

# Social Studies Update

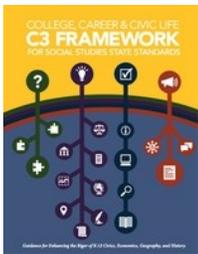
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Check out the [C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#).



## Questions?

Contact Stefanie Wager at [stefanie.wager@iowa.gov](mailto:stefanie.wager@iowa.gov) or 515-725-7842

## Josh Culberson Named Iowa History Teacher of the Year

Josh Culberson, a teacher at Lamoni Elementary School in Lamoni, Iowa has been named the 2013 Iowa History Teacher of the Year. The award is co-sponsored by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, HISTORY, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on behalf of its Preserve America program.

Culberson grew up in the small town of Stratford, Iowa. He fell in love with history early on because his dad always watched

the History Channel. After graduating from Buena Vista University with a degree in Elementary Education and a minor in Social Studies he began his teaching career in Lamoni, Iowa. Culberson has taught at Lamoni Elementary School for the past fourteen years. His position teaching 4th grade allows him to combine his passion for teaching with his love for history.

Culberson, an Iowa resident, will receive a \$1,000 honorarium. In addition,

his elementary school will receive a collection of history books and other educational materials. Finally, he will be honored on November 8th at the Iowa Outstanding Teachers of the Year luncheon.

Inaugurated in 2004, the National History Teacher of the Year Award promotes and celebrates the teaching of American history in classrooms across the country.



## Agora: The Place Where Educators Gather

Have you ever wanted to find a place where you have access to share resources and talk with other educators across Iowa? Agora can do that! Agora is a new online community that has been launched by AEA PD Online.

The Agora social studies site allows you to see events happening across the country, post questions and resources and see the resources we have posted. To sign up, go to [www.agora.aeadonline.org](http://www.agora.aeadonline.org), click on social studies, and if you are not already registered

for Moodle, create an account.



# Social Studies News

## CIRCLE Report Released on Youth Voting and Civic Knowledge

The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement has released a new report on civic engagement. The report details the current state of civic education, informed voting, and political engagement of the nation's youth. Some notes the CIRCLE report specifically cite include:

- Only 8 states include social studies in their assessments of school performance and only 10 states require civics teachers to be certified in those subjects.
- Nearly a quarter of civics teachers surveyed believe that parents would object to “bringing politics” into their classrooms.”

To see the full report go to <http://www.civicyouth.org/commission-on-youth-voting-and-civic-knowledge-releases-report/>

## Danville Postcard Project

Few people know that Anne Frank had a pen pal in Danville, Iowa named Juanita Wagner. Anne sent a letter and a postcard to Juanita before she went into hiding. This story has inspired Danville students to launch a postcard campaign. Their goal is to collect 1.5 million postcards in remembrance of the 1.5 million Jewish children who died during the Holocaust. Send postcards to: Danville Schools 419 Main Street Danville, IA 52623. For more information contact Janet Hesler at 319-392-4221. Read the book, *Oceans Apart*, for more on the Anne Frank connection. For more information check out



<https://www.dropbox.com/s/babrlc1kad85qis/Anne%20Frank%20Flyer%20FALL%202013.pdf>

*“We owe our World War II veterans— and all our veterans— a debt we can never fully repay.”*  
-Doc Hastings

## Professional Development Opportunities & Resources

### 2014 Institute on Civic Engagement

The Institute on Civic Engagement is a joint undertaking of the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association and the University of Iowa. The Institute will take place in June 2014 and is essentially free to attend. Visit the Institute's website at [http://itsnt842.iowa.uiowa.edu/vicic\\_engagement/Format.aspx](http://itsnt842.iowa.uiowa.edu/vicic_engagement/Format.aspx).



### Evidence-Based Historical Writing

Teaching students to write historically is an important part of effective social studies instruction. University of Maryland professor, Chauncey Monte-Sano sought to determine which instructional practices helped students develop historical thinking and writing skills. Check out the results of the study and learn how to help your students think and write historically.

