



# NEWSLETTER

Reserve the DATE!  
The Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies will be holding the Fall Conference at the Duchesne Academy, Omaha. The date of the conference is October 19, 2013.



## President's Thoughts

*Thoughts from NSCSS President Heidi C. Reinhart*

Dear NSCSS Colleagues,

As I begin my term as your Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies president, I am hopeful about the future of Social Studies in our schools. Certainly there are concerns about the emphasis placed on other subject areas at the expense of Social Studies, however the interest in the recent creation of new State standards served to remind us of how important our jobs really are. According to the National Council for the Social Studies, "Because the subjects that compose social studies touch upon cultural, societal and political topics, social studies generates the most controversy when decisions are made regarding what is taught to students. It is important, therefore, that the development of standards for social studies relies on strong scholarship rather than politics."

I wholeheartedly agree. We as teachers need to protect the Social Studies, both the in the amount of time and energy that our discipline receives in the curriculum as well as protect quality teaching from any group that would rather we teach our students what to think than how to think. The excellent Social Studies teachers that I have met in this great State need to be allowed to do their jobs, including creating effective citizens that can analyze every angle of an issue and take part in civil discourse that leads our country to solutions for problems at home and abroad.

Your State Council is here to serve Nebraska teachers

and enable them to do just that. Through our annual conference and newsletters that keep teachers informed of professional development opportunities the Council plans to maintain the high standards that we have for many years. Looking to the future, we are hosting a conference on March 23rd that will allow teachers the opportunity to gather and discuss the new standards, as well as hear from our professional organizations around the State regarding lesson plans to implement the standards. We are looking into increasing advocacy, improving our technology and using technology to find ways to bring our programs to Social Studies teachers across the great State of Nebraska. It is an exciting time in Social Studies and the leadership of the Nebraska State Council for the Social is committed to serving the teachers of Nebraska in any way that we can in these most important efforts.



Sincerely,  
Heidi C. Reinhart  
President

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically... Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.

~Martin Luther King Jr.

### State Board of Education Adopts New Social Studies Standards



On December 7th, 2012, the Nebraska State School Board adopted new State Social Studies Standards. The yearlong process began with a committee of fifty K-16 educators meeting and creating early drafts. Draft standards were reviewed and refined by an editing team and a State School Board sub-committee. In May and again in November, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) held public forums at locations across the state. The purpose of the forums was to gather public input about the draft standards. NDE also created an online survey about the standards and received over one-thousand responses. In addition, a citizen group created their own alternative standards which they encouraged the State Board of Education to adopt. The standards underwent many revisions as a result of the information gathered by these processes.

For the first time in over a decade, schools districts and social studies teachers have a new set of social studies standards. The structure of these standards is organized as K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th grades and two grade bands. The grade bands are 6-8 for middle school and 9-12 for high school. The standards are arranged by the four core areas of: Civics, Economics, Geography and History. The Economics area includes standards on financial literacy.

School districts have begun the process of reviewing and comparing their local school district social studies standards to the new state social studies standards. These reviews are being done at the school, district and ESU levels. School Districts have until December 7th, 2013 to either adopt the state's social studies standards or create standards of their own that are more rigorous than the state social studies standards.

The standards are arranged in a vertical or horizontal version. To view the new state social studies standards can be found at the following web address: [www.education.ne.gov/SS/](http://www.education.ne.gov/SS/)



### Union Pacific Summer Economics Seminar

Mark your calendars, June 11 - 12, 2013

The Annual Union Pacific Economics Teacher Seminar will be back again this summer. Watch later this semester for details regarding the UNO Center for Economic Education's popular summer seminar focusing on teaching economics. The seminar, open to all social studies and business teachers

features topical speakers on the US and World economies as well as featuring teaching resources for the classroom. Speakers, stipends, tours, lunches, and great presentations return. Space is limited so look for registration materials in early May and get you reservation in as soon as you can. For more information: [ecedweb.unomaha.edu](http://ecedweb.unomaha.edu)

**Nebraska State Social Studies Standards Conference****Date:** March 23, 2013**Location:** ESU #10, 76 Plaza Blvd, Kearney, Nebraska**Time:** 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Includes a light breakfast and lunch)**Who should attend?** Middle and High School Social Studies Teachers*Photo by Erv Nichols and Rowe***Why Attend?***Volunteer*

1. Gain hands-on practice using lessons designed to meet the new State Social Studies Standards.
2. Examples will be provided of how to teach multiple standards in lessons that provide in-depth and engaging learning.
3. Share and exchange lessons and materials designed to the new state social studies standards.
4. View Sandhills Cranes and visit with a crane expert.
5. \$75.00 stipend for teachers that attend and complete a follow-up questionnaire.

