

the **social studies** professional

Newsletter for Members of National Council for the Social Studies

Speakers at the NCSS Annual Conference

The Stuff of History



On Friday morning, November 22, the 93rd NCSS Annual Conference will feature a joint presentation by keynote speakers Oliver Stone and Peter Kuznick. **Oliver Stone** is the Oscar-winning director and writer of more than 20 films, including *Platoon, Born on the Fourth of July, Natural Born Killers, JFK, Wall Street*, and *Salvador*. He has directed four documentaries; the latest is the new ten-episode, Showtime series, *The Untold History of the United States,* which he described as "the most ambitious thing I've ever done." He also cowrote the companion book with history professor Peter Kuznick. Prior to his film career, Mr. Stone worked as a schoolteacher in Vietnam, among other

jobs. He served in the U.S. Army Infantry in Vietnam in 1967–68, and was wounded twice and decorated with the Bronze Star for Valor.



Peter Kuznick is a professor of history and director of the Nuclear Studies Institute at American University in Washington, D.C. He is currently serving his third term as distinguished lecturer with the Organization of American Historians. Dr. Kuznick has written extensively about science and politics, nuclear history, and Cold War culture. He co-wrote the new 10-episode Showtime series, *The Untold History of the United States* and the companion book with Oliver Stone.

This joint presentation is sure to elicit vital questions from the audience during Q&A. Read more about the NCSS Annual Conference, which will be

held November 22–24, 2013, in St. Louis, Missouri, at www.socialstudies.org/conference.



C3 Framework for States to be Released by NCSS

Watch the NCSS website, www.socialstudies.org, this month! After three years of work, *The College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards* will soon be published. It will be available at no cost on the NCSS website, and for purchase in print.

The College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards was conceptualized by individual state leaders in social studies education and supported by 15 professional organizations representing four core social studies content areas: civics, economics, geography, and history. The C3 Framework was written by experts in the academic disciplines and social studies education in collaboration with classroom teachers, state social studies education leaders, and professional organization representatives. An update about the effort from July 2013 is available at www.socialstudies.org/news_and_advocacy/c3update.

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Meet us in St. Louis this fall at the 93rd NCSS Annual Conference, the world's largest and most comprehensive social studies professional development event. The conference will provide you with the resources, ideas, techniques, and skills that you need, and invigorate your career.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

- 100+ sessions addressing Common Core ELA Standards for History/Social Studies
- Introduction of the new C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards, featuring practical sessions on how to use it
- Keynote speakers Rep. John Lewis, Taylor Branch, and Oliver Stone and Peter Kuznick
- Visits to popular St. Louis sites, including Busch Stadium, a premier St. Louis blues club, the Old Courthouse, Forest Park, Cahokia Mounds and more!
- Film screenings of *The Graduates/Los Graduados, Jeru-salem*, and the making of Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln*

www.socialstudies.org/conference
Discounted registration rates for NCSS
members! Register Now!

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS



Taylor Branch, author of the award-winning, threevolume biography of Martin Luther King, Jr.



Joy Hakim, author of the acclaimed 10-volume A
History of US



John Lewis, U.S. House of Representatives (GA-5) and civil rights veteran.



Oliver Stone, legendary film director and co-writer and director of the book and documentary series The Untold History of the United States



Lara Setrakian, former TV correspondent in the Middle East and founder of the website Syria Deeply



Peter Kuznick, professor of history and co-writer of *The Untold History of the United States*







The Beginning: An Enticing Overview

I'm excited to begin my term as president of NCSS with a message about the value of social studies, which I'll consistently convey throughout the year. Social studies teachers see the absolute need to teach literacy skills (as a matter of fact, we have been teaching them for a very long time). But what makes those skills meaningful? It's the rich content that good social studies teachers assist their students to explore. In addition, to strengthen our profession, we must continue to push for effective citizenship education. An increasing number of observers state that the only antidotes to the paralysis that grips a number of political institutions today are rigorous and non-partisan civic education programs for all of our students, grades pre-K–12. Citizenship is not a rote-memory exercise; it must be practiced.



Stephen Armstrong

NCSS and its leaders will continue to advocate for the cause of social studies at the national level. At times, it may seem that we're making only slow progress, as no magical pot of gold has appeared to fund new national social studies efforts. However, it's still critically important that we maintain contact with our elected representatives in the House of Representatives and the Senate; we'll still remind them of the importance of social studies every chance that we get. This year, NCSS will also focus on increasing our advocacy efforts at the state and local level, where more and more important educational decisions are being made. We'll be working hard to help the large number of social studies teachers who have never actively advocated for our discipline take first steps in explaining the importance of social studies to local and state elected officials. (Is your 60-second "elevator speech" ready?)

Of course, I'm incredibly excited about the upcoming NCSS Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, to be held November 22–24, 2013. We have an outstanding group of speakers for our members to hear and interact with. If you and your district are implementing the Common Core in your social studies courses, this conference is absolutely for you: there are a large number of session on using the Common Core to change curriculum and how the Common Core can be best utilized in the social studies classroom. In addition, there'll be a number of sessions on *The College, Career, and Civil Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards*, soon to be published by NCSS. This document will absolutely transform the way that many states and districts will approach social studies education. I absolutely urge you to attend a number of the C3 sessions that will be at the conference: you'll not be disappointed.

Check out the newly designed NCSS Annual Conference main webpage at www.socialstudiesl.org/conference where you'll find descriptions of other unique aspects of this year's premiere professional development event. We'll have several sessions on the first day of the conference relating to the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President John Kennedy. Teachers interested in discussing recent changes in the AP U.S. history exams will find sessions that cover the topic. If you like baseball, we have a tour planned to Busch Stadium; if you like music, we have an evening scheduled at a blues club. This will be a great conference with a program so full you'll wish you could be in two places at once!

I'm honored to serve as president of NCSS. Let me know your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions at any point during the year. Send an e-mail message to SteveA@ ncss.org—and see me in St. Louis! •

The Newsletter for Members of National Council for the Social Studies

Number 242, September 2013

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For advertising call Bill Doran at Phone: 302-644-0546; Fax: 302-644-4678 E-mail: advertising@ncss.org. Advertising rates and specifications can also be found at www.socialstudies.org/advertising.

National Council for the Social Studies
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Membership in National Council for the Social Studies is open to any person or institution interested in the social studies. Comprehensive Member dues are \$82. Regular Member dues are \$69; Student/Retired Member dues are \$40 (instructor certification required for full-time student status).

To join NCSS or subscribe as an institution, send check to NCSS, PO Box 79078, Baltimore, Maryland 21279; call 1-800-296-7840 extension 111; or visit www.socialstudies.org/membership.

Notification of changes of address by members and subscribers can be e-mailed to membership@ncss.org or sent by regular mail to Membership Department, NCSS, 8555 Sixteenth St., Suite 500, Silver Spring, MD 20910.