<http://teachinghistory.org/issues-and-research/research-brief/24487>

### World War II Webinars

Expand the walls of your classroom by “attending” one of the World War II Museum's free webinars. Topics include “Exploring Pearl Harbor through Historical Fiction” and “The Monuments Men: Saving Europe's Cultural Treasures.” For more information or to register for the webinars visit



<http://www.nationalww2museum.org/learn/education/for-teachers/distance-learning/free->

### Voices of Women in the Middle East Webinar

On November 16th, Primary Source, will host a FREE webinar with Barbara Petzen on women in the Middle East. The webinar will focus on the stories of four women (a novelist, a hip hop artist, a revolutionary activist, and a poet) who have transcended stereotypes about women in the Middle East. For more information and to register go to <http://primarysource.org/middle-east-women-webinar>.

## Social Studies Resources

### Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom Educator's Guide

This educator's guide is a comprehensive resource on the life and times of Nelson Mandela. The lessons have a cross disciplinary focus. To access the materials and for more information check out

<http://wein-steinco.com/mandela-education/>



### Become a Gilder Lehrman Affiliate School

The Gilder Lehrman Institute is one of the premiere resources for social studies teachers across the nation. They offer schools the chance to become one of their "affiliate schools." By becoming an affiliate school, teachers receive free access to classroom resources, eligibility for Gilder Lehrman's competitive summer seminars, online web chats, opportunities for students to participate

in the Civil War essay contest and the Dear George Washington Essay Contest, invitation only professional development, and exclusive web content. For more information and to sign up go to <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-exhibitions/affiliate->



Check out the Iowa Department of Education Social Studies page at <http://tinyurl.com/>

## Social Studies Awards, Grants, & Competitions

### Herbert Hoover Uncommon Student Award

This program identifies and awards 15 Iowa high school juniors who propose and then accomplish projects of their own design. Finalists receive a \$1,000 award and three receive additional \$5,000 scholarships. For more information, check out [http://www.hooverassociation.org/grantsawards/uncommon\\_student.php](http://www.hooverassociation.org/grantsawards/uncommon_student.php)



[www.hooverassociation.org/grantsawards/uncommon\\_student.php](http://www.hooverassociation.org/grantsawards/uncommon_student.php)

### The World Food Prize Youth Programs

The World Food Prize provides Iowa high school students with unique opportunities to explore global issues, inspiring the next generation of leaders in the fight against hunger. The World Food Prize Youth Institute at Iowa State University takes place April 14, 2014. For more information go to [www.worldfoodprize.org/iowayouth](http://www.worldfoodprize.org/iowayouth) or email Catherine Swoboda at [cswoboda@worldfoodprize.org](mailto:cswoboda@worldfoodprize.org)

### Know Your Constitution Contest

The Know Your Constitution contest is open for students in grades 9-12. It asks students to create a multiple choice quiz and short essay. Winning entries are selected from each of Iowa's 100 legislative districts. Each of the finalists are invited to a luncheon in January and five of the students and their teachers are selected to attend a week-long program in Washington DC through the Close Up Foundation. For more information check out <http://www.iowabar.org/?page=KnowConstitution>

*"The Constitution only gives people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself."*

*-Benjamin Franklin*

### Abdelkader Global Leadership Prize

The Abdelkader Global Leadership prize asks students to broaden their global perspectives by learning about the Middle East and Islamic culture through the legacy of Emir Abdelkader. The leader that Elkader, Iowa was named for. Winning essays can earn \$1,000. For more information check out [www.abdelkaderproject.org](http://www.abdelkaderproject.org)

### First Freedom Center Video and Essay Contest

The First Freedom Center is sponsoring an essay and video contest for high school students to explore the history and modern-day relevance of religious freedom. Entries must be postmarked by November 25. For more information check out <http://firstfreedom.org/education/students.html>.

### FREE Copy of Lincoln

Get a FREE copy of the movie Lincoln. Included in this free copy is educational resources <https://www.department.com/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=77E48VL00>. Enter LINC13A at checkout.