**Cost:** \$25.00/teacher deposit required. The \$25.00 deposit will be returned after attending the conference.**Transportation Options:**

1. A coach bus will leave from Omaha and stop to pick up teachers along I-80 as it travels to Kearney. The bus has a limit of 54 teachers.
2. Teachers that bring three other teachers in their vehicle can apply for a \$50.00 travel stipend. The teachers must live at least 40 miles from Kearney.
3. Teachers are welcome to drive on their own to the conference.

**Content Areas:** Sessions will be offered in the areas of: Civics, Economics, Geography and History

**To register** simply go to this site and click on the registration button. <http://www.education.ne.gov/SS/>  
 After registration, you should receive a follow-up email from NDE within a few days.

**For more details** feel free to contact:

Harris Payne, Director of Social Studies, Nebraska Department of Education

[harris.payne@nebraska.org](mailto:harris.payne@nebraska.org) 402.471.2449**Maximum Number** of Participants: 150Funding and support for this conference has been provided by the following generous organizations:

Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies (NSCSS)

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City/Omaha

Educational Service Unit #10

Iain Nicolson Center at Rowe Sanctuary

Library of Congress

Nebraska Council on Economic Education

Geographic Educators of Nebraska (GEON)

Nebraska Department of Education

Stanford History Group

Nebraska Bar Association

Creighton University Asia Studies Center

Nebraska Wesleyan University



### Is Capitalism Good for the Poor?

Please join us for a fascinating one day teacher seminar that uses economic reasoning to analyze the impact of capitalist institutions on the well-being of the world's poor.

Date: Thursday, May 30, 2013

Time: 8:30 am to 3:30 PM

Location: Nebraska Club, 233 S. 13th, 20 floor, Lincoln

Stipends: Nebraska teachers will receive a \$50 stipend

Refundable deposit required: \$25

The lesson plans and student activities in *Is Capitalism Good for the Poor?* (CAP) have been carefully designed and written by distinguished economists, including a Nobel Laureate, award winning curriculum writers, and classroom teachers to engage students in discussions and study of some of the most important economic issues of

our time. The title question is intentionally provocative to stir interest and thought, and the answer—yes or no—depends on the particular features of a nation's institutions and how we measure and perceive poverty. Poverty, capitalism, economic growth, income distribution, markets, property rights, rule of law, and moral values are among the many topics addressed.

This teacher seminar is appropriate for all middle and high school social studies, business, family consumer science or other interested teacher.

Please register at [www.nebraskacouncil.org](http://www.nebraskacouncil.org)

Please contact Jennifer Davidson at 402-472-2333 or [jdavidson@nebraskacouncil.org](mailto:jdavidson@nebraskacouncil.org) with any questions.



### The Clarice Smith National Teacher Institutes July 8 - 12 and July 29 - August 2, 2013

Calling all social studies, history, and English/language arts teachers!

We are now accepting applications for the 2013 Clarice Smith National Teacher Institutes. These week-long summer institutes present an exciting opportunity to explore connections among American art, technology, and your curricula with colleagues from across the country.

We welcome applications from core subject teachers for grades 6 - 12 as individuals or as part of a team. Priority will be given to social studies, history, and English/language arts teachers.

The deadline for applications is Monday, April 1, 2013. For more information about the Institute and to apply, visit: <http://americanart.si.edu/education/dev/cs/>.



