

Social Studies Update

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Check Out:

- [The C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#)
- [Social Studies "Agora" Site](#)
-Click on social studies
- [Social Studies Google Calendar](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Twitter](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Diigo](#)
- [Iowa Department of Education Social Studies Page](#)

Questions?

Contact Stefanie Wager, social studies consultant at the Iowa Department of Education, at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov or 515-725-7842

Iowa Social Studies Update

Survey Reveals Over 50% of Iowa Teachers Have Had No Access to Social Studies Professional Development in Two Years

The Statewide Social Studies Leadership Team recently surveyed K-12 social studies teachers across Iowa. 59% of teachers revealed they have had zero opportunities to participate in social studies professional development in the last two years. Another 27% stated they have received less than two opportunities. We are working hard to change these statistics. Here's just two examples of professional development for social studies teachers :

Best Practices Institute

Mark your calendar for the Best Practices Institute. This two day institute will take place June 24-25 at the State Historical

Museum of Iowa. It is FREE for any K-12 social studies teacher in Iowa.

- [Register Here!](#)
- [Conference Program](#)
- [At a Glance Schedule](#)
- License Renewal

Go to www.heartlandaea.org, click on Professional Development then Heartland AEA PD Catalog. Enter [SS004399991501](#) and complete the process.

Medal of Honor Foundation Workshop

The Medal of Honor Foundation will be coming to Des Moines on June 26th for a one-day workshop. The workshop will take place at the Iowa Gold Star Museum in Johnston, IA. Their mate-

rials include lesson plans on each of the Medal of Honor recipients and a short video clip introducing that recipient. Each lesson is centered around an element of good character. This workshop is FREE for any 6-12 teacher who is interested. Go to <http://www.cmohedu.org/events.aspx> to register. Scroll down to "Des Moines." Breakfast and lunch are provided at no cost.



Questions? Contact Stefanie Wager at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov.

Iowa Council for the Social Studies Conference

The Iowa Council for the Social Studies Conference takes place October 6th, in the evening, and all day on October 7th at the Prairie Meadows Events Center in Altoona, IA. The 2014 theme is Sailing the Cs: Getting to the Core with Social Studies. The Cs include Creativity, the (Iowa) Core, College and

Career Readiness, Civics, the C3 Framework, Collaboration, Connection (technology), and Critical Thinking.

Bob Bain (University of Michigan) will be the keynote speaker. Bob is well known in the history arena as one of the "gurus" in promoting effective teaching in so-

cial studies through the "Cs." To submit a session proposal go to <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1AD4MshWR4MIBMdZgK4m9HsiMs4oXgigHApwiLDNHD1g/edit#>

For more information check out www.iowasocialstudies.org. Registration will be open starting May 1st.

Social Studies News

How Well Is Your State Teaching the Civil Rights Movement?

The Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance Program, recently released a report about the state of civil rights education in the United States. Iowa received an F (0%) because our standards do not contain any reference or requirements around the teaching of civil rights. Check out the full report by visiting <http://www.tolerance.org/sites/default/files/general/Teaching%20the%20Movement%202014.pdf>. They also released a guide to teaching the civil rights movement. Check out the guide [here](#).

College Board Changing SAT Exam to Reflect Social Studies

The College Board recently announced big changes to the SAT exam, both in product and in process. One big change is that each exam will include passages drawn from founding documents in American history. The reading sections will also include social studies related passages. Find out more by going [here](#).

Council for Economic Education Releases 2014 Survey of the States

The Council for Economic Education recently released their 2014 Survey of the States. This report takes a comprehensive look at K-12 economic and financial education in the US. See how Iowa fared and check out the full report by going to <http://www.councilforeconed.org/news-information/survey-of-the-states/>.

New Interactive Map Shows State Civic Education Policies

The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) recently released an interactive map that shows state laws, standards, and requirements for K-12 civics in each state. Check out the map by going to <http://www.civicyouth.org/new-interactive-map-explores-civic-education-state-by-state/>

Volunteers Needed to Judge History Day

Judges are needed to help out with National History Day in Iowa. Judges are needed for Monday, April 28 for the Senior Division and Monday, May 5 for the Junior Division. If you are interested, please contact Sarah Macht at sarah.macht@iowa.gov.

Recommendations for Effective Holocaust Education

Echoes and Reflections, one of the leading Holocaust curriculum resources, recently released some recommendations for effectively teaching the Holocaust through the lens of their materials. Check out their recommendations by going [here](#).

"For the dead and the living, we must bear witness."

-Elie Wiesel

Social Studies Resources

EverFi and Teaching Financial Literacy

EverFi is the leading education technology company focused on teaching, assessing, and certifying K-12 and college students in the critical skills they need for life. The company provides the programs at no cost to K-12 schools.