California Students Document the Aftermath of the U.S. "Secret War" in Laos

In spring of 2013, a group of 13 aspiring video journalists from Harvard-Westlake School in Studio City, California, spent ten adventurous days in Laos immersing themselves in the culture, volunteering at preschools, and interviewing cluster bomb victims. Forty years earlier, the U.S. military ceased its air war in Southeast Asia, but in the present, unexploded ordnance (UXO) accidentally detonates and maims or kills a Laotian farmer or family member once a day on average. An estimated 80 million "bombies," each about the size of a tennis ball, are still "live" today. The students returned home determined to publicize the victims' stories through video, writing, and visual art, thus giving voice to an innocent people still living under the shadow of the Vietnam War.

The trip was hosted by Give Children a Choice, and operated by Friendship Tours World Travel, an experiential learning abroad program. How did a unique study-travel program like this—one that involves high school students and such a somber topic—come about? It began in 2005 when Alethea Tyner Paradis, then a history teacher, founded Friendship Tours to give her students an immersive educational experience that was lacking in mainstream youth tours.

"In 2005, with U.S. troops stationed in Afghanistan and Iraq, the world was reflecting on 'the lessons of Vietnam," said Alethea. "It was the 30-year anniversary of the fall of Saigon, and it occurred to me that our nation hadn't learned many important lessons from our controversial military adventures in South East Asia." Alethea developed an integrative program that invites students to understand war-- and the benefits of diplomacy and negotiation—from the perspective of people who live with war's aftermath. The first trip was to Vietnam, and the program expanded to include Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Cuba, and Rwanda. Alethea directs Friendship Tours and related activities year-round.

Harvard-Westlake's Visual Arts Chair Cheri Gaulke and Emmy-award winning journalist Jeff MacIntyre chaperoned the 2013 "Laos Investigative Journalism Adventure," teaching video-recording, interviewing skills, and editing techniques on site. Staff from Give Children a Choice accompanied the group from the arrival in the Laotian capital of Vientiane, through bomb-ravaged Xieng Khouang Province, to the serenity of scenic Luang Prabang. Students interviewed UXO survivors, walked the safe zones along a cluster-bomb-infested agricultural field, observed a bomb-clearance team at work, and participated in the clearance process. Juniors Kayla and Hana assisted with detonating the bombs (see photo) from a safe distance of 0.75 mile.

Students are now editing their documentary films, with a planned screening at Harvard-Westlake School in October 2013. They've committed to advocating for UXO clearance efforts and to helping families directly. For example, the students met Mr. Ye Lee who, while working in a field, lost both of his legs to a hidden cluster bomb. After hearing his story, the students were determined to raise funds to help him purchase equipment and supplies for the family farm.

Students from more than a dozen schools have participated in Friendship Tours since 2005. The cost ranges from \$2,500 to \$4,100 per traveler, depending on days of travel and group size. Teachers travel free when accompanied by eight or more students. Visit www.friendshiptoursworld.com and www.givechildrenachoice.org. E-mail queries about upcoming trips to Alethea Tyner Paradis at Alethea@FriendshipToursWorld.com.



Bomb craters create stagnant ponds, often harboring water-born diseases, in Laotian farming villages.



Student tosses an inert "bombie" in the air. Playing with found objects (some are still "live") maims many Laotian children every year. Note the old mortar shells used as banisters in background.



At a safe distance, students detonate cluster bombs that are surrounded by sand bags. Both students wrote reflection pieces describing this experience.

News Around the Nation





Laotian child and American student play patty cake.



At dawn, students offer food to monks, who rely on charity as part of their vows of voluntary poverty, in Luang Prabang.



Students interview and get to know some villagers, including those who have been injured by UXO.







Microfinance in the South: Bikes, Video, and Summer Travel

Students at Southwind High School (SHS) in Memphis, Tennessee, traveled on bicycle for a week through the Mississippi Delta down to New Orleans, Louisiana, to explore "Microfinance in Action." With the aid of a generous three-year field-research based grant from the McCarthey Dressman Foundation, students were able to take this trip to produce a video documentary showing how microfinance can help to eradicate poverty.

Determined to provide an opportunity for her students to go beyond their textbooks to experience economics in real life situations, Biba S. Kavass, an economics teacher at SHS, planned a trip that included a visit to the second largest sugar refinery in Louisiana, a meeting with an ASI Federal Credit Union official to hear about microfinance loans and community redevelopment programs in New Orleans, visits with several entrepreneurs that have received microfinance loans, and a meeting with the founder of the Good Work Network in New Orleans, a nonprofit that focuses on aiding minority- and women-owned businesses.

Landon, a senior at SHS, wrote, about one of the interviewees. "Formerly a janitor for a large commercial company, Thomas Brown was told one day by his boss to climb a 6-foot ladder. He complied and when he reached the top of the ladder his boss told him 'that was the highest he was ever going to get in life." From that day on Mr. Brown was determined to start his own business. He told us that motivation was the key to his success and staying focused on his goals was the main force in bringing him that success. He pointed out some of the stark realities that come with starting your own business and how the assistance of Good Work Network and a microfinance loan were able to get him going."

Students spent two weeks editing their videos. Personal stories from the field are being prepared for "Microfinance in Action: A Guide for Teenagers." Students are hoping to get other high schools in the area involved in a collaborative effort on poverty in and around Memphis and how microfinance loans are being used in the city. Future trips are planned to the Lakota Indian Reservation in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and to the Dominican Republic. Visit http://shskivamemphis.weebly.com. Queries to Biba S. Kavass at akavass@scsk12.org. https://shskivamemphis.weebly.com. Queries to Biba S. Kavass at akavass@scsk12.org.

Professional News



Seeking CAEP Reviewers

NCSS seeks members to serve as reviewers of university social studies teacher education programs for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP, formerly NCATE).

How does it work? Teams of reviewers examine program reports and conduct reviews over the Internet. One member of each team, designated the "lead reviewer," receives program reviews from the other team members and compiles the review report. An audit committee at NCSS checks the reviews and sends them to CAEP for distribution to the submitting institution.

When does this happen? Reviews take place primarily in October/November and March/April. Usually each reviewer is assigned no more than three reviews per cycle, and can expect to spend 8–10 hours per review.

How do I prepare? NCSS training takes place at the annual conference (this year in St. Louis, Missouri) and is a two-part process. Trainees are asked to attend the all-day institutional training clinic on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, from 9:00_{AM} to 4:00_{PM}. (There is no charge for trainees to attend the clinic, but we do expect that you will commit to review for at least three years.)

You also attend a "How to Review" session on Friday, November 22, at 9:00 AM until noon, followed by a workshop, 1:00–3:00 PM, that includes experienced reviewers.

If you are interested in becoming an CAEP reviewer, contact Leah Engelhardt, Coordinator of CAEP Program Review, at leah.engelhardt@okstate.edu.