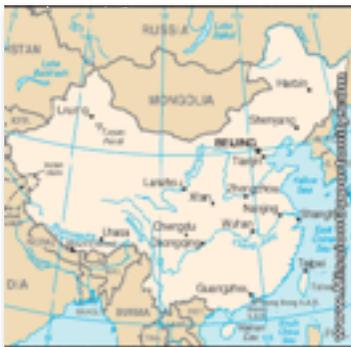
### Korean History, Culture & Cuisine | July 29 - August 2, 2013

Culture Korea Kafe. Explore Korean history and culture through presentations from prominent scholars, performances, and meals featuring delicious traditional foods. Participants in this seminar presented by the Korea Cultural Center in Los Angeles will receive lessons and other resources and have the opportunity to network with educators from throughout the United States.

Seminars are limited to only 60 educators so we may better serve you! Out of town/state educators may apply for our Fellowship Program to cover travel and hotel costs. For more information, visit the Korea Cultural Center website at [www.koreaacademy.org](http://www.koreaacademy.org) or contact Daniel Lee at [daniellee721@yahoo.com](mailto:daniellee721@yahoo.com).



### Summer Teaching Program in China | July 11 - August 3, 2013



Teachers and college students majoring in education are eligible for this summer program in China sponsored by International Partnerships in Education. Participants will spend 14 days in Guangzhou, working to help Chinese elementary, middle, and high school students improve their

English skills. In addition, participants will enjoy a three-day cultural tour of Beijing. Most expenses covered.

For more information: [www.ipie.us](http://www.ipie.us)



## NCTA Summer Institute: Re-inventing Japan: Teaching about 21st Century Issues and Trends. University of Colorado Boulder, July 9-17, 2013

The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) and Program for Teaching East Asia (TEA) at the University of Colorado invite application the summer 2013 residential summer institute on contemporary Japan. The 2013 institute is open to secondary teachers nationwide who teach about Asia. The institute is also designed to provide enrichment for teachers who have previously completed an NCTA seminar. Teachers selected to participate receive a travel stipend to defray transportation costs, a full housing/meal package, institute texts, and teaching resources. The program is 20 teachers; applications are reviewed by a selection panel. Application deadline is March 15, 2013; notification date is April 4, 2013.

### Institute Overview

In the first years of the 21st century, Japan struggled with persistent and critical challenges, including economic stagnation, an aging population, disaffected youth, and

crippling governmental stalemates. Then, in March 2011, the “triple tragedy” of earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear meltdown struck. The nation’s efforts to address the immediate crisis brought long-term issues into new focus. Many observers cite 2011 as a turning point, providing both an opportunity and imperative for Japanese to reappraise their present and forge new directions for the future. This institute considers challenges facing Japan today and offers perspectives on Japan’s directions in the 21st century. Among the topics to be addressed are 21st-century social trends and challenges, political reform, global Japan, lessons of Japan’s triple tragedy, and new directions in culture, literature, and the arts. The eight-day program offers teachers a unique opportunity to consider how and what to teach about contemporary Japan. Teachers’ work will be informed by lectures and discussions with academic and public policy specialists. The institute will feature a curriculum strand of sessions on

classroom implementation presented by teacher consultants.

Now in its 29th year, the Program for Teaching East Asia is a professional development and curriculum program with the goal of enhancing curriculum and instruction about East Asia in grades K-12. TEA is one of the founding institutions and National Coordinating Sites of the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA), which celebrates 15 years of programming in 2013.

Complete information and application package are available at [www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/programs/downloads/Re-Inventing%20Japan%20Summer%20Institute%20Flyer.pdf](http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/programs/downloads/Re-Inventing%20Japan%20Summer%20Institute%20Flyer.pdf)





## There is No Future Without Memory: Exploring the Holocaust and Social Justice

**Call to Teachers Grades 6-12** ~ Stipend Available ~

June 17 – 21, 2013 9 – 4 daily Lincoln, NE

No cost. Food provided and stipend to help cover transportation.

The purpose of this seminar is to provide opportunities for educators to acquire the tools they need to adequately and completely teach the lessons of the Holocaust to the next generation. Presenters: Katie Elsener, Jane Connealy, and Tom Seib.

1. In a 1-2 page narrative, tell us how your teaching has included Social Justice, and/or specifically the Holocaust, or how you hope to explore these topics in your classroom.
2. Describe your interest and/or education in Holocaust studies
3. Share with us your concerns and questions about teaching the Holocaust/Social Justice.

**Registration deadline: May 1.**

You will be notified of the status of your application no later than May 21, 2013.

