

**28th Annual Vermont Alliance for the Social Studies Conference:  
Imagining the 250th and Beyond**

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 | Capitol Plaza Hotel, Montpelier

	Governors' Ballroom	Montpelier Room	Snelling Room Museum	Pavilion Auditorium	Tours
Check-in/Breakfast/Exhibits 8:00-8:30					
Welcome and Keynote 8:30-9:45	Keynote - Ted Johnson				
Break/Exhibits 9:45-10:00					
Session 1 10:00-10:50	<u>Keynote follow-up discussion</u> - Ted Johnson, k-12	<u>Wade-Braden Mixer</u> - Bethany Hobbs, 9-12	<u>Early American Connections with East Asia</u> - Karl Neumann, 9-12	<u>Teaching Controversy</u> - Kelsie Brook Eckert, upper level	
Break/Exhibits 10:50-11:00					
Session 2 11:00-11:50	<u>What is the Vermont 250th</u> - 250th Education Committee, k-12	<u>8 Resources for Teaching and Learning East Asia</u> - Anne Prescott, 9-12	<u>Teaching Modern Germany</u> - Lauren Buck, 7-12	<u>Vermont High School Mock Trial</u> - Andrew McClellan, 9-12	Vermont State House Tour (State House Lobby)
Lunch 12:00-1:00 - Governors' Ballroom Recognize 2020 and 2021 Gilder Lehrman teachers of the year winners; Business Meeting					
Break/Exhibits 1:00-1:15					
Session 3 1:15-2:05		<u>Foundations of Holocaust Education</u> - Esther Hurh, 7-12	<u>Art as Rebellion</u> - Keegan Harris & Meredith Pelton, 7-12	<u>Community-Building Listening Circles</u> - Marsha Cassel, k-12	Vermont History Museum Tour (Museum Lobby)
Break/Exhibits 2:05-2:20					
Session 4 2:20-3:10	<u>Freedom and Unity in Words and Pictures</u> - James Sturm, 7-12	<u>Westward Expansion: A New History</u> - Mimi Stephens, 7-12	<u>Village Simulation</u> - Rebecca Yahm, k-12		Vermont State House Tour (State House Lobby)
Raffle/Conclusion/PD Certificate 3:15-3:30 Governor's Ballroom					

## **Welcome and Keynote Address - Governors' Ballroom - 8:30-9:45**

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER - Dr. Theodore R. Johnson**

We are very excited to bring you another fantastic conference with many special guests and speakers. This year, our keynote speaker is Dr. Ted Johnson, who will offer insights on "The Spirit of '26" and lead a Q & A breakout session discussing civics education in America on its 250th birthday and beyond. Dr. Johnson is the Senior Director of the Fellows Program at the Brennan Center for Justice. His work explores the intersection of race, politics, and the American identity. A writer whose work has appeared in national publications such as the New York Times, the Washington Post, and Atlantic, Dr. Johnson's recent book "When the Stars Begin to Fall: Overcoming Racism and Renewing the Promise of America" (Atlantic, 2021) outlines a path toward a multiracial national solidarity to address the existential threat of racism in the United States

### **Exhibits - Ethan Allen Room 8:00-3:30**

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### **Breakout Session 1 - 10:00-10:50:**

#### **Governors' Ballroom at Capitol Plaza**

##### Keynote Follow-up Q & A Session

Join keynote speaker, Dr. Ted Johnson for a Q & A session regarding the subject of his keynote speech and the future of civics education as America approaches its 250th.