Seeking Survey Participants

A professional learning community of the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) is developing a climate change education needs assessment. We ask social studies teachers to please take 10-15 minutes to complete the survey found at the link below. Your answers will be kept confidential and provide us with invaluable information that will be used to:

- · identify existing climate change educational resources,
- identify gaps in climate change educational resources, and
- inform development of new climate change resources and professional development for informal and formal educators from a variety of disciplines.

Please complete the survey by September 30, 2013 at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C3W8HPF.

This project is supported by EECapacity (www.eecapacity.org), a partnership of the U.S. EPA, Cornell University, and NAAEE. For queries about this project, please contact, Kristen Poppleton, Director of Education, Will Steger Foundation, at kristen@willstegerfoundation.org. This announcement submitted to *TSSP* by NCSS member Lori Kumler, Department of Political Science and International Studies, University of Mount Union, Alliance, Ohio. kumlerlm@mountunion.edu.

Seeking Webinar Leaders

Please join NCSS in its new initiative to offer online education to the social studies community. We are looking for presenters to discuss a variety of topics that are relevant to the social studies professional. A few of the topics we are interested in covering are

- Advocacy / Civic Engagement
- Author Forums
- C3 Framework / NCSS Standards
- · Diversity and Tolerance
- ELA Integration
- Grant Writing

- Lesson Planning / Curriculum Development
- Mentorship
- · Preservice / New Teacher
- · Social Studies Methods
- Technology
- Common Core Standards

If you have an idea for a topic that you could present in a webinar format, we would like to hear from you. We are currently accepting proposals for the 2013-2014 school year. For more information and/or to submit your proposal(s), please visit http://www.socialstudies.org/webinar/openconf.php.

NCSS has a strong commitment to a high standard of scholarship and professional development. All presentations must be educational in nature, are subject to peer review, and commercial solicitation is prohibited. Proposal submission deadline is September 18, 2013.

Professional News



the. News Seeks Participants and Feedback

Teachers are invited to use lesson plans created for an online news broadcast called *the.News*, a bi-weekly program that is targeted to middle and high school students.

the.News is a current events youth-centric online broadcast with young professional journalists and contemporary graphics and music. It is accompanied by supporting material, including lesson plans for social studies, language arts, and science. Video segments and lesson plans are available at: http://www.pbs.org/newshour/thenews/

Teachers are also being sought to provide feedback on the construction and usability of the lesson plans. Feedback will be on an informal and voluntary basis. If you are interested in submitting feedback, please contact Christine Denny at cdenny@newshour.org for more information.

Loss-of-Power Headaches for NCSS

On July 24, 2013 a transformer outage caused a two-day loss of electrical service to the building in Silver Spring, Maryland, that houses the offices of National Council for the Social Studies. In addition to temporary loss of some Internet services to NCSS members and online visitors, there was permanent damage done to a server that hosted the online NCSS Publications Archive, at www.socialstudies.org/publications/archives.

As we post this issue of *TSSP*, most of this Archive has been restored, although the interface that viewers see will be updated. Also, recent issues of *Social Education* and *Social Studies and the Young Learner* are always available free to members of NCSS at Metapress. Log in at ncss. metapress.com to access this archive, which reaches back to issues published in January 2010.

By the way, our Metapress website also offers pay-per-download (PDF) articles for non-members (at \$9.95 per article; see "Add to Shopping Cart"), as well as subscription options for institutions like libraries and universities (with the popular online-only, IP-supported, SERU-friendly option now available).

It's nice to have a partner like Metapress at your back!

New Editor for TRSE

Theory & Research in Social Education (TRSE) has a new editor, Carla L. Peck, associate professor of social studies education in the Department of Elementary Education at the University of Alberta. Pat Avery, professor of social studies at the University of Minnesota, retired after serving as TRSE editor 2008-2013. She successfully shepherded the journal to its new publishing home (both online and on paper) at Taylor and Francis.

You may reach Carla at carla.peck@ualberta.ca. TRSE now receives all manuscript submissions electronically via its ScholarOne Manuscripts site located at: http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/utrs. Individuals have the option to join CUFA (College and University Faculty Assembly) and subscribe to TRSE on the second page of the online NCSS membership application. "Click to Join" at www.socialstudies.org/membership/individual.

Libraries and Universities may subscribe to TRSE through www.taylorandfrancis.com. Read a description of *TRSE* at www.socialstudies.org/publications/theoryandresearch.

Due Dates for Submitting Announcements to the TSSP online newsletter, at tssp@ncss.org

	TSSP ISSUE OF	TEXT DUE ON
October 2013		09/10/13
Nov/Dec 2013	1	10/02/13
Jan/Feb 2014		12/11/13
March 2014		02/05/14
April 2014		03/05/14
May/June 2014	the social studies professional	04/07/14
July/August 2014		06/16/14

State and Regional Conferences



Affiliate State and Regional Social Studies Conferences provide great opportunities for teachers in their home areas. Visit www.socialstudies. org/affiliates/conferences to find a complete listing that includes meeting themes, proposal deadlines, council webpages, and conference contacts. Send updates to councils@ncss.org.

September 26–28, 2013

South Carolina CSS

The USS Yorktown

Mt. Pleasant, SC

September 29, 2013

New Mexico CSS

New Mexico Museum of History

Sante Fe, NM

September 30-October 1, 2013

Ohio CSS

Quest Business and Conference Center

Columbus, OH

October 3-4, 2013

Idaho CSS

Historic Boise High School

Boise, ID

October 4, 2013

New England History Teachers

Association, Dodd Center (Univ. of CT)

Storrs, CT

October 5, 2013

Oregon CSS

Concordia University

Portland, OR

October 16-17

Montana CSS

Belgrade High School

Belgrade, MT

October 7-8, 2013

Iowa CSS

Prairie Meadows Convention Center

Altoona, IA

October 11, 2013

Illinois CSS

Harper College

Palatine, IL

October 14, 2013

Alabama CSS

Samford University

Birmingham, AL

October 17-18, 2013

Georgia CSS

The Classic Center

Athens, GA

October 17-18, 2013

Mississippi CSS

Natchez Convention Center

Natchez, MS

October 17-19, 2013

Pennsylvania CSS

Harrisburg East Holiday Inn

Harrisburg, PA

October 18, 2013

Maryland CSS

Doubletree Hilton Conference Center

Annapolis, MD

October 18-19, 2013

Michigan CSS

Lansing Ramada

Lansing, MI

October 19, 2013

Nebraska CSS

Omaha Duchesne Academy

Omaha, NE

October 23, 2013

New Jersey CSS

Busch Campus Center,

Rutgers University

Piscataway, NJ

October 25, 2013

Connecticut CSS

Central Connecticut State University

New Britain, CT

October 25, 2013

Oklahoma CSS

Metro Tech Springlake Campus

Oklahoma City, OK

October 25-27, 2013

Florida CSS

The Plaza Resort and Spa

Daytona Beach, FL

October 25-27, 2013

Texas CSS

Grand Hyatt

San Antonio, TX

October 29, 2013

New Hampshire CSS

Radisson Hotel

Manchester, NH

October 31-November 1, 2013

Arkansas CSS

Arkansas State Convention Center

Little Rock, AR

November 1-2, 2013

Virginia CSS

Hotel Roanoke and Conference

Center, Roanoke, VA

November 2, 2013

Arizona CSS

Grand Canyon University

Phoenix, AZ

November 7-8, 2013

Louisiana CSS

Lafayette, LA

November 8, 2013

Indiana CSS

Crowne Plaza at Union Station

Indianapolis, IN

November 22–24, 2013

NCSS Annual Conference
St. Louis, MO

February 1, 2014

ATSS/UFT NYC

United Federation of Teachers Headquarters, New York, NY

February 20-21, 2014

North Carolina CSS

Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons Hotel, Greensboro, NC

More at www.socialstudies.org/meetings

Join a Committee Volunteers Welcome!