Contact: Tom Seib at [tom.seib555@gmail.com](mailto:tom.seib555@gmail.com) for a copy of the brochure and more details.



## The 1960's Upheaval at Home and Abroad Institute. Choices Program July 8-12, 2013

### Apply by Friday, March 15, 2013

The Choices 2013 Summer Leadership Institute will take place at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies. Teachers will hear from leading historians, work with the Choices curriculum units, Freedom Now: The Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi and The Limits of Power: The United States in Vietnam, explore effective strategies for engaging students in the study of the 1960s, and plan for outreach to other educators.

#### Institute Themes

- Multiple views on the impact of the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement in U.S. history
- The civil rights movement's place in the larger history of African-Americans' struggle for equality
- Lessons and legacies of the Vietnam War
- Using Critical Oral Histories to teach about the 1960s
- Immersion in the Choices approach to teaching historical turning points
- Benefits
- Professional growth through content-rich presentations and discussions

- Opportunity to interact with outstanding educators from across the country and share strategies for incorporating the civil rights movement and the Vietnam War into the classroom
- Ideas for using Choices materials to address Common Core Standards and Historical Thinking Skills
- Expansion of leadership skills through the completion of outreach activities in a self-designed Action Plan
- Ongoing support from the Choices Program to conduct professional development activities in your district or region
- Designation and recognition as a Choices Teaching Fellow
- 32-hour certificate of completion
- Meals, housing and reading materials throughout the Institute
- Note: Participants are required to cover their own travel and parking costs (if any) to and from the Institute.
- Requirements
- Attend the Institute in its entirety
- Complete activities listed in your self-designed Action Plan

- Commit to an online discussion on the progress of your activities

Download Application and Supervisor Evaluation

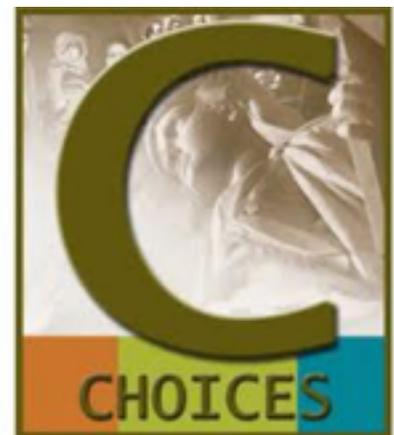
**Completed applications must be received by Friday, March 15.**

Submit applications to:

[Choices@brown.edu](mailto:Choices@brown.edu)

If you have questions, please email Mimi Stephens, Professional Development director.

Notification of selection will be on or before Monday, April 1, 2013.





### 2013 Annual Tribute to the Rescuers High School Essay Contest

Moral courage is the ability to take a strong stance on a specific issue and to defend it based on one's personal beliefs or convictions regardless of danger or threats to personal safety - physical, emotional or otherwise.

Choose and research an individual or group that demonstrated moral courage in a historic or current event. Be sure to discuss the topic with your teacher. Your topic may include individuals or groups in historical events.

**Write an essay including:**

1. Research on your chosen person or group of people and the related historical event(s). Provide cited background information in your essay.
2. A reference or connection to the Holocaust or lessons learned about the Holocaust if your chosen topic is outside the scope of the Holocaust.
3. A description of how the individual/group took a stand against social injustice and exhibited moral courage.

4. A detailed explanation of why this information is meaningful to you. Just learning about the courageous acts of the rescuers is incentive enough to participate, but because we are so excited about this contest, we are offering the following prizes:

Teachers are also eligible for Barnes and Noble gift certificates!

Learn all you need to know at: [ihene.org/essay-contest/](http://ihene.org/essay-contest/)



### 2013 Founders Fellowship: Civil Liberty, Commerce, and the Constitution. Washington, D.C. July 22-26

The Bill of Rights Institute 2013 Founders Fellowship Program is now open for applications! This program consists of five days of rigorous professional development in the Washington D.C., area, intended to deepen participants' understanding of and appreciation for the American Founding, and will focus specifically on the intersection of civil and economic liberty in the Constitution. Participants will receive certificates for 25 seat hours!

