
JOB POSTING
Becoming America Project
Teacher Participants

Background:

Becoming America: The Defining Role of Immigration is a five-year project funded by the federal Teaching American History grant program to increase teacher content knowledge in American History. Teachers in Braintree, Chelsea, Everett, Malden and Medford are being recruited to participate in year 2 of the Becoming America Project which will begin in August 2010 with a summer institute in American history that will be conducted in New York City.

Five teachers from Medford will be selected to receive over eighty-one hours of professional development in American history from August 2010- May 2011. The theme of year 2 is *how immigrants fought for American citizenship*, with a focus on the time period of 1840- 1912. Professional development will take the form of (1) attendance in a summer institute, (2) participation in eight, two-hour, district-based, afterschool, fall seminars led by university historians, (3) participation in nine, afterschool workshops designed to instruct participating teachers in the development of a classroom lesson in American history using primary source materials.

Other partners involved in year two of this grant include various national historic sites, societies, museums, and libraries in the Boston area that teachers will visit in their search for primary sources as they develop their classroom lessons. These partners include the American Antiquarian Society, Archives and Records for the City of Boston, Boston African American National Historic Site, Boston Public Library, Ellis Island Institute, Ellis Island Museum, Lawrence History Center/Immigrant City Archives and Museum, Massachusetts State Library and Archives, Museum of Fine Arts, National Archives and Records Administration, National Heritage Museum, New York City Tenement Museum, Schlesinger Library at Harvard and the South End House Collection.

Participant Qualifications/Requirements:

Teachers must be willing to develop American history lessons for grades 3, 5, 8 or at the high school level, since American history is a state and district curriculum requirement at those grade levels. Participating teachers must:

- participate in two afterschool orientation sessions in June, 2010, with accompanying online activities
- attend the summer institute in New York City during August 16– 19, 2010
- attend eight, two-hour (4 p.m. – 6 p.m.), district-based, afterschool fall seminars led by university historians, with an electronic response requirement for assigned readings
- attend nine, afterschool workshops in the development of an American history classroom lesson
- visit selected partner institutions for research activities as needed(2 visits minimum)
- use electronic communication (wikispace) to maintain contact among participants and project continuity
- create a classroom lesson in American history using primary sources
- implement the lesson with a class, using a matched-comparison model designed by the project evaluator, with pre-and post-test components
- attend a one-day showcase event from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. in May 2011 that highlights teachers' work

Remuneration:

Each participating teacher will receive:

- **\$1,800 stipend** for the successful completion of project activities through June 2011, or a split stipend if lesson implementation occurs the following academic year (i.e., \$1,150 in June 2011 for activities not including lesson implementation; \$650 in the 2011-2012 academic year following lesson implementation)
- travel, lodging and visits to historic sites for the NYC summer institute(paid by grant funding)
- **PDPs -- 67.5 PDPs** for all grant activities, excluding lesson implementation; additional **30 PDPs** for lesson implementation, as described above
- the opportunity to receive from **one-to-six graduate credits** at the significantly reduced rate of **\$215 per credit** from Suffolk University

For additional information regarding the *Becoming America Project*, please email the Teacher Learning Center Director in **Medford** (Kathleen Grace - kgrace@medford.k12.ma.us)

Application letters should include a statement indicating how this topic aligns to your classroom curriculum, and must be sent to the superintendent of schools by **Friday, April 16, 2010**.