NCSS provides opportunities for leadership and meaningful service through your national, professional organization. Please consider serving on a committee. Contact Jordan Grote if you have any questions, at Jordan@ncss.org.

1. NCSS Operations Committees

Operations committees carry out board-mandated operations, duties, and policies, as well as many of the necessary business and organizational functions of NCSS. Committees relate their work to board directives, the long-range plan of NCSS, and the leadership theme of the year set by the Board. They make recommendations to the board and provide advice.

You must be a member of NCSS to serve on a committee, and may serve on only one at any time. Beginning teachers, elementary teachers, and minorities are encouraged to apply. Terms of office begin **July 1, 2014**.

Read about duties, tenure, and committees' work at http://www.socialstudies.org/about/committees. Choose among the Archives Committee; Awards Committee; Conference Committee; Government and Public Relations Committee; Membership Committee; Publications Committee; International Visitors Committee; as well as the Social Education Select Subcommittee.

For more information, and to apply, visit www.socialstudies.org/about/committees.

2. Awards Selection Subcommittees

Members of the Awards Selection Subcommittees work with NCSS staff in coordinating recognition programs. Selection Subcommittees review nominations and applications for individual awards. Your application will be retained for consideration next year if a slot is not open currently. The NCSS awards are listed at www.socialstudies.org/awards. See the application at www.socialstudies.org/awards/committees.

3. Notable Social Studies Trade Books Selection Committee

The NCSS-Children's Book Council Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People selection committee consists of twelve reviewers. The members are responsible for reviewing, evaluating, and selecting children's trade books for the annual bibliography "Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People." The "Notables" can contain 100–200 titles selected from books submitted by publishers each year. The list is published in the May/June issue of *Social Education*, and is also distributed separately by NCSS to members, and by the Children's Book Council. Read about the Notables list at www.socialstudies.org/notable. The application form to serve on the committee is at www.socialstudies.org/notable/committee.

Validate your scholars' achievements in a new way...Start a Rho Kappa Chapter Today!



RHO KAPPA National Social Studies Honor Society is the only national organization for high school juniors and seniors that recognizes excellence in social studies. Membership in RHO KAPPA is an honor bestowed upon students by a local chapter for accomplishments in social studies and overall academic achievement. Any accredited high school can apply to start a chapter, through which students will be inducted into the RHO KAPPA Social Studies Honor Society. Rho Kappa provides national recognition and opportunities for exploration in the social studies.

Students eligible for membership must:

- have been in attendance at the school for the equivalent of one semester;
- have completed two core courses in the field of social studies and be prepared to complete at least three courses; and
- have an overall GPA of at least 3.00 or the numerical equivalent.



Through its sponsorship of Rho Kappa, NCSS and its partners hope to encourage interest in, understanding of, and appreciation for the social studies.



For more information call 301-588-1800 ext.107 or visit rhokappa.socialstudies.org

Teaching Resources



Constitution Day is Tuesday, September 17, 2013. Links to free website resources—as well as to NCSS journal articles (members-only) on the topic of the U.S. Constitution—are available at http://www.socialstudies.org/resources.

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The DVD titled *Mr. Stokes' Mission* has just been released for classroom viewing. John A. Stokes—whose experience is the subject of the film—has presented at several NCSS Annual Conferences, and his book (with Lois Wolfe and Herman J. Viola), *Students On Strike*, was a Notable Social Studies Trade Book in 2009. The 30-minute documentary and Teacher's Guide have both been endorsed by NCSS.

On April 23, 1951, John Stokes, then president of his senior class at the Robert Russa Moton High School in Farmville, Virginia, helped organize and lead a walkout by students to protest inferior conditions for his fellow African-American students. His efforts contributed to the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court ruling three years later, which banned segregation in public education. He went on to a career in elementary education and administration.

John Moore, past president of NCSS, had this to say about the film, "This inspiring documentary is an excellent teaching and learning resource for history, civics, and sociology classrooms. It contains factual content that is rarely obtained from social studies textbooks, and it aligns well with several NCSS social studies curriculum standards/themes. The accompanying Teacher's Guide offers a variety of engaging learning experiences that help prepare students for effective civic life for the 21st Century. The use of primary sources is a major teaching and learning tool throughout this work."

The Teacher's Guide for the documentary is free at http://www.mrstokesmission.org/. Purchase of an institutional copy of the DVD for \$85 includes educational performance rights. Visit http://www.mrstokesmission.com/purchase-dvd/.

My Mother's Voice is a 25-minute DVD, a documentary based on the true story of a 14 year-old-girl orphaned during the Armenian genocide and how she found her way to America to marry a man she knew only from a photograph. Her story brings an epic chapter in Armenian history to life. There is no charge to teachers if the film is requested through the filmmaker's website, www.kaymouradian.com/. See the teacher's guide and handouts online. The book, My Mother's Voice, on which the film is based, is \$20 on Amazon, which teachers may wish to provide to students for reading assignments.

The words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the 1961 AFL-CIO convention, illustrate the common bonds among labor, blacks, Hispanics, and other minority groups: "Our needs are identical with labor's needs—decent wages, fair working conditions, livable housing, old age security, health and welfare measures, conditions in which families grow, have education for their children and respect in the community." August 28, 2013, marked the 50th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Justice that was supported by the civil rights and labor movements.

The Albert Shanker Institute has prepared a series of extensive, high-quality grade 5–12 lesson plans for teachers at the high school and middle school levels. Lesson Plans on the 1963 March on Washington are available at the Shanker Institute (http://www.shankerinstitute.org/50thanniversary/) as well as at http://www.sharemylesson.com/. Each of the eight lessons features the Aim, Instructional Objectives, and a comprehensive listing of Common Core Standards by grade level. Each plan also includes an Overarching Understanding, Length, About the Lesson, Motivating Exercise, Lesson Development, and Summary Question. High school lessons include "Washington, DuBois, Garvey, Randolph Strategies" and "What the 1963 March was Really About." Middle school lessons include: "Bayard Rustin;" "March on Washington Logistics;" and "March on Washington Economics."

