



Ashlawn third graders decide what to barter – gold, salt, ivory, cloth - as they study the Empire of Ancient Mali.

Office Announcements

New Curriculum: In the fall of 2016, a new curriculum will be implemented in grades K-12. The curriculum framework for this new curriculum can be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/history_socialscience/. A crosswalk document between the old and new standards is anticipated in early May.

Power Standards: A team of teachers has identified draft power standards for grades K-12 based on the new curriculum. At the secondary level, grade level teams have had an opportunity to review the drafts for their courses. At the elementary level, social studies lead teachers will be seeking feedback from K-5 teachers this spring so that the draft power standards are ready for fall implementation.

APS Opportunities

2016 Festival of the Minds, Kenmore Middle School, June 28 - July 1

The Festival of the Minds professional learning conference occurs annually on the first week of summer vacation and provides a diversity of sessions for all PK-12 instructional staff to hone their instructional practice. At Festival of the Minds, APS staff share their knowledge, skills, and experiences as presenters and facilitators. More program details will be on the FOM website at: <http://apsva.us/Page/28661>

Resources

<http://www.hippocampus.org/> has free educational resources for Secondary Teachers included videos on Economics, History, Government, and Sociology.

Teaching About Judicial Nominations – Street Law

This [set of resources](#) from Street Law include lesson plans, recent media coverage of Supreme Court Nominations, Government Websites and Interest Group Websites.

Election 2016: Digital Resources and Primary Sources

From collections that focus specifically on the 2016 campaign, to more general U.S. government lesson plans, a wealth of digital collections are available [at this site](#). These comprehensive resources for the 2016 election come from C-SPAN, iCivics, and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

PBS Election Central

PBS' Election Central is an online destination of election-related resources and content with age-appropriate, thoughtfully curated information to teach K-12 students about the political process. This free media-on-demand service offers more than 100,000 digital resources for classroom use, and PBS NEWSHOUR, the ELECTION CENTRAL hub is available at <http://pbseduelectioncentral.com/>

NY Times Free Resources for Teaching Election 2016

This [list](#) includes over a dozen instructional strategies and free websites that can help teach students about our nation's most pressing issues and the way our democracy works, as well encourage them to voice their opinions about the issues they care about most.

Student Opportunities

Inspire Virginia

[Inspire Virginia](#) is a year-long civic learning program for high school seniors. Teachers may nominate students for the program or interested students can apply directly. As part of the fully funded program, student will participate in the following activities:

- Lead official voter registration efforts in school.
- Be trained to work as poll workers on Election Day.
- Meet with lawmakers and community organizations.
- Participate in leadership development conferences with other student leaders.

Color the Economic Concepts Contest 2015-2026 – Virginia Council on Economic Education

Elementary students have the opportunity to learn and illustrate their knowledge of economic concepts in a creative way. Eight state winners will each received a Virginia 529 inVest account with an initial \$100 balance. Art will be displayed at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and posted on [VCEE's website](#), where more contest information can be found.

2016 Youth Leadership Summit - Sister Cities International

The 2016 Youth Leadership Summit will help mark Sister Cities International's 60th anniversary through a specialized diplomatic simulation moderated by the U.S. Diplomacy Center, site visits, speaker sessions, and peer collaboration. Participants will learn how different national interests drive international cooperation on critical issues. Over three days, the Summit will provide students with effective problem solving strategies, leadership skills, and insights into international affairs. Summit runs July 13-16 in Washington, DC.

For more program and registration information, visit www.sistercities.org/YLS or contact Ted Carroll, membership manager for youth programs at (202) 347-8636 or tcarroll@sistercities.org

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.

Teacher Opportunities

Library of Congress - Early Elementary Teacher-in-Residence Application Accepted

The LOC Educational Outreach program develops and delivers teaching materials and programs to make the Library's unparalleled collections of primary sources visible, accessible, and easy for K-12 teachers to integrate into the classroom. Previous Teachers-in-Residence have led professional development workshops, developed teaching materials, conducted research in the Library's collections, and led and supported projects to reach a diverse audience of educators nationwide. The Library is seeking applications from early elementary (K-2) teachers in order to better understand the unique needs of young learners when working with primary source materials.

