



Swanson 7th graders participate in an Ellis Island simulation as they study immigration.

APS Opportunities

Historical Essay Contest – Arlington Historical Society

The Arlington Historical Society, in partnership with Columbia Lodge No. 280, is running an historical essay contest for all Juniors (rising Seniors). Cash awards up to \$1000.00 will be given to the best submissions, and the winning essay will be published in the Arlington Historical Magazine, which is published every October. The deadline for submission is **April 15, 2016**, and essays should be submitted by that date to Max Gross (gross_max@hotmail.com). Click [here](#) for essay topic and an informational flyer.

Tuesday 1/26/15 #APSCHATS.

Taking Back Your PD With PLAYDATE Co-Founder Jennie Magiere

Resources

VDOE posts New TEI (Technology-Enhanced Items)

These practice items are representative of the content and/or rigor of some of the Standards of Learning (SOL) assessment items and illustrate technology-enhanced item types for the history SOL tests. Technology-enhanced items (TEI) require students to indicate their responses in ways other than a multiple-choice format.

The practice items are not intended to be a complete test and are not intended to cover all content for the grade level or course. While the practice items provide examples of some TEI, they are not intended to represent all types of functionality associated with these item types. The social studies SOLs this spring will not include these items for calculating the pass rate. SOL practice items can be found at www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/practice_items/index.shtml

Resources for Current Issues & Policy Debate – Close Up Foundation

[Close Up in Class: Current Issues](#) is a library of interactive resources and classroom units for exploring national and international policy debates. Their nonpartisan resources examine critical public policy questions on a variety of levels:

- **Foundational Units** review the U.S. Federal government, [U.S. Foreign Policy](#), and several longstanding tensions within American Democracy.
- **Current Issues Units** (on topics like [Education](#), [Immigration](#), and the Arab-Israeli Conflict) give students an introduction to the complexities of each topic, and outline arguments on current related controversies (such as School Choice and Negotiations with Iran). Please [click here](#) for a list of topics.
- **Monthly Discussions** examine current bills in Congress, Supreme Court cases, and relevant [controversial issues](#) in the news.
- **Teacher Resources** include a variety of [lesson plans](#), out-of-class assignments, project outlines, and community engagement activities that challenge students to develop a point of view and practice active citizenship.

Document Bank of Virginia – Library of Congress

[Document Bank of Virginia \(DBVa\)](#) is the Library of Virginia's initiative to get documents into classrooms. Using primary sources, teachers can make history relevant to students while helping them learn and understand state standards. DBVa will teach students to be critical thinkers as they analyze the original documents and draw their own conclusions about Virginia's past.

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

The [Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation](#) through its museum, programs, and resources promotes an awareness and understanding of the early history, settlement, and development of the United States through the convergence of American Indian, European, and African cultures and the enduring legacies bequeathed to the nation. [Jamestown Essays, Timelines & Images](#)- Choose essays, timelines & images from our large selection of Jamestown-related topics.

Stock Market Game – Virginia Council on Economic Education

Learn to use the Stock Market Game™ as a valuable educational tool for both teachers and students. Students manage a virtual investment portfolio and compete with teams across the state. Students learn saving and investing, sharpen math and research skills, and experience market forces at work. After participating in the SMG, independent studies show an increase in math scores for elementary and middle school students. It is also a proven way to learn many of the SOL in the high school economics and personal finance course. No prior knowledge of the stock market is necessary. [High School](#) and [Middle School](#) teacher workshops are available.

Student Opportunities

Extended Hours for Arlington Historical Society

Starting this month, the Arlington Historical Museum will be open the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 12:30 - 3:30 pm. With these expanded hours, the Arlington Historical Society hopes to serve more students, programs are forthcoming. The museum is located 1805 South Arlington Ridge Road, close to the Pentagon City and Crystal City metrorail stations. More information can be found on their website: www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/

American Girl Doll Lending Program – Arlington Public Library

The ever popular American Girl Dolls are here! Learn about the Arlington Library's American Girl Doll lending program: <http://library.arlingtonva.us/american-girl/> Each doll comes with a card depicting Arlington history in that era. Arlington history cards were developed by the Library's Center for Local History, PDFs of all of the cards available online here: <http://library.arlingtonva.us/american-girl-history-cards/>

The World of 7 Billion student video contest – Population Education

Population Education is currently accepting video entries from middle and high school students for the [World of 7 Billion student video contest](#). The deadline for submissions is **February 25, 2016**. This year's challenge: Create a short video (up to 60 seconds) about human population growth that highlights one of the following global challenges: Deforestation, Public Health OR Water Scarcity. All videos must include a) how population growth impacts the issue, and b) at least one idea for a [sustainable solution](#). Participating teachers are eligible to receive complimentary classroom resources when 10 or more students participate. 18 student winners will receive up to \$1,000 in cash prizes.

Save the Date for Regional History Day Contest!

History Day is for students grades 6 through 12. Students complete an individual or group project that relates to the year's theme in one of five categories: Historical Paper, Website, Documentary, Exhibit, or Performance. The regional competition will be March 5, 2016, hosted by Mount Vernon High School.