The California Federation of Teachers, AFT, AFL-CIO, has created a comprehensive program (and useful model), led by its Labor in the Schools Committee, which helps teachers reach students with information about the history and current place of the labor movement in American democracy. Their program includes development of lesson plans on labor across all subject matter areas and grade levels; periodically updating a clearinghouse of K-12 curricular materials and labor education activities; conducting workshops for teachers and unionists; and tracking public education policy about labor. Among its most popular resources is the Collective Bargaining Project that utilizes a simulation/role play method to engage students in an exercise to understand union organizing and collective bargaining and how labor and management resolve workplace conflicts. Item descriptions and prices are listed at www.cft.org/member-services/labor-education/ordering-information.html.

Teaching Resources



Free samples for NCSS members: Cobblestone & Cricket, the publisher of *Cobblestone* (U.S. history), *Calliope* (world history), *Faces* (world cultures and geography), *Dig* (archeology), and *AppleSeeds* (upper elementary social studies) invites NCSS members to get to know their publications by signing up for three free digital issues to one or more of their social studies magazines. Lexile measures and teacher's guides are available for free at www.cobblestonepub.com.

Register by November 15, 2013, at www.cricketmag.com/NCSS-Try3Free and use code "USF58".

OpenEd "offers educators and parents over 120,000 videos and 80,000 educational games, searchable by keyword, grade and standard, as well as a powerful learning management system (LMS) for creating classes—all for free." OpenEd says that "top educators throughout the United States selected the material" from hundreds of websites and aligned it to Common Core standards, ensuring success for both teachers, parents and students, inside and outside the classroom. Visit https://www.opened.io/. (The editors are curious whether this service is useful to social studies educators. Write a review and send it to tssp@ncss.org.)

One Hen, Inc. provides educational curriculum to teach global citizenship and social entrepreneurship. It's built on the award-winning children's book *One Hen*—about a West African boy who receives a small loan to buy a hen, and takes flight as an entrepreneur. It shows how the world undergoes change: one person, one family, and then a community at a time.

One Hen's website, www.onehen.org supplements the book with educational games and stories. (Teacher's Manuals, \$95.00; Student Workbooks, \$7.50) Teachers will also find free lessons, activities, and a board game to empower kids to succeed in school and life.

ADVERTISEMENT



Teaching Resources



Fifty years ago, on August 28, 1963, a high point in the long pursuit of African American civil rights took place in Washington, DC. Organized by a coalition of civil rights, religious, and labor organizations, the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom drew hundreds of thousands of participants in support of President John F. Kennedy's proposed civil rights bill. Organizers included A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, John Lewis of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (now a congressman), and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Recordings of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech that day have helped it become one of the best-remembered speeches in American history and a lasting symbol of the event.

The National Archives (NARA) has extensive holdings from the March on Washington, and highlights are online at http://tinyurl.com/NARAMLK50.

A new, free lesson plan will help you and your students commemorate the bombing, 50 years ago this September, of Birmingham's Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. A website about the watershed events of Birmingham in 1963, www.KidsInBirmingham1963.org, offers students primary-source first-person stories by people who lived through that tumultuous year in civil rights history—some of whom participated in the Children's Crusade or escaped the rubble of the church bombing on Sunday, September 15, 1963. Students are also invited to contact and interview the storytellers. NCSS member Casey Kelly helped to create the free lesson plan, which can be adapted for grades 4–12. Submit your ideas for using the site to enrich history and literature lessons. The best ideas will be posted, with your name credited, on the site's "Classroom" page. If you have any questions about this resource, please feel free to contact Ann Jimerson at 202 425 5702 or KidsInBirmingham1963@gmail.com.

Teaching Reading with the Social Studies Standards: Elementary Units that Integrate Great Books, Social Studies, and the Common Core Standards

Edited by Syd Golston and Peggy Altoff NCSS Bulletin 112, 118 pp., 2012

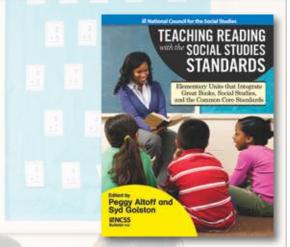
This book has been designed for elementary teachers who want to meet the Common Core Standards for Reading Literature as they teach social studies.

The class activities recommended in this book for each grade level allow teachers to accomplish the following objectives:

- 1. Achieve specific learning expectations outlined in the National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies.
- 2. Achieve specific objectives outlined in the Common Core Standards for Reading Literature (as well as selected other Common Core Standards)

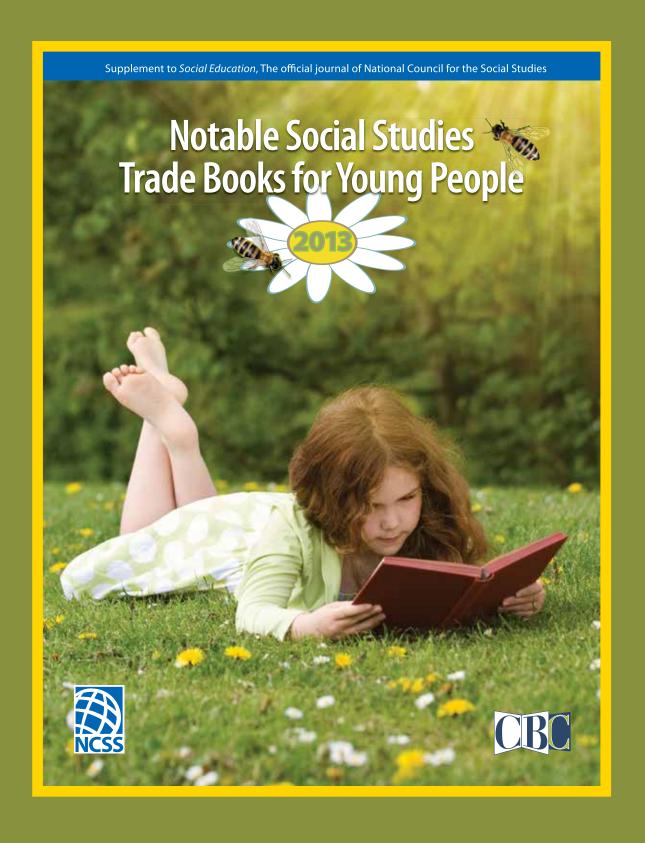
This book's opening chapters lay the groundwork for the effective teaching of standards-based social studies through the use of literature. Most of the volume consists of reviews and annotations of outstanding children's books for the elementary grades. The contributors examine seven outstanding children's books in depth (one for each grade from pre-K through 5) and recommend scores of other suitable books.

