



Annual Conference
The Illinois Bicentennial: Our History, Our Future
Breakout Sessions

Session A
9:30-10:20

A-1 Contested Spaces in Chicago: Then and Now

Daniel Rhoades & Elisabeth McGuinness

Glenbrook South High School

The Illinois Bicentennial offers the perfect opportunity to reflect on the ways in which issues of contested space, place, identity, and equity were and are integral to Chicago's development. Using the city of Chicago as a prism this session will look at the parallels between nineteenth century Chicago's status as a chaotic "shock city" and efforts to gain control over the city and people, and contemporary efforts towards redevelopment of contested public and private spaces. We will share rich primary source documents and highlight the ways in which these themes lend themselves to both hands-on and experiential learning opportunities.

A-2 Why Care About the Fair? Exploring the 1893 Columbian Exposition Through Inquiry

Rachel Allmen

Chicago Metro History Fair at the Chicago History Museum

Step right up and see why the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition still looms large in Chicago's history. Chicago was on display for the world and the world on display in Chicago. This session will use primary source documents and the inquiry approach to highlight the important intersections of urbanization, imperialism, and racial identity that played out during the fair.

A-3 The Black Hawk War

Eric Smith

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

The Trail of Tears was but one of many removal programs undertaken by an expansive and industrializing United States. The Black Hawk War offers a number of documents that help promote historical thinking by considering accounts of the events by both sides in the conflict.

A-4 Iron Horses of the Prairie: Railroads and Chicago

John Gieger

DePaul University

“The Pioneer” was the first locomotive on the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad on October 25, 1848.

Today, Illinois is at the center of the nation’s rail network consisting of almost 10,000 miles of railroad tracks operated by 41 railroads. In this session, John Gieger (DePaul University) will examine the history of railways in Chicago and their impact on the development of Illinois, labor, and commerce.

Participants will also model an activity on using primary sources in the classroom to explore the roots of Chicago’s rail industry.

Session B

10:30-11:20

B-1 Red-Shirted, Hair-lipped, Beer-Drinking Foreigners: The Great Anti-Immigrant Riots of Chicago and Cincinnati and the tumult of 1855.

Lee W. Eysturlid

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

The year 1855 saw a series of reactionary riots in a number of great American cities. The older Democratic Party and the new, Know-nothings were in reaction to the rising power of the Republicans and the perceived tidal wave of immigration, in this case, the Germans (the “48ers”). This presentation will introduce the Chicago and Cincinnati riots that occurred that year, looking at causes, events and outcomes.

B-2 The Legacy of Pullman in Labor History

Sue Bennett

Pullman National Monument, National Park Service

Build critical thinking and communication skills in today’s students by focusing on the themes of Pullman National Monument. Explore the unique landscape of the U.S. and late 1800’s Chicago that influenced George M. Pullman as he created an experimental planned manufacturing and residential community to address issues of the time while creating a “product” synonymous with luxury. Learn how the opportunities and limitations that workers faced sparked the 1894 Pullman Labor Strike and still resonate in the workforce today.

B-3 Teaching about Sacrifice with WWII

Meghan Thomas (teacher) and Marc Lopez (student)

Von Steuben High School, Chicago Public Schools

In this seminar, teachers will learn how to use fallen soldiers as a way to teach about sacrifices made during war. We'll look at using web based sources such as the American Battle Monuments Commission website and ancestry.com to find out more about individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice during WWII. We'll also share our own research that was done through the National History Day program- Normandy Sacrifice for Freedom Albert H. Small Student and Teacher Institute. Teachers will leave with a more hands on approach to teaching about war and sacrifice.

B-4 Bradwell v. Illinois: Women, the Profession of Law, and the Fourteenth Amendment

Howard Kaplan and Tiffany Middleton

American Bar Association Division for Public Education

The presenters will provide history educators with resources to teach the 1873 U.S. Supreme Court case Bradwell v. Illinois, situating it in historical and legal context from its federal appeal after the Illinois Supreme Court decision to its origins in Reconstruction and the related Fourteenth Amendment Privileges or Immunities Clause case, the Slaughterhouse Cases, to subsequent sex discrimination case law. We will provide multiple legal and other primary sources. We will also examine Myra Bradwell's path breaking life and career as publisher of the Chicago Legal News and early advocate for women practicing the profession of law in the United States.

Session C

2:10-3:00

C-1 Inquiry, Argument Writing, and DBQ Online

Chip Brady

The DBQ Project

In this session, The DBQ Project will showcase the newly release DBQ Online. Special emphasis will be placed on using this new digital platform as a tool to differentiate instruction in the classroom.

C-2 Illinois Presidents and the Bicentennial

Genevieve Kaplan

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum

Four presidents have called Illinois home during their lifetimes. Can you name them? Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Ronald Reagan, and Barack Obama lived in Illinois and made the state their home before their rise to the presidency. Discover the history of these four leaders and how they played a role in our past, present, and future.

C-3 Not a Part of the Narrative: How to Present the History of a Community, When They Are Not Represented in Your Exhibitions

Lauren Monsein Rhodes

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum

Over the past few years, Jane Addams Hull-House Museum has developed tours that not only expand upon the historical narrative that is detailed in our permanent exhibits, but that also bridge the past with discussions on groups and themes that are not regularly discussed in most historic house museums. These tours: "Gender and Sexuality" and "The Mexican American Experience at Hull-House" have both grown in popularity and have met with some visitor resistance due to their content. The tours also allow us to link themes that are considered to be contemporary with the dominant historical narrative. This presentation will not only discuss the development process behind these tours, but also how we have deepened our discussions with previously resistant visitors on these topics.

C-4 The Chicago Stockyards; 150 years of Spectacle and Innovation

Dominic A. Pacyga

Columbia College-Chicago

This illustrated lecture will detail the history of Chicago's Union Stock Yard from its opening on Christmas Day 1865 to its closing and rebirth as the city's most successful industrial park.