Attending teachers will participate in pedagogical sessions and lectures with a master teacher and two Constitutional Scholars, as well as visit the historic homes and monuments of

entrepreneurial Founders including George Washington. The program begins with required pre-conference readings which will be sent to participants in May.

#### Eligibility

- All Social Studies teachers of grades 9-12.
- Applicants must reside and teach in the United States. Program Overview
- Lodging, transportation during the program, and most meals will be covered by the Institute.
- A \$400 travel stipend will be provided at the conclusion of the program.

- An additional \$100 will be available upon completion of all post-program activities.

Participants will be responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from the D.C. area.

#### Application Requirements

All applicants must complete the online application form. All applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM EST on March 26, 2013. For questions, please contact Laura Vlk at [events@BillofRightsInstitute.org](mailto:events@BillofRightsInstitute.org).





**Chadron “2013 Teaching the Holocaust Conference  
Sept. 30 -- Oct. 1 until 12:00**

Teaching the Holocaust sponsored by the Nebraska Holocaust Education Consortium at Chadron State College.

For more information: [www.ihene.org](http://www.ihene.org)



**Omaha Bearing Witness Program on the Holocaust and Contemporary Issues  
June 10 - 13**

An intensive program on the Holocaust, Anti-semitism, and Contemporary issues. Specifically for educators in Catholic Schools.

For more information: [www.ihene.org](http://www.ihene.org)



**Arthur and Rochelle Belfer National Conference for Educator**

2013 Arthur and Rochelle Belfer National Conference for Educators - The Museum's National Institute for Holocaust Education invites middle and high school educators, as well as community college faculty, with less than five years' experience teaching about the Holocaust to apply to attend the 2013 Belfer National Conference. The conference is funded by a grant from the Belfer Foundation.

For more information: [www.ushmm.org/education/foreducators/prodev/belfer/](http://www.ushmm.org/education/foreducators/prodev/belfer/)



**Community religious and spiritual identities**



Ravel/unravel - With RavelUnravel, we're exploring the tapestry of religious and spiritual identities that make up our communities and the complexities of how we construct and deconstruct identity. We invite you to view the stories that make up RavelUnravel and add to the movement by sharing your own.

For more information: [ravelunravel.com/](http://ravelunravel.com/)

## **eCITIZENS: SOCIAL STUDIES ON THE DIGITAL PLAIN SAVE THE DATE—2013 Conference Scheduled!!**



The NSCSS Executive Board is pleased to announce that the annual conference of the Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies will take place on Saturday, October 19, 2013 at Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart in

Omaha.

This year's conference theme is "eCitizens: Social Studies on the Digital Plain." The conference aims to provide social studies educators and pre-service teachers across Nebraska with information and resources on how technology can be utilized to enhance student learning. More information on speakers and breakout sessions coming soon!

Mark your calendars now! We hope to see you in October!



**CURRENT NSCSS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

- President: Heidi Reinhart
- President Elect: Sonya Stejskal
- Past President: Holly Glade
- Treasurer: Bill Hayes
- Recording Secretary:
- Executive Secretary: Richard Brown
- Advisor: Harris Payne (NDE Director of Social Studies)
- Editor:
- Congressional District 1 Reps:
- Congressional District 2 Reps: Andrew Brooks, Michael Young
- Congressional District 3 Reps: Ken Meyer

- Aaron McLaughlin, Professional Assn. Liaison (GEON)
- Donna Walter, Professional Assn. Liaison (Institute for Holocaust Education)
- Jennifer Davidson, Mary Lynn Reiser, Professional Assn. Liaison (Nebraska Council on Economic Education)
- Erin Redemske, Professional Assn. Liaison (Federal Reserve)
- Linda Wojtan, Professional Assn. Liaison (National Consortium for Teaching about Asia )

Ex-Officio Members:

- Barry Thomas, Supervisor Omaha Public School
- John LeFeber, Tech. Implementation and support (Council on Economic Education)



**MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR NSCSS**

**The Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies**

**In Association with the National Council for the Social Studies**

**NSCSS Membership Application Form**

Name:	
Home Phone:	
Home Address:	
School Name:	
Work Phone:	
School District:	
Email address:	

You can also register online at: [www.nebraskasocialstudies.org/php/membership.php](http://www.nebraskasocialstudies.org/php/membership.php)