Item 120112 Price: \$29.95/NCSS Members: \$19.95





How to order: Customers in U.S. and Canada only may use www.socialstudies.org/bookstore or call 800-683-0812. All customers may e-mail ncss@pbd.com, call 770-280-4196, or fax 770-280-4092, and customers outside U.S. and Canada should use only these numbers and e-mail. Mail and P.O. Orders: NCSS Publications, P.O. Box 936082, Atlanta, GA 31193-6082 USA. NCSS publications catalog and order form are available at www.socialstudies. org/publications/catalog.



Visit www.socialstudies.org/notable. The Notable Trade Books list is an insert to the May/June issue of *Social Education*. A pdf of the 2013 list is available to NCSS members only in the Publications Archive.

Lists from past years (back to 2000) are available free.

Awards, Grants, Competitions



Autumn is a good time to begin planning for your application for an NCSS award or grant. Many will be due in May of 2014. Read about all of the NCSS award and grants for educators at all levels at www.socialstudies.org/awards.

Would your students enjoy living history as it happens? If so, check out Euro Challenge, a free program for schools that provides grade 9-10 students with an opportunity to explore economic and policy issues facing the euro area. They propose solutions and compete against other teams from across the United States. Student teams select and research a challenge issue such as the debt crisis in Greece, the aging population in Italy, or the problems in the banking system in Spain. Student orientations take place in December 2013. Teachers choose a few team representatives by early January, who then present their findings at regional competitions in March. See regional locations at www.euro-challenge.org/about.html. Top teams then compete in the national finals at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in April 2014. Winning teams earn monetary awards and a trip to Washington, DC. Register by Mid-December at www.euro-challenge.org/registration.html. Contact Brian Scios at 212-421-2700 or bcios@wise-ny.org for more information.

The First Freedom Center announces the 21st annual First Freedom Student Competition. In this national essay and video contest, grade 9-12 students compete for \$2,500 awards as they examine the First Amendment and the history and implementation of religious freedom and freedom of conscience in American democracy and the world today. Online registration is required on or before Monday, November 18, 2013. Postmark deadline for mailing the essay or video and its accompanying entry materials is Monday, November 25th. For topic, guidelines, classroom poster, student flyer and registration, visit www.firstfreedom.org; and then click on the red button, "First Freedom Student Competition" (center column).

The NEA Foundation/Nickelodeon Big Help Grants are available in the form of "student achievement grants to K-8 public school educators." The Big Help Grants program is dedicated to the development and implementation of ideas, techniques, and approaches for addressing four key concerns—environmental awareness, health and wellness, students' right to a quality public education, and active community involvement.

The grants target these four concerns as areas of great promise in helping develop a sense of global awareness in 21st century students that will encourage and enable them to make a difference in their world. Both the NEA Foundation and Nickelodeon are strongly committed to supporting the development of these skills and attributes for America's students.

The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection.

Proposals for work resulting in low-income and minority student success with honors, advanced placement, or other challenging curricula are particularly encouraged. The majority of grant funds must be spent on materials or educational experiences for students.

The grant amounts are \$2,000 and \$5,000. Deadlines for application: October 15, February 1, and June 1. To learn more, go to http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/nea-foundation-green-grants/.

The Teacher as Researcher Grant supports classroom teachers who undertake action research inquiries about literacy and instruction. These IRA (International Reading Association) grants will be awarded up to \$4,000, although priority will be given to smaller grants (e.g., \$1,000 to \$2,000) in order to provide support for as many teacher researchers as possible. Deadline for application: November 1, 2012. To learn more, visit: http://www.reading.org/Resources/AwardsandGrants/research_teacher_as_researcher.aspx

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The biennial Nestlé Very Best In Youth program seeks to highlight youth leadership by identifying teens whose efforts are making a profound difference in the lives of others.

Contestants must be between 14 and 18 years of age and must demonstrate good citizenship, have a strong academic record, and show how they are making a special contribution to their school, church, or community. Applicants must be legal residents of the United States.

Nestlé will donate \$1,000 in the name of each winner to the charity of his/her choice. Winners also will receive a trip for himself/herself and a parent or guardian to Los Angeles for the awards ceremony. The trip includes roundtrip coach air travel, hotel accommodations for three nights, and spending money. To learn more, visit http://verybestinyouth.nestleusa.com/About/Default.aspx. Submission deadline for application: November 8, 2012



Although there are about 1 million World War II veterans still living, this generation is rapidly disappearing and their untold stories of bravery and sacrifice deserve to be heard. To help teens connect with this important history, the Worthington Foundation and its partners have announced the *iHistory WW2* video contest, a national competition to inspire teen filmmakers to capture these stories on film before they are lost.

Between August 19, and November 20, 2013 aspiring young filmmakers (ages 13–18) can record video interviews with WWII veterans about their experiences during the war. If the Library of Congress a selects a video to be archived as part of the Veteran's History Project, a student may then create a short 3- to 5-minute documentary (from the longer footage), and enter it in a contest for finalists. Winners will receive video technology equipment; total value of combined prizes is more than \$11,000. Winners announced in February 2014. Learn more at http://www.heroes-ww2.org/.

Future NCSS Conferences

2013

See page 2 for more details



November 21-23, 2014

The Boston, Massachusetts conference will be held at John P. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center Headquarters Hotel—Sheraton Boston Hotel

2015

New Orleans, Louisiana November 13–15, 2015 Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Headquarters Hotel—Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center

2016

Washington, DC
December 2–4, 2016
Walter E. Washington Convention Center
Headquarters Hotel—Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel

2017

San Francisco, California November 17–19, 2017 Moscone West

Co-Headquarters Hotels—InterContinental San Francisco and San Francisco Marriott Marquis.

2018

Chicago, Illinois November 30–December 2, 2018 Hyatt Regency Chicago

2019

Austin, Texas November 22–24, 2019 Austin Convention Center Headquarters Hotel—JW Marriott Austin

2020 (100th NCSS Annual Conference)

Washington, DC December 4–6, 2020 Walter E. Washington Convention Center Headquarters Hotels—Washington Marriott Marquis and Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel

2021

Minneapolis, Minnesota November 19–21, 2021 Minneapolis Convention Center Headquarters Hotel—Hilton Minneapolis

Learn more at:

www.socialstudies.org/conference

Professional Development



The premiere professional development event of the year, the NCSS Annual Conference will be held November 22–24, 2013, in St. Louis, Missouri. See details on page 2 of this newsletter.

The Educational Seminars program is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and is implemented by American Councils for International Education. Program funding covers all costs, and international travel takes place in the summer. U.S. teachers and administrators are invited to apply for short-term exchanges in Argentina, Brazil, Greece, India, Italy, Thailand, and Uruguay. While in the host country, the educators will exchange best practices, network with educational leaders, and/or develop joint classroom projects and school partnerships. Applications for many programs open in October 2013. Visit www.americancouncils.org/es. See the page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EducationalSeminars. Contact Educational Seminars at edseminars@americancouncils.org.

