NCHE Announces Search for Executive Director

NCHE seeks an Executive Director whose dynamic leadership will inspire, inform, and engage our members and the general public in promoting the teaching and learning of history. The successful candidate will possess a diverse set of skills in leadership, marketing, aspects of management, and communication. Working from your home, NCHE’s new Executive Director will work closely with our Board of Directors, fostering collaboration with other organizations and advocating for historical thinking as a fundamental element of engaged citizenship. Learn more

Fathoming the Holocaust Lesson Plan

By Alex d’Erizans and Anthony Pellegrino

In seeking ways to address the origins of the Holocaust in K-12 classrooms, this lesson reimagines the teaching of the Shoah by supporting students' understanding of the context and perspective of National Socialism. We assert that, only by examining the embattled environment National Socialists contended that they inhabited, as well as the new world they chose to forge, could students begin to comprehend the hateful, destructive energy that fueled the Holocaust. Specifically, we aim to address the essential question: How and why did National Socialism resonate with so many people in the years leading up to the Holocaust? Read more

2020 Conference Keynote Speaker Announcement

Jill Lepore, Harvard University

The National Council for History Education (NCHE) is pleased to announce that Jill Lepore, the David Woods

In This Issue

History Matters! features two NCHE announcements: the new Executive Director Search and a keynote speaker for the 2020 conference. A Holocaust lesson plan is shared for teachers. Recognizing that meaningful history does not treat the Nazi agenda in a "neutral" manner, the lesson compels students to consider the context and ethical universe in which Nazis gained prominence.

Also look for:

- PD opportunities for teachers in The History File
- A Reflection on the RISE Education Summit
- A Book Review of The Cooking Gene
- A Spotlight on the New Jersey Council
- Upcoming dates for State Council Conferences
- A Teacher's Reflection on the 2019 NCHE Conference

The History File
Kemper Professor of American History at Harvard University will speak at the 2020 NCHE Conference Thursday, March 19 at 4:30 PM in Cleveland, Ohio. Her latest book *These Truths: A History of the United States* (2019) was a New York Times bestseller, widely translated and published around the world. She is also a staff writer at *The New Yorker*.

Learn more

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**Council Spotlight**

Greg Matlosz

This Spotlight looks at the activities of the New Jersey Council for History Education. NJCHE holds an annual conference each year.

Read more about their recent and upcoming activities.

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**Reflection: RISE Education Summit**

Todd Wigginton

Looking back on the Summit, I remain concerned for lack of focus on the humanities, particularly history education. Decisions have consequences, and I fear the inevitable results of the diminishing focus on social studies in our schools. As our social studies instruction continues to be pushed out of the instructional day, so has our best chance for modeling civil discourse and creating responsible citizens.

Read more

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**Book Review**

Reviewed by Stacey Kerr

Social studies educators are not unfamiliar with the use of food to create interest among students. If you've ever been in one of Scott Roberts (one our History Matters! editors) professional development sessions, you are probably familiar with his famous "cookie map" story which tells the tale of an ill-conceived

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**Upcoming Opportunities for Professional Growth**

**NCHE Summer Colloquium:** Explore the role of the military in shaping the technology of warfare and innovation in history in Carlisle, Pa. June 26-28, 2019. Teachers receive a $500 stipend. Learn more

**Barat Education Foundation:** Teachers who rate and comment on a lesson in Citizen U will be entered in a raffle to win one of five $100 gift cards! Learn more here. Barat is also recruiting Illinois teachers for its TPS Civics Educator Micro-Credential Program summer pilot.

**Free Webinars:** NCHE offers free live webinars each month on topics related to Technology's Impact in American History. Participants receive a letter for CEU credit. Learn more

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**2019 STATE COUNCIL CONFERENCES**

**Arizona** - September 7 in Tempe.

**Florida** - August 2-3 in St. Augustine. Learn more

**Kansas** - October 20-21 in Wichita.

**Minnesota** - August 6 at the Minnesota History Center. Learn more

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**Invitation**

You are invited to submit your own articles or lesson ideas for future issues of History Matters! If you have strategies, methods, or plans that could be useful for K-16 history teachers, please submit them to:
geography lesson heavy on sugar, flour, and baked goods in the shape of continents, but light on any real academic rigor or substance. Despite the often gimmicky integration of food into the teaching of social studies, the use of food as a teaching tool, by virtue of its familiar and ubiquitous nature in our everyday lives, can be powerful in engaging academic topics far beyond the food itself. Such is certainly the case in Michael W. Twitty's, The Cooking Gene: A Journey Through African American Culinary History in the Old South.

Twitty, a culinary historian and winner of the 2018 James Beard Award for Best Food Writing and Book of the Year, explores the intertwined histories of slavery, crop and livestock production, and cooking practices, in addition to the relationships between Native Americans, enslaved Africans, and colonizing Europeans in the production of what we now call, Southern Cuisine.

Read more

Teacher Reflection: NCHE's 2019 Conference
Rebecca Gomez, Uncommon Schools

When I discovered that NCHE would be having its conference in Washington, D.C. this year, I was really excited to attend. As the first ever Associate Director of History, Grades 5-8 for Uncommon Schools, a larger CMO in Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey, I have tried my hardest this year to educate myself on best practices in history education, and I was thrilled to mingle with and learn from colleagues in one of the most fascinating cities in the United States. Read more
2020 NCHE Conference
Past, Present, and Future: NCHE at 30
Cleveland, OH
March 19-21

Now Accepting Session Proposals
Submission deadline is September 23, 2019

The 2020 Call for Proposals, can be found at:
https://www.nche.net/2020proposalsubmission

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