#### **Montpelier Room at Capitol Plaza**

##### Wade-Braden Mixer: housing policies, practices and why it's all bigger than the attitudes of individuals

In this workshop, participants will engage in activities designed to introduce high school students to the ways housing policies and practices shaped inequity throughout the 20th century. Drawing on Richard Rothstein's book, *The Color of Law*, and focusing on a case study set in Louisville, KY, participants uncover how the Freedom Struggle had many demands, including equitable housing and an end to state sponsored and condoned violence. The workshop will be hands-on and participatory. Presented by Bethany Hobbs, Burr and Burton Academy, Humanities Teacher. 9-12

#### **Snelling Room at the Vermont History Museum**

##### Early American Connections with East Asia through Primary Sources: Boston and Maritime Trade with China

I will focus on sharing ideas and approaches for teaching about early Anglo-American maritime trade connections with China during the late colonial era and the early Republic. The emphasis of the program will be on sharing primary sources and self-created cartographic materials that I've used in the classroom to globalize my teaching of these important eras in early U.S. History. The primary sources include paintings, newspaper

advertisements, U.S. and Qing Dynasty customs documents, and ship crew manifests. Presented by Karl Neumann, Teacher, The Dana Hall School. 9-12

### **Pavilion Auditorium at the Pavilion Building**

#### Teaching Controversy

In this session, upper secondary educators will learn strategies for teaching the controversial history surrounding Roe v. Wade using the inquiry model for instruction. They will receive free resources from the Remedial Herstory Project including lesson plans, power points, and more! Presented by Kelsie Brook Eckert, Plymouth State University, Coordinator of Social Studies Education. 10-12

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### **Breakout Session 2 - 11:00-11:50**

#### **Governors' Ballroom at Capitol Plaza**

##### What is the Vermont 250th and Why Should I Care?

Members of the 250th Education Committee will share resources and strategies on how to incorporate the 250th into your classroom. We invite educators to share approaches to working with documents and resources that span the Revolutionary era to the present. Our mission is to expand the traditional narrative and include multiple perspectives and voices. Presented by Members of the Vermont 250th Education Committee. K-12

#### **Montpelier Room at Capitol Plaza**

##### Eight Resources for Teaching and Learning about East Asia

Looking for outstanding materials available online for teaching and learning about China, Japan and Korea? Participants will explore eight terrific resources, participate in sample classroom activities, and receive an annotated resource list. This session and the materials presented are most applicable to the middle and high school classrooms, but all are welcome. Presented by Anne Prescott, Five College Center for East Asian Studies, Director. 9-12

#### **Snelling Room at the Vermont History Museum**

##### Teaching Modern Germany—My Travels with the Transatlantic Outreach Program

I applied to and won a space to travel to Germany with the Transatlantic Outreach Program. I visited schools, historic sites, and modern day businesses to see how Germany has transformed itself since the 20th Century. I'll be sharing my experiences and resources on how to discuss the transformation of Germany over the decades. Presented by Lauren Buck, Spaulding High School, Teacher. 7-12

#### **Pavilion Auditorium at the Pavilion Building**

##### Vermont High School Mock Trial Competition

The Vermont High School Mock Trial Competition is an annual competition in which high school students prepare and argue a case against other high schools before a panel of judges. This session will explain how the Vermont High School Mock Trial Competition works and will provide information on how a high school can organize a mock trial team in their school and how to prepare students for the competition. The session will include a panel of students, judges, and coaches who have previously participated in Vermont High School Mock Trial. There will also be a mini mock trial conducted by students so conference participants can get a sense of the competition. Presented by Andrew McClellan, Mount Mansfield Union High School, Teacher. 9-12

### **Tour of the Vermont State House - Meet in the State House 1st Floor Lobby**

#### Guided Tour of the Vermont State House

Join staff of the State Curator's Office for a tour of the nearby Vermont State House. Learn about the history and current use of the capitol building, an architectural gem with active legislative halls. Highlights include the House and Senate chambers, the Governor's office, the Cedar Creek Reception Room, exhibits about women's suffrage and Abenaki recognition, and portraits of remarkable Vermonters.

