

# Teaching American History Grant

Serving teachers of Kern County

## History of a Nation

About the Project (2008-2011)

*History of a Nation is a Teaching American History Grant awarded to the Kern County Superintendent of Schools by the US Department of Education in partnership with the Kern County Museum, California State University, Bakersfield, and the American Institute for History Education. For information about the project contact Jackie Brouillette, Project Manager at 852-5054.*

### Professional Development Opportunity for Kern County American History Teachers – Grades 5, 8, and 11

We are pleased to announce that the Kern County Superintendent of Schools and Kern County Museum has been awarded a three-year Teaching American History Grant. The grant will continue through years four and five contingent upon funding. The purpose of the grant is to improve both teacher content knowledge and instruction in American History. We are recruiting teachers of American History, grades 5, 8, and 11, to participate in the grant's professional development program. Teachers of grades outside the grades specified in the grant (grades 5, 8, and 11) will be considered on a case by case basis. Contact Jackie Brouillette for more information.

*Goals of the Grant: Raise student achievement in American history throughout Kern County by deepening knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of traditional American history for teachers in 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades.*

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### GRANT APPLICANT BENEFITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

*(1 year commitment – renewable each year)*

#### Grant Participation Benefits

- \$1000 stipend after completion of at least 90% of the required activities (colloquia, seminars, and summer history institute).
- Materials and supplies
- Learn from and work with nationally recognized historians and scholars
- In depth study of thematic world history topics based on state history standards
- Opportunities to collaborate with colleagues on the design, teaching, and analysis of classroom lessons
- Training in history teaching methodology
- Increase core academic content knowledge
- Summer travel study to Washington D.C. in summer 2010 will be available to select teachers (based on application process).

#### Applicant's Commitments and Responsibilities

- Attend all three Friday and Saturday colloquia throughout the year (see calendar for dates).
- Attend four TAH meetings/seminars at the Kern County Museum
- Attend the week long summer history institute at the Kern County Museum
- Complete colloquium related readings and lessons
- Create classroom lessons meeting the California State history/social science framework

- Create historical trunk with teachers of same grade level each year
- Take the *teacher* pre and post history knowledge test, as needed
- Have one period or class of history *students* take the pre, first semester, and post history knowledge test and the pre and post history interest survey, as needed.

Content - Each year of the grant's program will have a specific content focus.

Year 2, 2009-2010 – A Nation Emerges

Building on year one, study the causes, events, and personalities of the Revolutionary War, Declaration of Independence, Constitutional Convention, Constitution, and Bill of Rights.

Year 3, 2010-2011 – Growth and Conflict

Contrast the agrarian South with the developing market-economy of the Northern states during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The study will start with the antebellum period, continuing with the effects these differences had on the nation's development, working through the Civil War era through Reconstruction and up to the emergence of the United States as a world power.

Year 4, 2011-2012 – Continuity and Change in the Twentieth Century (contingent upon funding)

Analyze the significant events in the founding of the nation and its attempt to realize the philosophy of government in the Declaration of Independence as it moves into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Study the emergence of new technology and corporate economy, including the social and cultural effects.

Year 5, 2012-2013 – Early Cold War Period, Civil Rights, War on Terror (contingent upon funding)

Trace the change in the ethnic composition of American society, the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major power. Examine how the United States has served as a model for other nations, examining how the rights and freedoms that are provided are not an accident, but are the results of a defined set of political principles not always basic to citizens in other countries.

*History of a Nation*  
Year 1 Colloquia and Seminar Schedule

*1 year commitment – renewable each year*

Year 1	Theme: <i>A Nation Begins</i> Guiding Question: <i>How do the ideological and historical developments that increased the rift between the British Empire and the colonies compare?</i>
<u>2009</u>	
Sept. 15	Applications due
Sept. 24	History Support Seminar/Meeting (after school)
Oct. 2-3	History Colloquium 1: Events leading to the American Revolution
<u>2010</u>	
January 29-30	History Colloquium 2: Revolution and the Declaration of Independence
March 4	History Support Seminar/Meeting (after school)
March 19-20	History Colloquium 3: American Foundational Thinkers
April 13	History Support Seminar/Meeting (after school)
May 18	History Support Seminar/Meeting (after school)

June 7-11	History Immersion Institute: The Constitutional Convention, the Constitution, the <i>Bill of Rights</i> , and the Washington and Adams administrations.
June 18-25	Study Trip: Washington, D.C. (for select teachers based on application process)

Application Documents (listed below)

All teachers who would like to participate in the History of a Nation grant need to apply by September 15, 2009.

Your complete application packet for the *History of a Nation* Teaching American History grant needs to include the following:

[Email to Jackie Brouillette - jabrouillette@kern.org](mailto:jabrouillette@kern.org)

Personal Certification (Put in e-mail message).

*Enclosed is my TAH application for the History of a Nation grant. By this email, I certify that the enclosed documents are correct. If selected, I will meet the requirements as outlined and will stay employed in a school district or county office in Region VII working in the history field for at least two years following the end of the grant. I verify that I have access to a computer with Internet access on a daily basis.*

- Ø Completed Application/Answers To Applicant Questions
- Ø Resume/Curriculum Vita – Should include all teaching experience, related work experience, professional involvements, recent professional development activities, awards and/or hobbies and other pertinent information.

[Mailed to Jackie Brouillette with original signatures in BLUE ink.](#)

Kern County Museum, Teaching American History Grant  
3801 Chester Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Attn: Jackie Brouillette, Education and Volunteer Services Manager/Project Manager

- Ø Administrative Support Form signed by school and district administrator.
- Ø Letter of Recommendation: Include one brief letter of recommendation from a professional colleague or administrator who knows you and can explain why you should be selected to participate in this grant program.

Kern County Superintendent of Schools/Kern County Museum

*History of a Nation*

Teaching American History Grant Application

DUE BY September 4, 2009

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level/Subject: \_\_\_\_\_ School District: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phones: School: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

History Textbook/Publisher used: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years in Teaching: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of class periods or hours per week teaching history \_\_\_\_\_

Last college degree (year, degree, subject and college) \_\_\_\_\_

Last year of a college level course \_\_\_\_\_

Degrees and Credentials Earned/Year Earned (include printed photocopy of credentials and transcripts):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is your school marked for Program Improvement?  Yes  No (check one)

What are your teaching responsibilities? (Include the courses you teach and number of periods you teach)

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Please list other professional involvements you have (include sports and academic coaching responsibilities, department chair responsibilities, organization memberships, etc.)

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Why are you interested in participating in this grant?

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Please rate your expertise in the following areas: (3-advanced; 2-intermediate; 1-beginning)

Item/Description	Rating		
	3	2	1
***Put an "x" the appropriate box.			
History content knowledge at my grade level			
History content knowledge outside my grade level			
History teaching strategies			
Use of primary sources in teaching			
Use of oral histories in teaching			
Use of historians in person, via email or via video conferencing			
Use of online resources			
Use of email			
Use of the World Wide Web			