

## Conference Schedule

7:45 a.m.— 8:30 a.m.

Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:45 a.m.—9:00 a.m.

Welcome/Introduction of the NEW Vermont Social Studies Educator Network!

9:00 a.m.—9:45 a.m.

Keynote Speaker: VPR's Nina Keck

9:45—10:00 a.m.

Exhibits/Break

10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Session I

11:00 a.m.—11:15 a.m.

Exhibits/Break

11:15 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

Session II

12:15 p.m.—12:30 p.m.

Exhibits/Break

12:30 a.m.—1:45 p.m.

Lunch/Business Meeting/Raffle

1:45 p.m.—2:00 p.m.

Exhibits/Break

2:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Session III

Check out this year's elementary and integrated workshops as well as a presentation by Vermont's Teacher of the Year!

# Vermont Alliance for the Social Studies

## 16th Annual Conference

### Making Sense of the World

December 4, 2009  
8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
The Sheraton  
Burlington, Vermont

<http://www.vermontsocialstudies.org/>



## Keynote Speaker: Nina Keck from Vermont Public Radio

### SESSION I

**Picturing the Past: Using Picture Books in the History Class (K-12)** Participants will have the opportunity to try out two picture book activities that have worked well with both elementary and high school students. "The Escape of Oney Judge" complicates our notions of liberty at the time of the American Revolution while "Giants in the Land" reveals a Vermont landscape we have only imagined. We'll also share some of our favorite picture books that connect to the U.S. History curriculum. *Presenters: Marge Brusetti, Grade 5 teacher, Barre Town Elementary School; Karen Heath, Literacy Specialist, Barre Supervisory Union; Sarah Rooker, Flow of History*

**Follow the Food: An Appetizing Way to Teach World History (5-12)** With the intention of finding a way to help students learn more and forget less, this teaching approach allows the stomach to engage the brain in our study of human experience. All human activity is fueled by food. We will ponder the endless ways that food and food choices have changed the course of humankind. Take a nibble or feast away at the possibilities of applying this approach to the courses you teach. This tasty methodology leads to higher order thinking, enduring understandings and lots of bad puns. Students eat this up. Food will be served. *Presenter: Chris O'Donnell, CVU*

**Mashup Mania (5 - 12)** You and your students can create dynamic web maps! Use the power of free web-based tools to create and share local knowledge and information. *Presenter: Leslie Pelch, VT Center for Geographic Information*

**Creating Educational Songs For Social Studies (9-16)** Writing songs in the classroom is a creative and interactive way to learn social studies content. This clinic trains teachers to create songs with their students based on social studies curriculum standards. There will be a brief demonstration of the educational songwriting process. Participants will then work in small groups to write songs based on their content interests. Participants can either

write song parodies (lyrics set to existing melodies) or original melodies created by the group. Songs will be a cappella and no instrumentation or musical experience is necessary. Performance of songs is encouraged but not required. *Presenter: Jerry Appell, Rock in the Classroom*

**Conflict Resolution: "The Troubles" in Northern Ireland (5 - 16)** Conflict resolution through "The Troubles" in Northern Ireland will demonstrate investigative techniques for student use in exposing controversial aspects of both sides of the situation in Northern Ireland. Audio and video files will be made available for you and your students. Proven techniques will demonstrate how students will be challenged to 'think' their way through the web of difficulties involved in "The Troubles". Participant participation will be encouraged. Results from the workshop will be sent for use in Northern Ireland Cross Community exercises. *Presenter: Bill Holiday, Brattleboro Union High School*



### SESSION 2

**Stereotypes through Drama (K-8)** Teaching the "colonization of America" routinely brings up images of heathen savages and weapon-wielding colonists. Workshop participants will experience drama activities—easily adaptable to the 3-8 classroom—to dispel these stereotypes and deepen students' connections to real people who lived in the past. Drawing from a unit done with great success in Tess Bashaw's grade 5-6 class at Folsom Education Center in South Hero with Flynn Center teaching artist Kim Jordan, this workshop is certain to demonstrate the power of interdisciplinary lessons combining drama with social studies. *Presenter: Joan Robinson, The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts*

**The Many Faces of Resistance: Opposition in Central and Eastern Europe, 1945-1991 (9 – 16)**

Opposition to the communist regimes existed in Eastern Europe from the start of the Iron Curtain.