Applications Due **Tuesday, April 12th**. Additional information on program, qualifications, and application can be found [here](#).

Free Upcoming Webinars from Teaching Tolerance

Reading Diversity: Tools for Selecting Diverse Texts **Tuesday, April 12, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. CDT**
In this webinar, participants will learn how to use Reading Diversity to select texts that reflect their students' identities and offer them windows into the diverse lived experiences of others. This tool utilizes a multi-dimensional text-selection model that prioritizes critical literacy and cultural responsiveness as well as text complexity. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

NMAI Teacher in Residence Program – Call for Applications

The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) department of education is pleased to announce a new Teacher-in-Residence program. This program serves a vital role in Native Knowledge 360° (NK360°), the museum's national education initiative to inspire and promote the improvement of teaching and learning about American Indians.

The NMAI is currently offering [two paid residencies](#): one teacher will serve for ten months (academic year 2016–17) and another for six to eight weeks (summer 2016). Teachers selected for this program will work with NMAI staff and participating American Indian communities to create dynamic online lessons using the museum's extensive resources. Application deadline has been extended to **April 15th**.

Free Webinar from the Virginia Historical Society

This program will examine Richmond women immediately after the Civil War through the 1880s by looking at the letters, diaries, and artifacts they left behind. Designed to be either a classroom presentation, or a content building professional development program this webinar aligns with the state and national standards for grades 4 through 12, and the content would be appropriate for a general audience. The webinar will air on **May 11, at 2:30 EST**. Upon registration a link will be provided. Register at the following link: <http://goo.gl/forms/kynNG8qxdQ>

Conferences

National Council for the Social Studies

NCSS 96th Annual Conference will be in **Washington, DC, Dec. 2-4, 2016** at the Washington Convention Center. 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.

In addition, organizers of the 2016 conference are seeking volunteers to help during the conference. In exchange for volunteering, participants receive a discount registration rate for the conference. The discount received directly correlates with the volunteer hours. Help is needed at beginning with preparations on Wednesday morning, November 30th and ending with closing on Sunday morning, December 4th. For more details about discounts and specific jobs, please contact Wesley Hedgepeth, wesleyhedgepeth@trinityes.org

Summer Opportunities

Virginia Historical Society's Teacher Institutes

The VHS currently offers three teachers institutes. Weinstein Properties Story of Virginia Teachers Institute is a week-long program that is offered twice each summer. The dates and subject of the E. Claiborne Robins, Jr., Teachers Institute and Primarily Virginia, the VHS on-line institute, vary from year to year. All institutes are open to private and public school teachers of any grade level. The VHS also offers teacher workshops using primary resources. Click [here](#) for more information.

Street Law - Teaching for Civic Engagement Seminar

The seminar is designed for secondary teachers and district or state-level social studies specialists and offers exciting, interactive strategies that will engage students in civics and government lessons. Participants will collaborate with each other and learn from Street Law's staff and guest expert resources. Topics will include:

- current public issues in civics and government (including voting rights and restrictions, political polarization, medical and recreational marijuana, and America's role in the world)
- required government and civics content (including state and local government, foreign policy, federalism, and the judiciary)
- engaging strategies for building students' civic skills (including constructing arguments, evaluating claims, deliberating, negotiating, and taking action)

Teachers are encouraged to apply with a colleague from their school! Seminar is in Washington, DC, from August 2-3, 2016. *Application deadline: **April 22** [Learn more and apply!](#)*

National Portrait Gallery's Summer Teacher Institute

The Summer Teacher Institute will take a broad look at the Portrait Gallery's collection. During the institute, the museum's curators and historians will provide in-gallery content lectures, introducing the collection. Utilizing an interactive approach, NPG educators will model a variety of "learning to look" strategies—unique ways to hook and engage students when they look closely at portraits. Participants will learn how to "read" portraiture and use the art as a springboard into a more in-depth discussion about biography and history. Teachers in grades kindergarten-12 may apply as individuals or as part of a team. Priority will be given to social studies, English/language arts, and visual arts teachers.

Please direct queries to npgeducation@si.edu or 202-633-8503. Application deadline is **April 22, 2016**. Application and more information, including fees and stipends, can be found on the [website](#).

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.