Online registration is opens **Jan. 10 and closes Feb. 22, 2016**. For more information about how to get started and rules, visit <http://www.nhd.org/contest.htm> NHD has posted videos about every entry type. Visit <http://www.nhd.org/classroom-connection/google-hangouts-and-webinars/> for more information—it's a great place to start if you have questions about a category after reading the rule book.

Teacher Opportunities

AP Human Geography Academy 2016 - The Changing Urban Geography of NOVA

This academy will be **March 11, 12 and 13** at Tyson's Corner. Join other APHG teachers for a two-day, two night geographic excursion that includes free lodging, meals, teaching materials, content expertise & professional collaboration, and PD hours. Registration Deadline: **Feb. 12th, 2016**.

More information can be found [here](#).

Primarily Virginia: MeadWestvaco online teachers institute

Primarily Virginia is an online course designed for teachers to explore Virginia's past by examining objects and primary sources. These pieces of the past will be used as a lens to examine different historical eras in Virginia history. All course work is to be completed through the course website, and there are no required in-person class meetings.

Primarily Virginia is limited to 30 students and will launch on **February 1, 2016**.

Please register by **January 25, 2016**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1HAbYFAmjCjxHfctYxp8EzXeDmIkq3plkzsjPKm5lAs4/viewform?usp=send_form.

TPSNVA/Library of Congress Spring Academy Course

TPSNVA is offering an extensive course for area teachers beginning on **January 28**. Teachers can register on the website – tpsnva.org. The course is designed to meet teachers' needs by providing extensive pedagogy and resources from the Library of Congress and by offering 90 recertification points/3 Advanced Academic credits upon completion. See the following [link](#) for more information.

Teacher Workshop – Capitol Visitor Center

This half day workshop focuses on the “Building and Expanding the US Capitol 1793-1982.” Attending teachers will have the opportunity to work with primary sources including architectural designs, correspondence regarding the Capitol expansion, and excerpts from the Annals of Congress and Congressional Globe.

Workshop is at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center on **Saturday, February 6, 2016 from 9am-12:30pm**, with same day registration from 8:30am-9am. For more information visit

www.visitthecapitol.gov/education/professional-enrichment

Nominations for the 2016 SOL Item and Test Review Committees

The VDEO Office of Assessment Development is seeking nominations for the 2016 Standards of Learning (SOL) Item and Test Review Committees. The committee meetings will be held in Richmond according to the schedule provided in [Superintendent's Memo 279-15](#). All individuals who wish to serve on the 2016 committees, including those who have previously served, must submit an [online application](#) through the Assessment Committee Application Processing System (ACAPS) by **February 12**.

National History Teacher of the Year Award-Due February 15

This award recognizes outstanding K-12 American history teachers across the country. Visit the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to nominate a middle or high school teacher who teaches American history. All nominations must be submitted on the Gilder Lehrman Web site at <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-exhibitions/national-history-teacher-year-nomination-form>. Nominations **due February 15th**.

Conferences

National Council for the Social Studies

NCSS 96th Annual Conference will be in **Washington, DC, Dec. 2-4, 2016**. This national conference with more than 4,000 attendees comes to DC every four years. Attend the conference to gain new ideas, resources, and skills in social studies education. [Registration](#) opens in June and [call for proposals](#) closes **February 16th**.

Summer Opportunities

Library of Congress 2016 Summer Teacher Institute Application Now Available

Immerse yourself in the practice of teaching with primary sources from the unparalleled collections of the Library of Congress this summer. Apply to attend one of the following week-long professional development programs for K-12 educators in the nation's capital. Week long programs run from June 20th to July 29th.

Application Deadline: **February 29, 2016**, click here for more information
<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/professionaldevelopment/teacherinstitute/>

NEH Summer Programs in the Humanities for School and College Educators

Each year, NEH offers tuition-free opportunities for school, college, and university educators to study a variety of humanities topics. Stipends of \$1,200-\$3,900 help cover expenses for these one- to five-week programs. For more information and application instructions, please visit the [websites](#) for individual programs.

Summer Study Tour to Germany – Goethe Institute

Experience is what the Transatlantic Outreach Program (TOP) is all about. The study tour's emphasis is on contemporary German issues relating especially to the political system, economy, culture, education, and environmental sustainability. Additional themes of note include the legacy of the Holocaust, German unification, and European integration. These study tours are designed to provide a comprehensive perspective of modern Germany.

Knowledge of the German language is **not** a requirement. Answers to other FAQs can be found on the [TOP website](#). Application including all attachments, postmarked on or before **January 25, 2016**.

Social Studies Snapshots is intended for elementary and secondary Social Studies Staff to communicate items of importance and interest in a timely matter. If you have an item you would like to include in *Social Studies Snapshot*, please forward it to Diana Jordan (diana.jordan@apsva.us). *Social Studies Snapshots* is distributed the second and fourth Friday of the month. The content of this publication comes from a variety of sources. APS is not responsible for any inaccuracies in resources provided outside the district.