

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Dear ILCHE Member:

There is still time to register for our ILCHE?IMSA Annual Conference. So that you do not miss this outstanding program, register on-line NOW

at <https://www3.imsa.edu/programs/statewideeducatorinitiatives/professionallearningdayhistory>

THE AHA AND YOUR CLASSROOM:

The American Historical Association 126th Annual Meeting in Chicago, January 5-8, 2012, offered a wealth of information to optimize your lessons. For those of you who were unable to attend the meeting, this newsletter provides a selection of information concerning classroom resources and professional development opportunities that was offered there.

[TEACHINGHISTORY.ORG](http://TeachingHistory.org): This website provides you with both resources and assistance in developing these resources into engaging and effective lessons. As the website explains,

Teachinghistory.org is designed to help K–12 history teachers access resources and materials to improve U.S. history education in the classroom. With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the Center for History and New Media (CHNM) has created Teachinghistory.org with the goal of making history content, teaching strategies, resources, and research accessible.

Visiting their website home you will be able to chose among:

Teaching Materials, History Content, and Best Practices.

To assist you further, [TEACHNGHISTORY.ORG](http://TeachingHistory.org) offers the following introductory videos: *What is Historical Thinking? Elementary Introduction, Middle School Introduction, High School Introduction, Digital Classroom*

You also have the opportunity to consult on-line as you:

Ask a historian

Ask a master teacher

Ask a Digital Historian

And consult Quick Links: *elementary, middle, high school*

TEACHINGHISTORY.ORG also includes information on *TAH projects*, *weekly history quiz*, *NHEC blog* in which you may find resources for current holidays, such as Martin Luther King Day.

You are encouraged to subscribe to the weekly teachinghistory.org newsletter; you may also follow TeachingHistory.org on Facebook and Twitter

Two posters that were distributed at the TEACHINGHISTORY.ORG session of the AHA meeting: “How Do You Piece Together the History of the Civil War?” and “History is an Argument About the Past” offer visual guidance in historical literacy: constructing arguments from evidence.

[HTTP://HISTORYMATTERS.GMU.EDU](http://HISTORYMATTERS.GMU.EDU)

Sponsored by the American Social History Project, Center for Media and Learning, at CUNY’s Graduate Center, this site offers high school and college level teacher and students a wealth of resources as well as interactive guides offering strategies for using them in developing historical narratives. They also provide a website that guides students and teachers through 1.000 websites in U.S. History. This specific website, www.history, enables browsing by time period, topic, or keyword.

ART AS HISTORY TEXT:

The integration of visual sources into the K-12 curriculum received particular focus at this meeting. Digital opportunities abound for accessing these sources. Providing 1.3 million images in the arts, architecture, humanities, and the sciences, ARTstor Digital Library also offers multidisciplinary ideas for their use in lessons. You will find this site at artstor.org. Their collection in American studies includes:

Carnegie Arts of the United States: library.artstor.org/library/collection/carnegiearts

Eyes of the Nation: A Visual History of the United States (Library of Congress): library.artstor.org/library/collection/loc_eyes

Native American Art and culture (National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution): library.artstor.org/library/collection/Smithsonian_nativeamerican

Schlesinger History of Women in American Collection (Harvard University):
Library.artstor.org/library/collection/Harvard_schlesinger

Terra Foundation for American Art: library/artstor.org/library/collection/terra

For more information about ARTstor Collections visit

www.artstor.org/library/collectionlist

“Art and History Education: Using Visual Arts to Spark Engagement in History and Build Interpretive Skills”

This AHA session, chaired by Frank Valadez, Executive Director of the Chicago Metro History Education Center, presented lessons from three classrooms---elementary, high school, and college undergraduate---that were designed to develop history habits of mind using visual materials. As today’s students have inherited a world saturated with images, these lessons in critical analysis of the visual address the significance of the visual in understanding the past. They also stress the universal language of the image in our global age as well as the awareness that pictures are not mere illustrations; they require a complex cognitive process to interpret their historical meaning.

The ILCHE Board and I are looking forward to greeting you March 2 at the ILCHE/IMSA Conference where we will enhance our understanding of history, its teaching and learning.