12th Annual Constitution Day Conference: Resources for Teachers, K-12

September 10, 2016

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Simi Valley, California

Sponsored by:
Welcome and Opening: 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.
Presidential Learning Center

Welcome and Introductions
Pledge of Allegiance
Christian Lindke, Program Director, Arsalyn Program
Anthony Pennay, Director, Walter & Leonore Presidential Annenberg Learning Center
Michelle M. Herczog, Ed.D., Consultant III, History-Social Science, Los Angeles County Office of Education

After Scalia: The Future of United States Election Law
Rick Hasen
Chancellor's Professor of Law and Political Science
University of California, Irvine
School of Law

Break: 9:45 – 10:00 a.m.

Session One: 10:00 – 10:50 a.m.

Still Looking Good After 226 Years!
Grades: K-5
For 226 years, the constitution has embodied the spirit of our democratic society. Even our youngest learners can understand and develop an appreciation for this important document. Participants will learn field test strategies that integrate both the Common Core ELA and the C3 Framework. These hands-on, student-centered activities promote a deep awareness of our country’s foundation, cultivate awareness and engagement in our future citizenry, and ensure our Constitution will look just as good for the next 226 years!

Cathy Marston
Teacher, Sutherland Elementary, Glendora Unified School District

Cops and Kids: Working Together for Peace on the Streets
Grades: 6-8
How can we bring police officers and young people together to improve police-community relations? Learn how to do that while teaching students about the scope and limits of police authority and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Participants receive free lesson materials and inquiry-based learning ideas for students.

Gregorio Medina
Senior Program Director
Constitutional Rights Foundation

Location: Roosevelt Room

Presidential Elections
Grades: 9-12
Each presidential election cycle presents the opportunity to examine how we elect our president. The 4 lesson unit provided, can be used as part of a specific unit of study or can be infused throughout the fall term leading up to the election. It is strongly recommended that a mock election be held prior to the actual election. Participants will receive free access to all the lessons and directions for a mock election.

Maria Gallo, Director of Professional Development and Special Programs
Center for Civic Education

Location: Air Force One Board Room

California State Civic Award Winner Showcase
Grades: K-12
Hear from administrators, teachers and students from the 2015 California Civic Learning Award Winning Schools. The Civic Learning Award for California public high schools, co-sponsored by California Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, spotlights successful efforts to engage students in civic learning and identify models that can be replicated in other schools. Learn how your school can be next year’s Civic Learning Award Winner.

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Bellflower High School
Bellflower Unified School District

Natomas Pacific Pathways Preparatory
Middle/High School
Natomas Unified School District

AWARD OF DISTINCTION
Royal High School
Simi Valley Unified School District

Oak Grove Middle School
Jamul Dulzura Union School District

AWARD OF MERIT
Canyon High School
William S. Hart Union High School District

Golden Valley High School
William S. Hart Union High School District

Location: Presidential Learning Center
How Should We Choose People for Positions of Authority?
Grades: 4-5

Students learn that under our system of government citizens have to choose people for positions of authority. It is important to know how to choose well. This lesson helps students to identify the requirements of a position of authority and the qualifications a person should possess to fill that position. Free materials for participants.

Maria Gallo, Director of Professional Development and Special Programs
Center for Civic Education

Location: Air Force One Board Room

Shared Values & Competing Perspectives... in Middle School?
Grades: 6-8

“Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom.” Such is the wisdom of Ben Franklin. What would he want middle school students to understand about liberty? What are the shared American values critical to democracy? How are competing political perspectives that emphasize different values important to forming effective policies? Materials are available free on the USC CALIS Activities Database, your digital file cabinet of classroom resources. Builds toward other session: Know Thy Candidates, Know Thyself!

Bridget Cruz Brown, Literacy Coach, Grades 6-8
Hawthorne Middle School, Hawthorne School District

Manuel Meza, US History Teacher, Grade 8
Carson Middle School, Hawthorne School District

Teresa Hudock, Director, USC CALIS
USC CALIS: School of International Relations

Location: Roosevelt Room

Bringing History into the Election
Grades: 6-12

This session will explore resources and strategies to help students understand significant issues of the election within their appropriate historical context.

Shelley Brooks
Historian, California History-Social Science Project
University of California, Davis

Location: Discovery Center Classroom

Elections, Money, and the First Amendment: To Reform or Not to Reform
Grades: 9-12

For more than a century, Americans have debated the role money plays in elections. The controversial Citizens United Supreme Court decision in 2010 has allowed more money to flood into political campaigns today than ever before. What, if anything, should we do about this? Participants will learn how to engage students in interactive discussions to help them grapple with this most important election-centered question.

Damon Huss
Senior Editor and Curriculum Specialist
Constitutional Rights Foundation

Location: Jefferson Room

Our Undemocratic Constitution

The Constitution was a product of hard fought experience in self-government that yielded invaluable lessons about the frailties of human nature, and that a government of the people requires limits on popular power. Today, in our very democratic age, Americans’ respect for constitutional limits on popular power is eroding, replaced by a desire for unfettered majority rule. A careful study of the Constitution reminds us that interested majorities still endanger our rights, property, and liberty.

Zachary Courser, Ph.D.
Visiting Assistant Professor of Government, Research Director, Dreier Roundtable
Claremont McKenna College

Location: Presidential Learning Center

Lunch: 11:50 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Plenary Session: 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Presidential Learning Center

Introducing the 2016 California History-Social Science Framework

Ilene W. Straus, Ed.D.
Vice-President
California State Board of Education

Stephanie Gregson
Director, Curriculum Frameworks & Instructional Resources Division
Executive Director, Instructional Quality Commission
California Department of Education

Beth Slutsky, Ph.D.
Department of History
California History-Social Science Project
UC Davis

Marshall Croddy
President
Constitutional Rights Foundation

Rob Vicario
Coordinator, History-Social Science
Instructional Services
Orange County Department of Education

Break: 1:30 – 1:40 p.m.

