors
Interested in Starting a New Course or Enhancing an Existing Course?

The next Religious Worlds of New York summer institute will meet from July 8 – 26, 2024, at Union Theological Seminary in the Manhattan neighborhood of Morningside Heights. There is a stipend of \$2,850 for teachers.

Applications are due on March 5, 2024, and must be submitted through the Google Form available on our [Application Guidelines](#) page.

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

[View All Programs](#)

Application Deadline is March 5, 2024

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!](#)

National Constitutional Center – PD

The 14th Amendment and the Battle for Freedom and Equality Featuring Valinda Littlefield
Wednesday, February 21 | 6:30–8 p.m. ET

[Register Now!](#)

During this session, participants will explore the 14th Amendment and the battles for equality in America. Educators will examine the clauses of the 14th Amendment and the battle over their meaning from Reconstruction to the Supreme Court's landmark decision on marriage equality in Obergefell v. Hodges. We will also explore America's first and second civil rights movements, the Constitution and women, and modern interpretations of the 14th Amendment. Professor Valinda Littlefield of the University of South Carolina joins us.

Teaching WWII & Japanese American Incarceration, Using George's Takei's Graphic Novel

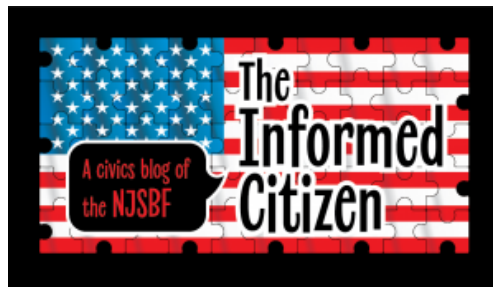
Feb 9, 2024 | 12:30-3:30pm

[Register](#)

Online | Free

This online workshop, offered in collaboration with Facing History & Ourselves, prepares educators to teach about WWII and Japanese American Incarceration through a variety of approachable resources, including George Takei's graphic memoir *They Called Us Enemy*. ELA, Social Studies and Humanities teachers will be equipped with new interdisciplinary teaching strategies that reinforce literacy skills and historical understanding. CTLE hours are available for this workshop.

The Informed Citizen Blog NJ State Bar Foundation



Great resources and perspectives on issues

informedcitizen.njsb.org

NJ History Day

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

**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



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

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 or Arlene Gardner at arlenega@sas.rutgers.edu with questions.

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

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

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

**AAPI Curriculum Resources:
Toward a Pluralistic Approach to Teaching and Learning
Wednesday, February 7, 2024
5:00 p.m. in the Graduate Student Lounge
East Campus, 215 North Avenue Hillside, NJ 07205**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Diversity Council on Global Education and Citizenship
General Assembly Meeting

For more information, please contact: **Sarah Coykendall**, Assistant Director coykends@kean.edu (908) 737- 4632
Kean University

Holocaust Education at Kean University

Journeys of Inclusion: Charting Compassion, Courage, and Community

March 15, 2024 • 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Liberty Hall, Kean University

[Register Today](#)

<https://bit.ly/3GOdU3c>

There is no charge to attend this event.

This program is presented in partnership with the New Jersey Education Association, the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, the Holocaust Resource Center of Kean University, and the NJEA Consortium, which invite you to this dynamic, one-day event.

The Consortium is a NJEA Professional Development & Instructional Issues

Division project funded by an NEA Great Public Schools Fund Grant.

Diversity Council on Global Education and Citizenship Elementary and Middle School Leadership Conference

Friday, March 15, 2024

Kean University (or virtual via Zoom)

9 am – 1 pm (in-person) / 9 am - 11 am (virtual)

[Register Now!](#)

Participants will network with students from other districts
and receive a leadership training tool kit!

For more information, please contact Sarah Coykendall:

coykends@kean.edu / 908-737-4632

Ford's Theatre Virtual Field Trips

Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 1 p.m. ET

While the Emancipation Proclamation promised freedom, it allowed Black men to join the U.S. Army and fight to fulfill that promise for themselves. Learn how President Lincoln and Frederick Douglass harnessed the power of these soldiers to help end slavery.