The Bill of Rights Institute offers a variety of educational programs and instructional materials for educators. These include constitutional seminars around the country, webinars, and printed and online teachers' guides for use in history, government, civics, and social studies elementary, middle, and high school classes. At a day-long seminar, teachers engage with leading academics on important constitutional principles, historical events, and Supreme Court rulings. Led by a Master Teacher, attendees spend time with fellow educators exploring ways to bring your knowledge to the classroom using Bill of Rights Institute materials and teaching strategies. The Bill of Rights Institute is an approved professional development provider in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. Learn more at billofrightsinstitute.org/programs-events/educatorsprograms-events/about-our-teacher-programs.

The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA), now in its 16th year, continues to offer seminars on East Asia for an average of 1,000 teachers per year across the country. The benefits of the NCTA program to seminar participants are many. Most seminar sites offer course or recertification credit and all sites offer quality instruction about East Asia from leading experts in the field. Some seminars are offered online while others are a blend of face-to-face and online. Teachers receive a selection of background materials on Asia for their personal library. There is no charge for the seminars, and many seminar sites offer additional enrichment opportunities following seminar completion. Visit the NCTA web site: www.NCTAsia.org, to read about activities in your state and online courses, and to find links to resources for teaching about Asia.

TeachMideast.org is a free, highly acclaimed, non-partisan professional development workshop on the Middle East and Islam. Schedule a free teacher workshop for 2013. TeachMideast.org will custom-tailor workshops to specific needs. Since 1985, the Middle East Policy Council has offered these workshops in 45 states and over 200 cities across the U.S. Most workshops are at least a full day in length with at least 20 participants. Workshops can cover a range of topics, including: Stereotypes and Realities of the Middle East and Muslims; Teachable Moments in Islamic History; and Youth Culture in the Middle East. Visit TeachMideast.org for more information, teaching materials, and images.

America in Class online seminars from the National Humanities Center seek to improve teacher content knowledge, promote discussion-based instruction, and provide fresh material for use with students. The cost is \$35.00 per seminar. E-mail Caryn Koplik, assistant director of education programs, for special pricing, at <a href="mailto:content-content

Learn more at americainclass.org/seminars.

Institutional Subscriptions to NCSS Journals

Institutions can now get electronic access! NCSS has teamed up with Metapress (a subsidiary of EBSCO) to provide institutions with electronic access to a collection of current and past NCSS journals. The journal collections are IP supported, key-word searchable, and SERU friendly.

Preview the Social Education Collection at ncss.metapress.com/content/122515/ Preview the SSYL Collection at ncss.metapress.com/content/122516/

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Social Studies and the Young Learner (SSYL) "Especially for Preservice Teachers"

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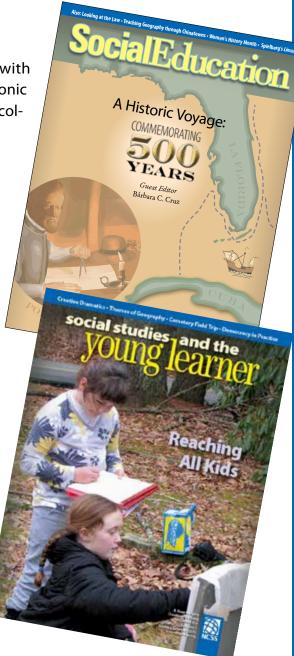
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Stand-alone subscriptions to NCSS journals are available to institutions such as college and university libraries, nonprofit organizations, and schools. [Individuals, please see our membership options and select your journal(s) there.]

Institutions may also choose to get additional subscriptions in the mail. *Middle Level Learning* is a supplement to NCSS journals. The 16 pages of *MLL* appear three times a year, as part of September; January/February; and May/June journals. Subscriptions do not include member benefits such as the *TSSP* newsletter. NCSS Copyright Guidelines are available at www.socialstudies.org/publications/copyrighted_material

The information on this page also appears at www.socialstudies.org/publications/subscriptions



An Invitation to Authors!

Call for Manuscripts for Social Studies and the Young Learner

If you're an enthusiastic elementary teacher or teacher educator with great ideas that you've implemented in the classroom, we invite you to share your work. Here are upcoming themes. We also welcome pieces that do not fit these particular themes, as well as reviews of children literature and books for teachers.

Interactive Technology and Critical Thinking

Our "digital natives" are growing up knowing how to use an iPhone, iPad, and a smartphone. How do we teach the "Touch Generation" to think critically? How is social studies taught using Interactive whiteboards, the iPad, the iPhone, or other interactive devices? How do we keep students engaged with technology and their larger world?

Read guidelines at www.socialstudies.org/publications/ssyl. Then submit your manuscript to Guest Editor Paul Nagel at nagelp@sabine.k12.la.us. (These articles would appear in the March/April 2014 issue.) *Deadline November 15*, 2013

Social Studies at the (Common) Core

The new C3 - College, Career, and Civic Life – Framework for Social Studies State Standards will soon be released and it's time to see how elementary teachers' lessons can reflect the framework. The C3 Framework document will be freely available at www.socialstudies.org. We are seeking articles, lessons and activities that illustrate how you use the Common Core to strengthen social studies reading, writing, speaking, and vocabulary, and to address the dimensions of C3 (Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries; Applying Disciplinary Concepts and Tools; Evaluating Sources and Using Evidence; Communicating Conclusions and Taking Informed Action). (These articles would appear in the issue of September/October 2014.) *Submission Deadline: March 15, 2014*



Tackling Challenging Topics

Societal changes and difficult events happen in the adult world, but they permeate children's consciousness, as well. How do you address topics that are challenging for you and your students? We are seeking articles, lessons, activities and book reviews that reveal how you and your students grapple with tough, perhaps controversial, issues. (These articles would appear in the issue of November/December 2014.) *Submission Deadline: June 15, 2014*

What's Your Best Lesson?

We have all taught lessons revolving around social studies content and concepts in which our students were firing on all cylinders. What was that lesson? What materials and activities sparked high levels of interest and critical thinking from your students? What made the lesson so successful? We are seeking articles that detail the instructional approaches, activities, and assessments of your thoughtful and engaging social studies lesson. (These articles would appear in the issue of January/February 2015.) Submission Deadline: August 15, 2014

Tips for authors can be found by clicking on the "tips" tab at: www.socialstudies.org/publications/ssyl. Send inquiries and manuscripts to ssyl@ncss.org

Andrea S. Libresco, Ed.D.

