



2010 Summer Institute for Teachers

A House Divided: 1859-1861

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Summer Institute for Teachers of Grades 4-12

From abolitionist John Brown's execution to the outbreak of the American Civil War, national events were tumultuous and explosive. Brown's ill-fated strike against enslavement of African Americans sparked talk of war, constitutional and states' rights, slavery and secession throughout the United States.

By November 1860 a junior Republican Senator from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln was poised to take office as the 16th President. His election further fueled the political flames over slavery and freedom. South Carolina, in response to his election, officially declared independence from the Union on December 24, 1860. This action started a rapid secession of other southern slave states. Lincoln took office in January. One month later the Confederate States of America was formed. As states seceded and joined this new government they seized federal property and military installations. Many southern politicians and military leaders left their posts with the United States government and began to create their new political identity.

As Americans tried to make sense of the chaotic and changing political landscape, the country continued to catapult towards war. Lincoln's hope was to maintain the Union as his forefathers had designed, but the ever growing tensions between North and South proved too divisive. Decades of argument, opposition, and struggle culminated in an early morning attack in mid-April, 1861 on Fort Sumter. Civil war had begun. Four years of bloodshed, destruction and privation would follow.

This Summer Institute provides teachers (grades 4-12) with the opportunity to explore and understand this defining period of history and its lasting impact on the American story. During one week of intensive study, twenty-five participants will learn how to effectively incorporate the study of this time period into their teaching. Participants will experience history firsthand and hands-on throughout the week long institute.

When will the institute take place? June 27-July 2, 2010 at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

What benefits will participants receive? All participants will receive:

- Books and other teaching resource materials
- Field Trips to sites in Harpers Ferry National Historic Park and other historic areas
- Three hours of graduate C&I credit are available from Shepherd University (Cost of \$105)
- The opportunity to network and share ideas with other educators

What must participants do? Participants must attend and participate in the one week Summer Institute.

Who is eligible? Any teacher of grades 4-12 who will have the opportunity to incorporate the study of this time period into their classroom instruction.

Want to participate? Fill out the attached application form and have it signed by your school administrator.

When is the deadline? Applications must be postmarked no later than April 9, 2010. Applicants chosen to participate will be notified by the week of May 10, 2010.

For additional information: Please contact: Amber Kraft, Education Specialist at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park at 304-535-6293 or by e-mail at Amber_Kraft@nps.gov

APPLICATION TO TEACHER INSTITUTE

A House Divided: 1859-1861

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

June 27-July 2, 2010

Application deadline is Friday, April 9, 2010

I. General Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Have you attended history institutes at Harpers Ferry NHP in the past? _____

How did you find out about this year's summer institute for teachers? _____

Courses and grade levels you will teach next school year:

Grade level: _____

Course(s) taught: _____

How long have you been a teacher? _____

II. School Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

County: _____

School Phone: _____ School Fax _____

How many field trips do you take with your class each year? _____

How many of those field trips are to historical sites? _____

III. Teacher Information

Please respond to the following statements by checking the best answer. Please check only one answer for each question. Thank you!

1. I feel proficient in my content knowledge specifically related to the history of the US from 1859-1861.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

2. I understand how the events of 1895-1861 are relevant to my curriculum.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

3. To better meet your needs, please rate your comfort level with teaching the historical significance of 1859-1861:

- Very Uncomfortable
- Somewhat Uncomfortable
- Uncomfortable
- Comfortable
- Somewhat Comfortable
- Very Comfortable

Give an example of a lesson, an activity or a technique that you have used in your classroom to make history exciting and relevant for your students:

Check all the types of resources below that you use to assist in your teaching.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Teacher instructional materials/guides | <input type="checkbox"/> | Posters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student materials | <input type="checkbox"/> | CD-ROMS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Teacher websites | <input type="checkbox"/> | Videos or DVDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student websites | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hands-on activities | | |

What learning style do you prefer? (Check all that apply)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Listening | <input type="checkbox"/> | Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Watching | <input type="checkbox"/> | Doing |

What do you hope to achieve by participating in this teacher's institute?

Do you have any special needs when participating in this institute?

If you are chosen to participate, how will you share your new knowledge and resources about the significance of the events leading up to the Civil War with your students and your teaching colleagues?

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Endorsement signature of your school administrator: _____

Title: _____ Phone: _____

This application should be postmarked no later than **April 9, 2010** and sent to:

Amber Kraft
Education Specialist
Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
PO Box 65
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425