[Register Here](#)

The Stages of Lincoln's Legacy

Thursday, February 29 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. ET

From the Civil War to Civil Rights to today, Ford's Theatre and the Lincoln Memorial have served as stages from which we remember President Lincoln and the reflect on things that mattered to him and still matter to us today: unity, creativity and the right to rise.

[Register Here](#)

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.

Coal + Ice

Visiting New York, February 13 - August 11, 2024
Asia Society
725 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021, 212-288-6400

As climate change intensifies and the need for action becomes more urgent, Asia Society presents COAL + ICE, opening February 13, 2024, at Asia Society Museum, New York. This immersive photography and video exhibition helps visitors of all ages better understand the climate crisis and find ways to take action for a better climate future.

COAL + ICE is a collaborative and evolving visual experience that brings together the work of more than 30 photographers and artists from China and around the world. The exhibition traces a photographic arc from deep within coal mines to the melting glaciers of the greater Himalaya, and across the globe where rising sea levels and extreme weather events are wreaking havoc.

New for Asia Society Museum's presentation of COAL + ICE, the exhibition will culminate with a series of projects by photographers, artists, and designers who are engaging with different scaled solutions to the climate crisis. First exhibited in Beijing in 2011, COAL + ICE has since been seen in Shanghai, Paris, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

Theresienstadt Reconsidered
Tuesdays, March 12, 19, and 26
Free Mini-Course for Middle and High School Teachers

Prof. Justin Cammy, Smith College, explores cultural life and resistance at Theresienstadt, a camp used as a German propaganda tool. Art, music, and artifacts will be presented in teaching about this important Holocaust site.

Educational materials and dinner included.

[Learn more here.](#)

Breaking Bias
NJ State Bar Foundation

Did you know? New Jersey's Amistad law requires African American history to be taught as an integral part of American history throughout the school year, not just during Black History Month. **Attend our Breaking Bias: Lessons from the Amistad workshops to learn effective pedagogy and get access to relevant curriculum for teaching Black history in February and beyond.**

Reserve Your Spot ~ Earn PD Credit

[Breaking Bias: Lessons from the Amistad, Part 2](#)

(Feb. 7 ~ In-Person, NJ Law Center)

[Breaking Bias: Lessons from the Amistad, Part 1](#)

(Mar. 13 ~ In-Person, NJ Law Center)

[Breaking Bias: Lessons from the Amistad, Part 1](#)

(Mar. 18 ~ VIRTUAL)

Our workshops are free for educators. Professional Development credits are available to educators who attend the entire training. It is NOT a requirement to take Breaking Bias: Lessons from the Amistad Part 1 before taking Parts 2 or 3, but it is recommended if possible.

You may take the trainings out of order

The New Jersey Leadership Program (NJLP) has opened 2024 Summer Fellowship Program Applications

The fellowship program, which is entering its eighth year, seeks to introduce New Jersey-based South Asian youth to government and politics.

Applications are due by **Friday, March 1, 2024**, and interested candidates may apply online at www.njlead.org.

The NJLP Summer Fellowship Program is a six-week program in which high school and college students of South Asian background are placed in internships with legislative and other government offices. The Fellowship Program hosts a weekly speakership series with elected officials, senior government staffers, journalists, non-profit leaders, and others.

More information about the NJLP Summer Fellowship Program can be found at www.njlead.org.

Just for Students!

Start a Rho Kappa Honor Society in Your Middle School and High School

Talk to your principal and supervisor about this exciting program for social studies students to include it in your budget for next year.

<https://www.socialstudies.org/rhokappa>

Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society is the only national organization for **high school juniors and seniors** that recognizes excellence in the field of Social Studies. Any accredited public or private high school can apply for a local chapter, through which individuals will be inducted into Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society

Junior Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society is the only national organization for **middle or junior high school students** that recognizes excellence in the field of Social Studies. Any accredited public or private middle or junior high school can apply for a local chapter.

A Junior Rho Kappa chapter at your school provides national recognition for your outstanding students and encourages an interest in, understanding of, and appreciation for the social studies.

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!



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, May 17, 2024

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