Co-editor, Social Studies and the Young Learner Graduate Director of Elementary Education Department of Teaching, Literacy and Leadership Hofstra University (516) 463-6543

Jeannette Balantic

Co-editor, Social Studies and the Young Learner Social Studies Coordinator Garden City School District (516) 478-2850



NCSS Membership Application



➤ Your name and address		Please complete	and return with payment. Please print	
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➤ Your sponsor If a colleague encouraged you to join NCSS, please provide his/her name and member number:	► Additional subscri ☐ 6 issues of Social Educatio ☐ 4 issues of Social Studies of	on (institutions only): \$70	istitutions only): \$45	
➤ Choose a membership level □ New membership □ Renewal Member number:	► About You			
Comprehensive: Includes bulletins and your choice of Social Education or Social Studies and the Young Learner, plus Middle Level Learning, TSSP, and; Conference discounts and all other membership benefits. Choose one: ☐ Individual \$82 ☐ Institution \$133 Regular: Includes your choice of Social Education or Social Studies and the Young Learner, plus Middle Level Learning and TSSP; Conference discounts and other membership benefits. Choose one: ☐ Individual \$69 ☐ Institution \$118	vide the following informati Level: Elementary Middle School Junior High High School K-12 College/University		NCSS seeks information about minority members in order to increase their participation in the organization. Ethnicity: Asian/Pacific Islander Black/African Amer. Latino/Hispanic Native American White/European Other (Please specify):	
Beginning Teacher: Available to classroom teachers in their first 2 years of paid employment as a teacher. Includes benefits of regular membership. Choose one: Individual \$40 Comprehensive \$50 Student or Retired: Includes your choice of Social Education or Social Studies and the Young Learner, plus Middle Level Learning and TSSP; Conference discounts and other membership benefits. Available to retired persons and full-time students. Students must provide the name of the institution and the signature of the instructor. (Maxium 5 years)	Age:	Bocial studies Economics Global Studies Government/ Civics		
Choose one: Retired \$40 Student \$40	➤ Payment information			
Name of institution	NCSS Membership:		\$	
Instructor signature	Associated Group Membership: \$			
*Expected graduation date	Additional subscriptions \$			
*required	Foreign Postage: Add (\$22) (except Canada add \$10) \$			
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▶ **Mailing List** ☐ From time to time, NCSS makes available our membership list to carefully selected companies or organizations serving social studies educators. If you wish to be excluded from such lists, please check this box.



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www.socialstudies.org/membership

Am I Advocating for the Social Studies?

In My School ☐ I display student work for students, teachers, and parents to see and enjoy. ☐ I share resources and ideas with other teachers in my school. ☐ I inform my principal of social studies special projects, student accomplishments, and future plans. ☐ I volunteer to do a mini social studies lesson at a faculty meeting. (Often principals like to include a curriculum piece in a meeting.) ☐ I work with my colleague to design activities that are integrated across the disciplines (social studies with language arts, math, science, music, and art, for example). ☐ I organize an October 31 Historical Parade, inviting students to dress like historical figures. ☐ I nominate my social studies colleagues for local, state, and national awards. ☐ I place copies of Social Studies and the Young Learner in the teacher resource or meeting room, and give colleagues the Membership Application (above). ☐ I advise members of the student government and help resolve problems that arise in school. In My Local Community ☐ I work with community members to create service-learning opportunities for my students. ☐ I alert the PTA, school board, and local media when my students complete a special assignment or project. ☐ I invite local officials, parents, and notable persons to visit my class and read a book aloud, describe their job, or address a historical topic or current issue. ☐ I help students use local resources such as the library, historical society, and museums. In My State \square I have joined my state council for the social studies and attend meetings when possible. ☐ We keep abreast of state educational legislation and communicate with our representatives regularly. ☐ I participate in online groups promoting social studies advocacy and teaching in my state. In the Nation ☐ I have joined the National Council for the Social Studies and attend the National Conference when possible. ☐ We keep abreast of national educational legislation through the advocacy webpage (www.socialstudies.org/advocacynews) and the Social Studies Advocacy Group at NCSS Connected. ☐ We communicate with our representatives on a regular basis. How do YOU advocate for social studies? Tell us about your activities by sending an e-mail message to ssyl@ncss.org.

If you checked four or more boxes, you get an A+!

Advocacy Resources

- 1. Tina L. Heafner, Katherine A. O'Connor, Eric C. Groce, Sandra Byrd, Amy J. Good, Sandra Oldendorf, Jeff Passe, and Tracy Rock, "Advocating for Social Studies: Becoming AGENTS for Change," Social Studies and the Young Learner 20, no. 1 (September/October 2007): 26-29.
- 2. Legislative updates from NCSS, www.socialstudies.org/advocacynews.

TV Plus



Check local listings for air times.

IS SCHOOL ENOUGH?

September 2013 (check local listings) TPT, PBS

This program aims to "examine a new frontier that could reshape education—the importance of breaking out of the classroom and connecting students to the wider world. This approach encourages young people to learn from what they care about most." As one expert puts it, school should not just be preparation for life—but "life itself." Featuring some of the nation's most forward-thinking educators, the program chronicles powerful stories that show that young people, when given the opportunity to participate in solving real problems and pursuing projects important to them, will excel.

BEST KEPT SECRET and BROOKLYN CASTLE

September 23 and October 7, 2013, respectively Point of View (POV) and PBS

POV presents two documentaries that look at extraordinary public schools and educators doing the utmost for their students.

Best Kept Secret, airing on Monday, Sept. 23 at 10PM, looks at a school in Newark, New Jersey, where the staff answers the phone by saying, "You've reached John F. Kennedy High School, Newark's best-kept secret." Janet Mino, who has taught a class of young men for four years, is on an urgent mission. She races against the clock as graduation approaches for her severely autistic minority students. Once they graduate and leave the security of this nurturing place, their options for living independently will be few. See a film trailer at www.pbs.org/pov/bestkeptsecret.

Brooklyn Castle, premiering on Monday, October 7, is about a public-school powerhouse in junior high chess competitions that has won more than 30 national championships, the most of any school in the country. Its 85-member squad boasts so many strong players that the late Albert Einstein, a dedicated chess maven, would rank fourth if he were on the team. Most astoundingly, I.S. 318 is a Brooklyn school that serves mostly minority students from families living below the poverty line. Brooklyn Castle is the exhilarating story of five of the school's aspiring young players and how chess became the school's unlikely inspiration for academic success. See a trailer at www.pbs.org/pov/brooklyncastle.

CONSTITUTION USA WITH PETER SAGAL

September: Check local listings Insignia Films, tpt, PBS

This four-part series, which premiered in May of 2013, will enjoy encore broadcasts on some local PBS stations this month (Constitution Day is September 17, 2013). The program's website (http://www.pbs.org/tpt/constitution-usa-peter-sagal/home/) provides a "Watch Online" option. The program summary states, "Does the Constitution have what it takes to keep up with modern America? Join Peter Sagal, host of NPR's 'Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!' as he hits the road to find out. Traveling across the country by motorcycle, Sagal is in search of where the U.S. Constitution lives, how it works, and how it doesn't ... how it unites us as a nation and how it has nearly torn us apart." The four episodes are titled "A More Perfect Union," "It's a Free Country," "Created Equal," and "Built to Last?"

Middle Level Learning

September/October 2013 • Number 48

Available for members online

www.socialstudies.org/publications/mll

