Greetings! Thank you for reading the November issue of History Matters! The theme for this issue is Migration and Demographics, a timely subject for exploration that has both contemporary and historical relevance. This month we feature two articles to assist teachers as they navigate this important set of topics. The first article, written by Kelsey Evans-Amalu, Allison Sheridan, and William B. Russell III, describes the potential pedagogical use of "value clarification" as it intersects with the study of immigration, past and present. The authors work to explain this concept to the reader and then offer a lesson idea which focuses on the following central question: "Does current immigration policy in the United States reflect the attitudes and beliefs of the American People? Why or Why Not?"

In the second article, film-maker and historian George Colburn and teacher Alexis Lecznar, describe a project that they are developing called Exploring Immigration. This free module-based program consists of a seven part web-based video series offering teachers lessons plan for exploring immigration in the United States. Exploring Immigration will offer teachers of social studies in grades 7-12 with lesson plans focusing on the historical, economic, political, and geographic concepts associated with this important topic.

Read More >>

Straddling Borders: Using Value Clarification to Teach United States' Immigration Policy
by Kelsey Evans-Amalu, University of Central Florida; Allison Sheridan, University of Central Florida; and Dr. William B. Russell III, University of Central Florida

History textbooks often label the United States as the "land of opportunity" for immigrants. Immigration is, in fact, a huge part of the American story. Yet the topic of immigration also exists as a highly controversial issue and one ripe for discussion in the classroom. Since the inauguration of President Trump, whose platform included tightening security at the borders, immigration has remained a controversial issue, as new policy is advocated under the new leadership. The topic of immigration is not only especially relevant in contemporary politics, but also in classrooms which aim to ensure deep historical understanding and to prepare civically engaged students for a global society. To fully encourage students to develop their own understanding of immigration, however, there must be a critical analysis of the topic so that students can understand and evaluate their own positionality on immigration. Value Clarification and Immigration

Read More >>

Exploring Immigration

Register Today!
Technology's Impact in American History: NASA and Flight Technology
January 18-20, 2019

Participants in this colloquium will examine primary sources from the Library of Congress and NASA to explore the history of the government's role in shaping technology and promoting innovation. Selected teachers will work under the guidance of a colloquium team to examine and develop classroom applications based on available primary sources.

This program will take place at the Kennedy Space Center from January 18-20, 2019. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-serve basis. You must be a current, full-time, K-12 teacher to be eligible for this program.

Attendees will receive a $500 stipend, one-year NCHE membership extension, and an array of new strategies to help connect with your students.

Apply Now >>

Little Steven's Teacher Solidarity Tour Celebrates Educators

Little Steven Van Zandt is on the road with his band the Disciples of Soul, and teachers are invited to join the fun, for free.

Each show on the Teacher Solidarity Tour also features a workshop at which Little Steven...
Immigration tells the story of America. It makes up the past and present. It has brought people together and it has divided the country. The team working on the "Exploring Immigration" project strongly believe that secondary students need to be educated on the history, economics, sociology, and civics of America's immigration policy. Film producer and director, George Colburn, created seven 15 - 20 minute videos exploring immigration in the United States. Together with a team of educators, electronic learning modules were created to accompany those videos. While still in development, these learning modules are intended to provide educators with the resources and tools necessary to engage students in the story of America's immigration policy past and present. These modules provide educators with lessons that students might utilize as they become active citizens in an increasingly polarized political climate. Through the lessons, students have the opportunity to explore immigration in a comprehensive fashion to understand and respond to immigration debates currently taking place in a more informed manner.

Read More >>

Invitation to Share Your Opinion on Education Research

The National Council for History Education will be meeting with senior Department of Education officials later this year. This is an opportunity for NCHE to influence the future of our nation's education research agenda and ensure that we are investigating what you and your colleagues need to best serve your students.

But first, we need to hear from you! As one of our members, your voice is critical, and we want to know what you need.

- How do you use education research?
- How do you feel about currently available research?
- What are your research needs?

On November 27, representatives from various educator organizations will gather to discuss how we can better represent your needs on a national stage. By responding to this anonymous 15-minute survey, your responses will inform our participation in this national convening.

To further amplify your voice, the Jefferson Education Exchange is conducting a research study. By completing the survey, you agree for your anonymous responses to be used in this research.

At the end of the survey, you will have the opportunity to enter your name into a drawing for one of 3 iPads.

Should you have any questions, for more details and/or to contact a member of the research team, please see the link for this information sheet.

Take the Survey >>

Apply for OAH's Tachau Teacher of the Year Award

The Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Teacher of the Year Award is given annually by the Organization of American Historians in recognition of the contributions made by precollege teachers to improve
history education within the field of American history. The award, to be given for activities which enhance the intellectual development of other history teachers and/or students, memorializes the career of Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau, University of Louisville, for her pathbreaking efforts to build bridges between university and precollege history teachers.

More Information >>

NCHE 2019 Conference: Washington D.C.
March 14-16, 2019

Exercising Power: Individuals and Institutions in History

Just as individuals can shape history, institutions can serve as the catalysts for change or prove to be obstacles to human freedom. How individuals and institutions exercise power and towards what end is an important question that speaks to our values and the nature of human community.

Register >>
Rates Increase February 1st

NCHE 2019 Conference: Keynote Speakers

Bettany Hughes
King's College London
Bio>>

Elizabeth Cobbs
Texas A&M University
Bio>>

Hasan Jeffries
The Ohio State University
Bio>>

NCHE 2019 Conference: Enrichment Opportunity Highlight
Historic Congressional Cemetery
Historic Congressional Cemetery dates from the days when Washington, DC, was a new city on the edge of a malarial swamp. The stones—sandstone tablets with colonial calligraphy, ornate Victorian statues, 20th-century art nouveau carvings, and contemporary markers in shapes as strange as library cards and accordions—are a timeline of the city. The most distinctive stones are 171 cenotaphs; large cubes designed by Capitol architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe from the same sandstone used in the Capitol. They are found nowhere else. The men and women buried under those stones led lives of beauty, courage, struggle, cunning, leadership, and humor—in short, the stories of American history.

Learn More >>

Apply Today: NCHE's Paul A. Gagnon Prize

The 2019 Paul Gagnon Prize will be presented to either a K-12 history teacher who exhibits exceptional historical scholarship or an individual or group that has made a significant contribution to the promotion of history education.

Application deadline is December 7, 2018.

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