Session Three: 1:40 – 2:30 p.m.

Road to the White House: Election 2016
Grades: K-5
Bring this year's historic 2016 election into your classroom with the just released The Road to the White House: Election 2016 unit from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation’s Education team.

- Engage students in the 2016 Election through civic-minded activities and discussion
- Build confidence implementing the Gold Standard of Project-Based Learning (PBLs) into the classroom
- Analyze primary source documents from the National Archives and Presidential Library

Rebekah Harding, Outreach Manager
Annenberg Presidential Learning Center
Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation

Location: Roosevelt Room

Washington’s Rebuke to Bigotry
Grades: 7-12
What role does freedom of religion play in our democracy - historically and today? Using a historic letter exchange between George Washington and the Hebrew congregation of Newport, RI as well as scholarly interpretation and responses to that exchange, explore the relevance of these letters today. Session will model close reading strategies.

Dan Alba
Senior Program Associate
Facing History and Ourselves

Location: Air Force One Board Room

The American Jury: Guardian of Our Rights
Grades: 6-12
The American jury has served as a champion of safeguards for the public and protector of liberties for many years. Automobiles, the practice of medicine and many consumer products are safer because of American juries. Businesses are held accountable because of American juries. We are stronger because of American juries. Join us for a discussion and dissection of key civil cases that have shaped our society.

Lewis R. Sifford
2007 ABOTA National President

Location: Jefferson Room

Air Force One Discovery Center
Grades: 5-12
The Air Force One Discovery Center is an award-winning, immersive, educational experience designed to inspire the next generation of student leaders. It is available for 5th-12th grade groups. The Discovery Center allows participants to face the responsibilities and challenges faced by the Executive Branch, military, and media. You will have the opportunity to role play in a realistic, interactive environment. As an educational experience, the Discovery Center aims to meet multiple History/Social Science and English Language Arts standards. The curriculum is centered around the California Content Standards and Frameworks.

Location: Air Force One Pavilion, 1st Floor

Teaching the 2016 Presidential Election – Overcoming Bias with Critical Thinking
Grades: 5-12
Many people in the United States vote for candidates based on uninformed or misinformed views. Learning how to weigh and consider candidates and issues requires critical thinking. This presentation will show Constitution Day attendees how people typically make election decisions, how to improve that process with critical thinking, and how to teach that process to students. We will also explore some recommended online voter resources, including ProCon.org, to help cement best practices.

Kamy Akhavan
President & Managing Editor
ProCon.org

Location: Presidential Learning Center
### Religious Diversity in California: History and Deliberation

**Grades: 6-8**

The First Amendment begins, “Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof . . . .” What do these words mean? In this session, participants examine California’s rich religious diversity. Participants will also take part in a deliberation on a controversial issue of religious freedom, addressing Common Core State Standards while helping students learn to live peaceably with some of their deepest differences.

_Damon Huss_  
_Director, California Three Rs Project_

**Location:** Jefferson Room

### Road to the White House: Election 2016

**Grades: 6-12**

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_Anthony Pennay, Director of Education_  
_Annenberg Presidential Learning Center_  
_Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation_

**Location:** Presidential Learning Center

### Know Thy Candidates, Know Thyself!

**Grades: 9-12**

Knowledge is power, but what motivates civic action? Our goal is to demystify issues and options. If Presidential candidates are polar opposites, what is the best path forward? Equipped with analytical tools, students can clearly articulate their own political perspective and evaluate the merit of competing views. Materials are free on the USC CALIS Activities Database, your digital file cabinet of classroom resources. Builds upon other session: Shared Values & Competing Perspectives… in Middle School?

_Christina Goodman, Teacher, High School Social Studies_  
_Northridge Academy High, LAUSD/Arsalyn/USC CALIS_

_Teresa Hudock, Director, USC CALIS_  
_USC CALIS; School of International Relations_

**Location:** Roosevelt Room

### Air Force One Discovery Center

**Grades: 5-12**

The Air Force One Discovery Center is an award-winning, immersive, educational experience designed to inspire the next generation of student leaders. It is available for 5th-12th grade groups. The Discovery Center allows participants to face the responsibilities and challenges faced by the Executive Branch, military, and media. You will have the opportunity to role play in a realistic, interactive environment. As an educational experience, the Discovery Center aims to meet multiple History/Social Science and English Language Arts standards. The curriculum is centered around the California Content Standards and Frameworks.

**Location:** Air Force One Pavilion, 1st Floor

### 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

**Self-Guided Tour of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library**

### Constitution Day Committee

_Christian Lindke_  
_Arsalyn Program of_  
_Ludwick Family Foundation_

_Damon Huss_  
_Constitutional Rights Foundation_

_Maria Gallo_  
_Center for Civic Education_

_Michelle Herczog, Ed.D._  
_Division of Curriculum and Instructional Services_  
_Los Angeles County Office of Education_

_Anthony Pennay and Rebekah Harding_  
_Walter & Leonore Annenberg Presidential Learning Center_  
_The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation_
STUDENT Mock ELECTION

OCTOBER 11, 2016

MyVote California Student Mock Election
Registration is now open!

HOSTED BY

ALEX PADILLA
CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

TOM TORLAKSON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

School Registration and Resources at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/student-mock-election
Contact the MyVote California Student Mock Election Team at MyVote@sos.ca.gov or (916)651-3070