**Membership Dues: (Membership dues are tax deductible for educators)**

\$15.00 (Regular, one year)	\$10.00 (Student)
\$25.00 (Institutional)	\$50.00 (Lifetime)

Make Checks payable to NSCSS

Mail to: Bill Hayes, NSCSS Treasurer -- 1576 S. 28th Street Lincoln, NE 68502

If a colleague encouraged you to join NCSS, please provide his/her name and member number:

Choose a membership level: New membership or Renewal Member number. Comprehensive: Includes your choice of *Social Education* or *Social Studies and the Young Learner*, plus *Middle Level Learning, TSSP*, and bulletins; Conference discounts and all other membership benefits.

Choose one: Individual \$73 Institution \$98 Regular: Includes your choice of *Social Education* or *Social Studies and the Young Learner*, plus *Middle Level Learning* and *TSSP*; Conference discounts and other membership benefits.

Choose one: Individual \$62 Institution \$82 First Year Teacher: Available to classroom **teachers in their first year** of paid employment as a teacher. Includes benefits of regular membership.

Choose one: **Individual** \$33 Comprehensive \$43 Student or Retired: Includes your choice of *Social Education* or *Social Studies and the Young Learner*, plus *Middle Level Learning* and *TSSP*; Conference discounts and other membership benefits. Available to retired persons and full-time students.

Students must provide the name of the institution and the signature of the instructor. Choose one: Retired \$33 Student \$33

**National Council for Social Studies Membership Application Form**

Name of institution:	
Instructor signature:	
Expected graduation date:	

Choose one journal you wish to receive as a member benefit:

- 7 issues of *Social Education*
- 4 issues of *Social Studies and the Young Learner* plus
- 2 issues (September and May/June of *Social Education*)

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this application with payment to: NCSS Membership  
 P.O. Box 79078  
 Baltimore, MD 21279-0078  
 Phone: 301.588.1800  
 Toll free: 800.296.7840



## Each year the NSCSS recognizes outstanding social studies educators. Please consider nominating a deserving educator.

Six NSCSS members won awards at the 2012 annual fall conference held at Omaha's Buffett Magnet Middle

School. Congratulations to:	<b>GAVIN FLINT</b>	<b>DENNIS FORNANDER</b>
<b>DR. RANDY BERTOLIS</b>	Omaha Bryan Magnet Middle School	North Platte H.S.
Wayne State College	Outstanding Student Teacher Award	3rd District Outstanding Teacher
Paul Beck Outstanding Social Studies Educator	<b>DAVE NEBEL</b>	Award
	Lincoln Southeast H.S.	
<b>MELISSA KANDIDO</b>	1st District Outstanding Teacher Award	
Omaha Beveridge Magnet Middle School	<b>JENNIFER MOYER</b>	
Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Service Learning Award	Omaha King Science & Technology Magnet	
	2nd District Outstanding Teacher Award	

### PAUL BECK AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN SOCIAL STUDIES

This award is in honor of the late Dr. Paul Beck who was a professor of history at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Dr. Beck was the consummate professor who not only excelled in the university setting, but he was also a true friend to the social studies teachers in public and private education. He is a past president of the NSCSS and one of its founding fathers. Any college/university professor or teacher at the public or private level is eligible for this award.

### NSCSS OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

The Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies also recognizes one outstanding social studies educator in each of the three legislative districts.

### NSCSS OUTSTANDING STUDENT TEACHER AWARD

Each spring the Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies recognizes the quality work of Nebraska Social Studies student teachers.

### NSCSS PRESIDENT CARTER SERVICE LEARNING AWARD

The purpose of this award is to recognize teachers and students for their efforts in service learning. Service learning goes beyond community service to include background knowledge and research of an issue that students can connect to. Projects should examine not only the current status of the community issue, but should also include a study of the causes and the potential solutions the problem.

The recommendation form for all of these awards can be found on the Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies web page -- the address for that page is [www.nebraskasocialstudies.org](http://www.nebraskasocialstudies.org)

You can also go directly to the listing of the awards by going to [www.nebraskasocialstudies.org/awards.html](http://www.nebraskasocialstudies.org/awards.html)