



Hoffman Boston students proudly hold the "Thank You" cards they and their peers wrote to our Nation's Veterans, over 200 cards were made school-wide! A representative from the American Legion visited to receive the cards.

APS Opportunities

The DBQ Project Training

Training will be held for Civics, USI, USII, World Geography, and WHII teachers. The DBQ project includes training and resources that focuses on document based questions to give students the opportunity to investigate history from a variety of perspectives. The flexible pedagogy supports discussion and debate as students clarify their own ideas and write evidence-based arguments to deepen their understanding of history, while building reading, thinking, and writing skills. Each secondary school will receive a binder of the DBQ resources.

The workshop is **Thursday, Dec. 3rd**, 8-3:30pm, Site: TBD. See your Social Studies Lead teacher about registering.

Resources

The Great Thanksgiving Listen

NPR's StoryCorps has an assignment as generations gather this Thanksgiving: Document the stories and voices of a grandparent or elder. The project is called [The Great Thanksgiving Listen](#), and StoryCorps is asking history teachers to encourage their students to record the interviews using the [StoryCorps app](#) over Thanksgiving weekend. The app helps users select questions and record and then upload interviews to the StoryCorps archive in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. StoryCorps has also [created a toolkit](#) for the project for teachers, though everyone, not just students, is invited to use the app and record over Thanksgiving.

Hamilton Musical

Hip hop and Hamilton? Don't laugh, this Broadway musical is about the life and times of Alexander Hamilton and his contemporaries. They are played by a young, multiracial cast; dancing, singing and rapping to hip hop and popular music. The musical [*Hamilton*](#) and it is being hailed as a theatrical "game-changer."

2015 Virginia Council of Social Studies Fall Conference

This state conference was huge success and APS had a strong turn out with ten of our teachers presenting at the conference. APS presenters included: Lauren Gautier Elkins, Patricia Carlson, Sara Winter, Jackie Rogers, Nita Wade, Tiffany Mitchell, Tony Philippon, Jennifer Burgin, Dawn Amin-Arsala, and Tom Lenihan. Free resources including handouts and presentations from this conference are available at the conferences program link. <https://sites.google.com/site/vcsse2015/home>

Pass the Past

["Pass The Past"](#) is **free** app review game to prepare for SOL exams with a focus on World, United States and Virginia history, civics, and geography.

Brotherhood Discussion Guide

Written by A. B. Westrick, the novel *Brotherhood* offers a revealing glimpse of life during the often overlooked Reconstruction era. A great addition to any classroom library, this book offers a look into the political and social upheaval after the Civil War from the perspectives of two brothers.

[Click here](#) for the discussion guide.

The Choices Program

The Choices program was developed at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies and focuses on inquiry based learning. These links are to free online resources for secondary teachers of World Geography, US History, and World History II.

[Scholars Online Videos](#) - These brief (3-4 minute) videos feature top scholars answering specific questions in their fields of expertise. These videos can help give students and teachers a clear, yet nuanced understanding of complex issues.

[Teaching with the News](#) - These are online curriculum materials and lessons to connect classroom content to the headlines in the news. Topics cover a range of foreign policy and international issues.

[Supplemental Material](#) – Within each of their curriculum units, the choices program offers supplemental materials like graphic organizers, maps and photographs, online lessons, and a list of recommended books.

Student Opportunities

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.

Global Folklorist Challenge

Looking for a new opportunity for your students? The Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage is sponsoring a Global Folklorist Challenge. The challenge involves students researching, documenting, and presenting the unique cultures and traditions that make up their communities and neighborhoods by creating short videos. There are individual and team submission categories, Open to legal residents, age 8-18 at time of entry. The submission deadline is **November 30**, more details can be found [here](#).

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

EdCamp NoVA in Ashburn, VA

[EdCamp NoVA](#) is a new and exciting way to interact with peers to leverage our collective knowledge. This is a day to tackle your challenges, and develop new strategies alongside your peers. You'll connect with others during informal focused conversations on topics of mutual interest and value to you. EdCamp NoVA offers fixed unconference sessions based on ideas generated by the group. This free EdCamp is Saturday, **November 21, 2015, 9-4pm** at Eagle Ridge Middle School - 42901 Waxpool Road Ashburn, VA 20148

Weekend with Washington Program – George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate

Open to Virginia teachers, grades 3-12, this three-day residential program at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate runs **January 15-17, 2015**. Teachers will have the chance to engage in active discussions of 18th-century history with top historians, explore Mount Vernon through interactive workshops and tours, and more. This program is fully funded and accepted teachers will reside on the grounds at Mt. Vernon.

Application deadline is **December 14, 2015**. Visit www.mountvernon.org/vaweekend for more information.

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 begins in **January**. More info will be shared later.

Summer Opportunities

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.