One of the courses available for free is the Iowa Financial

Literacy Program. This web-based course uses the latest technology to bring complex financial concepts to life for today's digital generation. There are 9 content modules. We measure knowledge gains through pre- & post assessments.

Contact Lincoln Hughes at Lincoln@everfi.com to get access to this course sponsored by Iowa College Aid.

High School Yearbooks from World War II

The World War II Museum has put together a fabulous collection of yearbooks from WWII. The best part? You can access them all digitally. This is a great way to teach students about the impact of the War- both at home and abroad. Go [here](#) to view the yearbooks.

Social Studies Resources (continued)

Spring 2014 Bill of Rights in Action Now Available

The Constitutional Rights Foundation releases an electronic newsletter every quarter. This edition looks at historical and current conflicts. This issue covers the Lincoln Douglas debates, the battle over Sudan and the issue of Bible reading in schools. Check it out [here](#).

History Labs

History Labs support best practices in the teaching of history through active student learning of the reading, writing and analytical skills involved in historical inquiry. The site contains information on how to conduct a history lab and additional models for using history labs in your classroom. Check it out by going [here](#).

Six Interactive History Sites

These sites, from the Learning Never Stops blog, bring history alive through their interactive content.

- [Colonial House](#)
- [Annenberg Learner](#)
- [BBC Interactive Learning Content](#)
- [NAACP Interactive Timeline](#)
- [Civil War 150](#)

Professional Development

#SSCHAT on Twitter

Each Monday night at 6 pm Central on Twitter, using the hashtag #sschat, there is a social studies chat with educators from around the world. A different question is discussed each week.



Summer Institute on the American Founding

The Center for the Study of the American Constitution is sponsoring a FREE week long Institute from July 6-10. It will take place on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For more information or to complete an application go [here](#).

Free Videoconferencing with US Presidential Libraries and Museums

The Presidential Primary Sources Project is offering a series of videoconference opportunities in March and April for 6-12 classrooms. For more information or to register go [here](#).

National Constitution Center

The National Constitution Center is offering three professional development workshops this summer. They are:

- [The Constitution in the Classroom](#) (June 23-24)
- [America's Unfinished Constitution](#) (July 13-19)
- [Liberty and Security with the Bill of Rights Institute](#) (July 21-24)

Smithsonian Museum of American History

The Museum is offering several upcoming webinars. They are:

- [Civil War 150](#) (April 9, 4:30-5)
- [OurStory and Summer Learning](#) (May 14, 4:30-5)
- [Star Spangled Banner 200](#) (June 11, 4:30-5)

Institute on Teaching Historical Literacy & the Common Core

The Stanford History Education Group (SHEG) is offer a week-long Institute around their Reading Like a Historian materials and Beyond the Bubble assessments. The Institute runs from July 15-18 and takes place on the Stanford University campus. For more information go [here](#).

Professional Development (continued)

Great Decisions Teacher Training Institute

This workshop is sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association and takes place from June 30-July 2, 2014 in New York City. Participants receive a \$300 stipend and hotel accommodations and many other resources. Check it out [here](#).

Russian/American Educators' Exchange

This program sends American educators to rural Russian schools to meet Russian colleagues and to exchange curriculum materials. All expenses are paid except for the cost of obtaining a Visa. For more information visit www.russianfolklorefriends.org.

Street Law Summer Institute

Street Law is conducting their 2014 Civics & Civil Rights Institute in Washington DC, July 9-14. There is a \$100 registration fee (with \$150 stipend opportunity). The application deadline is April 30, 2014. For more information click [here](#).

Social Studies Awards, Grants & Competitions

Law Related Education Teacher of the Year Awards

The purpose of these awards is to honor public and private school teachers who have made significant contributions in the areas of law-related education and have developed programs that have

- Furthered the understanding of the role of the courts

- Helped students recognize their responsibilities as well as their rights.
- Encouraged effective law-related education programs in their schools and communities AND
- Increased communication among students, educators, and those involved professionally in the legal system.

Three Teacher of the Year winners will be chosen. Each of the winners receive \$1,500 at the Annual Meeting of the Alliance. An additional \$500 will be given to the recipients who attend the awards luncheon. Entries must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2014. For more information click [here](#).

"History is a vast early warning system."

-Norman Cousins

Observance Day Resources

Tax Day- April 15

- **Spent:** This is an online game designed to teach players about the challenges of living on minimum wage. Check it out at www.playspent.org.
- **The Living Wage Calculator:** This site is maintained

by MIT and contains state-by-state information on costs associated with living in each state. Check it out [here](#).

- **Dollars and Sense:** The National Constitution Center is hosting a webinar on tax day. Check it out [here](#).

Earth Day- April 22

- The National Constitution Center is hosting a live chat on April 22nd entitled "Everything's Gone Green: The Story of Earth Day." Check it out by going [here](#).
- [Earth Day Network](#)