

Teacher Institute: Using Digital Technology to Teach Perspectives of the Civil War

June 18-20, 2008

American Civil War Museum at Historic Tredegar, Richmond, Virginia

In the Cause of Liberty, the flagship exhibit at the Tredegar Civil War Museum, explores the war's causes, course, and legacies through artifacts, media, and programs. The explicit approach is to view this American story from three essential perspectives—Union, Confederate, and African-American. Using this approach as our framework, we will introduce a series of digital technology tools to reveal these perspectives. At the same time we will investigate the historic sites of the Richmond area with an ultimate goal of creating classroom strategies to implement both real world and virtual resources.

Each day will include seminar-style workshops with historians and scholars, laboratory setting workshops with technology tools and applications, and site visits to area historical sites and resources.

Participating teachers will spend overnights on the University of Richmond campus. All course materials as well as travel expenses, including lodging, mileage, and a daily meal stipend will be covered by the grant. Participants will also receive a \$250 stipend. Space is limited to 18 teachers.

Summer Field Experience: The Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and Citizenship

June 23-27, 2008

The Constitution of the United States was made for an intelligent people. The sovereign "*We*" of the Preamble's "*We the People*" live and act in the *present* tense when they "*do* ordain and establish this Constitution." Educators and other professionals who instruct and inform Americans about the foundational documents that are authorized in their name, therefore, perform the most significant civic duties in the land.

The Center for the Constitution at Montpelier in Orange County serves as a teaching academy, a place where professionals are immersed in an intellectual engagement with the theory and meaning of the American Constitution that include three main elements:

Constitutional thinking — using the fundamental ideas of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights as the framework for civic reasoning in a country where, to be a full member of the American democracy, one must be first a "Citizen of the Constitution."

Rigorous interpretation of primary documents — as sites where the innovative concepts that animate the nation's political institutions can be encountered in their original form, so that American civic life can be preserved, restored, or reformed by its citizens.

Respect for the intellectual capacity of our participants — teachers and professionals whose status as colleagues can provide the power of a community of scholars at Montpelier, inquiring into the values that make us a Constitutional People.

All course materials will be covered by the grant. This course is a day course and will not require or provide overnight lodging. Participating teachers will receive a \$750 stipend. This seminar is limited to 25 teachers.

Interested teachers should complete and return the attached application form no later than Friday, March 28, 2008. With this initial roster of interested teachers, we will schedule a short orientation to discuss specific expectations and logistics of each course. Course rosters will be finalized by late April.