



## Updates from the Ohio Department of Education

### Signal Update

The Ohio Department of Education is evaluating whether to continue the Social Studies Signal newsletter and requesting input for further planning. The Department is looking at other ways to share the latest updates, as well as opportunities for educators to expand professional learning and information from educational organizations statewide.

The Department seeks your input about the Signal and how to support the work of educators. Please take [this brief survey](#) to share feedback with the Department.

### News from Other Organizations

#### 2021 National Council for History Education Online Conference, April 8-11

[Place and Time](#) is the theme of the 2021 National Council for History Education annual conference. Place and time are the coordinates of all historical developments and events. Some are natural, like the geological formation of Utah's Salt Lake between 10 and 4 million years ago. Others are human and social, like the fall of the Bastille on July 14, 1789 or the collapse of the Berlin Wall exactly 200 years later. Geography and history serve as a matrix of time and place and as a context for events.

#### Teaching with Primary Sources

Gain knowledge and skills needed to use digital primary sources from the Library of Congress website; create activities and lessons that facilitate both English language arts and social studies standards; and engage students in active learning while developing critical thinking skills and constructing knowledge. This course is self-paced and can be taken for professional development hours. For more information, email Judy Bee, [jbee@ilstu.edu](mailto:jbee@ilstu.edu). [Register](#) for this course here.

#### Holocaust and Humanity Center

The Nancy & David Wolf Holocaust & Humanity Center (HHC) has updated its [Digital Engagement Guide](#), including new resources and programs.

- HHC is excited to announce the [Carrying Our Stories Forward Essay and Poetry Contest](#). Engage with powerful stories of local Holocaust survivors through participation in this contest. Students in grades 7-12 in the tri-state region of Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana are invited to view Holocaust survivor testimony, conduct research about Holocaust history and write an essay or poem communicating the importance of carrying forward Holocaust survivor stories. Contest details can be found on the [Carrying Our Stories Forward Essay and Poetry Contest](#) page.
- The museum is open, but the HHC has [virtual, recorded and livestreamed tours and programs](#) available. Contact the institution to create a special tour or program, book a speaker via Zoom or tune in to the [Speaker Series](#) on Wednesdays 11 a.m.-noon to hear survivors and their family members tell their stories.

#### Ohio Historical Markers

The Ohio Historical Marker Program is seeking marker applications that represent underserved audiences throughout Ohio. In particular, the program is looking for Ohio stories about people of color, immigrant communities, women, LGBTQ+, underrepresented faith-based communities and people with disabilities. Additionally, counties with fewer than 12 existing markers will be considered underserved areas and provided an opportunity to tell their stories during this application cycle. Applications are due May 1, 2021.

Details about the program — along with applications, price lists, grant information and sample submissions — can be found online at [RemarkableOhio.org](http://RemarkableOhio.org).



## Summer Learning Opportunities from National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities offers tuition-free [learning opportunities](#) for K-12 educators and higher education faculty to study a variety of humanities topics in partnership with organizations nationwide. Stipends are available to help cover expenses for these one- to four-week programs.

## Kids Voting Ohio

Kids Voting Ohio needs social studies teachers to join its curriculum review board. [Kids Voting Ohio](#) is a new statewide, nonpartisan voter preparedness and civic education program for Ohio public schools. A set of collected curricula needs to be reviewed (by the curriculum review board) before it can become part of the program. The process begins this month, will involve no more than a 10-hour time commitment and will take approximately five to six weeks. To volunteer or learn more, please email [matina@kidsvotingohio.org](mailto:matina@kidsvotingohio.org).

## Resources

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### American Historical Association presents Remote Teaching Resources for Online Learning

The American Historical Association has developed a new resource to assist history teachers at all levels facing the challenges of remote instruction. [Remote Teaching Resources](#) is a compendium of professionally vetted materials and tools to help historians develop courses and teach remotely in online and hybrid environments. Funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grant, available Remote Teaching Resources include accessibility guides as well as pedagogy resources and materials specific to a broad range of places, eras, topics and fields. Resources currently are available in a wide range of formats including filmed lectures, podcasts, short videos, lesson plans, syllabi, assignments, primary sources with discussion questions, online museum exhibits, maps and digital history projects.

### K-2: Teaching Economics with Children's Literature

Elementary educators are invited to find new ways to teach economic concepts to students using popular children's books. The University of Arizona's Office of Economic Education is offering a webinar, [Teaching Economics With Children's Literature](#), Jan. 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m. (EST). This session will focus on K-2, but all elementary educators are welcome.

### Facing History Facing Ourselves Online Courses

#### [A New Approach to Teaching the Reconstruction Era](#)

**Jan. 28 - March 10**

This online course explores the Reconstruction era in the United States and the construction of American identity.

#### [A New Approach to Teaching To Kill a Mockingbird](#)

**Jan. 28 - March 10**

This course introduces educators to teaching *Mockingbird*, which incorporates civic education, ethical reflection and historical context into a literary exploration of Harper Lee's beloved novel.

#### [Holocaust and Human Behavior](#)

**Jan. 28 - March 10**

In today's world, questions of how to best build and maintain democratic societies that are pluralistic, open and resilient to violence are more relevant than ever. Studying the Holocaust using Facing History's approach allows students to wrestle with profound moral questions raised by this history and fosters skills in ethical reasoning, critical thinking, empathy and civic engagement—all of which are critical for sustaining democracy. This course is intended for educators.



## Media Literacy Resources

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### National Association of Media Literacy Education

The National Association of Media Literacy Education ([NAMLE](#)) aims to make media literacy highly valued and widely practiced as an essential life skill. NAMLE envisions a day when everyone in the nation and around the world possesses the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create and act using all forms of communication. Media literacy education refers to the practices necessary to foster these skills.

NAMLE offers resources for elementary and middle school students to develop and practice media literacy skills by providing an introduction to [Media Monsters](#), which represents common sources of misinformation.

### Stanford University Presents Civic Online Reasoning

[Civic Online Reasoning](#) provides classroom resources for spotting misinformation in the media and opportunities for students to practice those skills.

### News Literacy Project: Checkology

The News Literacy Project presents [Checkology](#) to help students become savvy consumers of news media. News literacy is the ability to determine the credibility of news and other content distributed via social media and gives students opportunities to practice their news literacy skills.

*The resources in this newsletter are free and have been reviewed using the Department's Social Studies resource filter against established criteria. Copies of the completed filter forms are available upon request. Inclusion in this newsletter does not represent a recommendation to use a resource. Many quality resources are available beyond those included here. Educators should use their professional expertise to determine the suitability of any particular resources for use in their districts, schools or classrooms.*

### Send comments/questions to:

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