The type of resistance varied in each country and over time and played an integral role in dismantling the communist regimes of Eastern Europe. Students will learn about the role that individuals



and groups can play in creating change as well as the various types of resistance by making speeches, participating in debates, and writing persuasive essays. Instruction includes making use of a PowerPoint presentation, viewing online videos, listening to music, and reading primary sources. *Presenter: Craig Divis (Vermont's Teacher of the Year!), Bellows Falls Union High School*

**We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution (5 – 12)**

The "We the People" curriculum materials are aligned with Vermont's standards, are written for three different levels, and are age appropriate and easy to manage. This workshop will demonstrate lessons from the materials and provide you with information on further training and how to obtain class sets free of charge. *Presenter: Keith Pillsbury, We the People*

**Perspectives on Hiroshima and Nagasaki (9 – 16)**

As Americans we often forget how our actions and inactions impact the lives of people around the world. This presentation will focus on the different perspectives of the atomic bomb drop on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Lesson ideas, resources, literature, art, and an in-depth discussion of how this event can be used in the classroom to promote a greater worldview of historical events will also be featured. *Presenter: Erica Svatek, Ichabod Crane High School*

**Citizenship and Community: Sustainability in the Middle Grades (K – 8)**

What is sustainability and how can we use it to develop integrated, meaningful experiences for grades 3-6? We'll share

two case studies from the fourth and fifth grade at The Sustainability Academy to help provide the context and tools for integrating citizenship, community, and sustainability into your unit development and your classroom. Join Kellie Smith (4/5 teacher), Anne Tewksbury-Frye (Sustainability Coach), Sarah Kadden (Sustainable Schools Project Educator), and some students from the fifth grade for this exciting, hands-on, participatory workshop. *Presenter: Anne Tewksbury-Frye, The Academy of Sustainability at Lawrence Barnes*

**SESSION 3**

**Get the Picture?: Child Labor Seen Through the Eyes of Lewis Hine (K – 8)**

This workshop will illustrate the integration of social studies and technology into a thematic project. Reading, writing, singing, and acting are also in the mix. You will learn how to record student narratives, convert photos to black and white or sepia, and to combine this material to create a movie using Roxio Creator 2009. I will share the final product of my collaboration with a third grade class that studied child labor-yesterday and today. The class worked with primary source photos and journal entries. My presentation will emphasize a kid centered project, primary source photos, and teacher collaboration. *Presenter: Lisa Cacciatore, Castleton Elementary*

**Let's Go To Europe! (K – 12)**

This workshop will provide resources and activities to implement the 2009-10 Geography theme of Mapping Europe. Participants will experience hands-on activities for K-12. *Presenters: Mary Cassarino, Charles Dabritz, Vermont Geographic Alliance*

**Peace One Day: A Global Curriculum (5 – 12)**

The Peace One Day Educational Curriculum aims to advance active learning in the areas of conflict resolution, global citizenship, human rights and the link between sustainability and peace using Peace Day September 21



as the focus. Participants will view a short version of Jeremy Gilley's Peace One Day documentary,

learn about the meaningful Peace One Day activities used in schools, participate in a Peace One Day activity, and find out how to get their own free copy of the curriculum and DVD. *Presenter: Aron Merrill, Williston Central School*



**Cuban Culture and the Embargo (5 – 12)**

This workshop will be facilitated by four teachers who recently spent a week in Cuba studying the culture, education, and healthcare system of Cuba. We will begin with a brief presentation on Cuban culture and the website created by teacher participants including lesson plans. We will finish with a panel discussion on the Cuban embargo. *Presenters: Lindsay Levesque and Karen Henry, Brattleboro Union High School*

**Using Global Cases to Study Gender and Race (9 – 16)**

Using my experience of traveling in East Africa, India, Nepal, and China the presentation shares personal experiences on methods of engaging students regarding cultural differences in the ways both gender and sexuality are defined and displayed. Greater awareness of cultural difference expands learners' options and increases awareness of prejudice. Session benefits those seeking tools to advance the understanding of gender, race and other social issues in relation to power and privilege in the US. *Presenter: Sherwood Smith, UVM*

**Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center**

VASS has a block of 15 rooms reserved for \$99. To reserve your room, contact Sarah Howrigan or Sarah Murray at 802-865-6693.

**DEADLINE:** November 27th

**Registration Form**

**Fees (breakfast, lunch, and snacks included):**

**Pre-registration received by November 20th—\$80**

**After November 23rd or by Purchase Order—\$90**

**Students—\$35**

Name

School/Place of Employment

Address

Email

Phone

**Make Checks Payable to:**  
Vermont Alliance for the Social Studies

**Mail Registration Form to:**  
James Kiehle  
463 Abbott Road  
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

**For more information** contact John Peterson at 802.770.1013 or [jpeterson@rutlandhs.k12.vt.us](mailto:jpeterson@rutlandhs.k12.vt.us)