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### **Breakout Session 3 - 1:15-2:05**

#### **Montpelier Room at Capitol Plaza**

##### Foundations of Holocaust Education

How do we create impactful and thoughtful learning of the Holocaust with students? In this session, participants explore and gain access to a range of classroom content and consider instructional enhancements to support students' study and reflection of the history of the Holocaust and its ongoing meaning in the world today. Educators will enhance their own knowledge about the Holocaust, including the history of antisemitism, and build confidence and capacity to teach this complex subject. Presented by Esther Hurh, Echoes & Reflections, Educator. 7-12

#### **Snelling Room at the Vermont History Museum**

##### Art as Rebellion: Supporting Justice Pedagogy with Meaningful Arts Integration

How can art make history more relevant and relatable to kids? How can art analysis strengthen media literacy and help students connect past and present struggles for justice? How can we get beyond student artworks as end-of-unit flourish and instead realize their potential for driving inquiry? In this session, we'll work through how we have approached these questions in a course we co-teach at Springfield High School. Participants will critique course materials, experience student activities, examine student work, and have time to consider how to strengthen art integration in their own contexts. Presented by Keegan Harris and Meredith Pelton, Springfield High School. 7-12

## **Pavilion Auditorium at the Pavilion Building**

### Community-Building Listening Circles

Listening Circles are a tool for educators who wish to facilitate thoughtful exchanges among their students without feeling stifled, overwhelmed or out of control. They are structured to promote understanding and to process an event or information and are anchored by a set of agreements and by an artifact related to the topic, which all participants examine before sharing. Ms. Cassel will share tools that she has used while holding Listening Circles about Race, Reproductive Rights, Composting, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, LGBTQ+ issues, and Asian American Stigmatization. However, this design can be used for other complex issues. Presented by Marsha Cassel, Rutland High School, Teacher. K-12

## **Tour of the Vermont History Museum - Meet in the Museum lobby**

### Self-Guided Tour of the Vermont History Museum

Explore the Vermont History Museum and current exhibits at your own pace. The award-winning *Freedom and Unity* exhibit presents a chronological history of the state from the first inhabitants to the present. *A New American Globe: James Wilson of Vermont* highlights Vermont-made globes and related maps. *Common Cracker: The Exhibit* tells the story of the Vermont cracker and the many companies that produced these 19th century diet staples.

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## **Breakout Session 4 - 2:20-3:10**

### **Governors' Ballroom at Capitol Plaza**

#### Freedom and Unity In Words and Pictures: Cartooning A Guide to Vermont Democracy

This lively presentation will discuss the making of Freedom and Unity, A Graphic Guide to Vermont Democracy, a comic book about the past, present, and potential of democracy and civics in Vermont. Learn more about our brave little state, cartooning, and using comics to teach Vermont civics and history. Presented by James Sturm, The Center for Cartoon Studies, Director. 7-12, college

### **Montpelier Room at Capitol Plaza**

#### Westward Expansion: A New History

Join the Choices Program to explore the revised (2021) Westward Expansion: A New History unit which introduces students to the term “settler colonialism” in addition to the idea of “westward expansion” to emphasize the processes of Native removal and the acquisition of land by U.S. settlers. The unit privileges Native voices that are often left out of history and challenges common misconceptions and generalizations. An overview of additional Choices resources that highlight Native perspectives will also be provided. Six-month complimentary Digital Edition license to the Westward Expansion unit is provided. Presented by Mimi Stephens, The Choices Program, Brown University. 7-12, College

## **Snelling Room at the Vermont History Museum**

### Village Simulation: Experiential Civics, Creativity, and Community

Creating a miniature village is an engaging way for pre- and early adolescents to experience civics concepts firsthand while exploring aspects of adult identity. Students develop characters—three-inch people—who build houses, start businesses, and develop roles in the community. As a group, they grapple with questions about governance, individual rights, laws, equity, economics, conflict resolution, and more. Opportunities for student creativity are endless and options abound for interdisciplinary learning, connecting to historical events, and adapting for different ages. Come hear about one teacher's experience leading village simulations and explore how you might try this in your own classroom. Presented by Rebecca Yahm, Pacem School, teacher and homeschool consultant. K-12 with emphasis on middle school

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## **Governors' Ballroom at Capitol Plaza**

### **Raffle & Conclusion - 3:15-3:30**

Raffle items provided by exhibitors.

Return your evaluation form and pick up your attendance certificate.