

Teaching with Primary Sources at DePaul University

October 2013 Newsletter: Baseball, Columbus Day, and Halloween!

Greetings, educators!

We hope your school year is off to a great start. This month, the Library has a number of excellent resources on a variety of topics. With the Major League Baseball postseason beginning on Tuesday, October 2, this is an excellent time to integrate sources on the history and cultural impact of baseball into your lessons. Columbus Day (Monday, October 14) also presents a great opportunity to examine European exploration of the Americas through primary sources. And, of course, you can add some ghoulish fun to your class around Halloween!

Here at TPS-DePaul, we have a number of exciting programs coming up. We hope you'll join us!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

As you probably know, the federal government temporarily shut down beginning Tuesday, October 1. The Library of Congress website was offline for much of this week, but we are happy to report that as of Friday, October 4, www.loc.gov and all related pages are online and functioning. Though the site will not be updated until the government returns to work, all pages, including search features, are fully functional—great news!

Important Dates in October

Start of TPS-DePaul Level I program: Saturday, October 19

Columbus Day: Monday, October 14

United Nations Day: Thursday, October 24

Halloween: Thursday, October 31

RESERVE YOUR SPOT! UPCOMING FREE TPS LEVEL I AND LEVEL II WORKSHOP SERIES

Spend some time with TPS and learn about using primary sources to support student inquiry. Consider attending our upcoming Level I professional development session. All successful Level I participants are invited to register for our Level II program.

Level I: Primary Sources & the Common Core State Standards

- Fall Session: Saturday, October 19, 26, and November 9 **space is limited!**

Level II: Content Analysis, Lesson Planning, and Curriculum Alignment with Primary Sources (subject TBD)

- Winter Session: February 15, 22, and March 15 (dates subject to change)

All sessions will be held at DePaul's suburban campus in Naperville and will take place from 9am– 1pm on scheduled dates. Participants will earn 12 CPDUs for the entire workshop. We provide a broad array of materials (including USB drives and handouts), as well as refreshments, for all participants. We're also happy to come to your school for an on-site program! For more information, please contact David Bates at dbates2@depaul.edu

RESOURCES

Baseball

Today in History (October 1): Home Run Kings

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/oct01.html>

Major League Baseball's October postseason has given us some indelible moments, including Roger Maris hitting his record-setting 61st home run on October 1st—the last day of the regular season—in 1961. The first modern World Series, which began on October 1, 1903, pitted the American League champion Boston Americans (later the Red Sox) against the National League's Pittsburgh Pirates. Be sure to search the [Today in History Archive](#) for *baseball* to find information about baseball legends like Connie Mack, Cy Young, and Satchel Paige.

Baseball and Jackie Robinson: Jackie Robinson & Other Baseball Highlights, 1860s-1920s

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/robinson/index.html>

This American Memory collection contains a wealth of information about Jackie Robinson and his role in breaking the color line in baseball. In addition to hundreds of photos, prints, and advertisements, the collection contains a pair of special presentations: the annotated timeline "[Baseball, the Color Line, and Jackie Robinson](#)," which traces race in America's pastime; and the essay "[Early Baseball Pictures](#)," which contains a selection of the Library's most treasured images related to the early history of the game.

Baseball Cards: 1887-1914

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/bbhtml/bbhome.html>

One of the Library's most popular collections, this American History Database consists of a searchable archive of more than 2,000 baseball cards from 1887 to 1914. Some of the cards profile legendary players, such as Ty Cobb, Cy Young, and Walter Johnson. Be sure to use the various browse tools, which let you view cards by player name, team, league, city, or card set.

American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1940

<http://www.loc.gov/collection/federal-writers-project/about-this-collection/#overview>

A collection of life histories from the WPA (a New Deal program), this American Memory database consists of nearly 3,000 documents from 24 states. The stories here represent a fascinating cross-section of American culture, combining life narratives, folklore recollections, and case histories. Search the keyword *baseball* to find more than 200 different entries dealing with the game.

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>

This searchable database of American newspapers, containing more than 6 million individual pages from more than 1,000 newspapers spanning the years 1836-1922, contains a wealth of information on a variety of topics. Search *baseball* to find an amazing 435,646 results, or use Advanced Search to narrow your findings by date, location, or subject.

Columbus Day

Today in History (October 12): Columbus Day

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/oct12.html>

Early on the morning of October 12, 1492, a sailor on board the ship *Pinta* cried out that he had spotted land. The next day, Christopher Columbus and his crew claimed the island (now known as Watling

Island) for Spain, thus bringing to a successful end his ten-week journey across the Atlantic. By 1892, the 400th anniversary of Columbus's landing, cities around the country held celebrations of the event, including the famous World's Columbian Exposition of 1893—better known as the Chicago World's Fair. In 1934, President Franklin Roosevelt declared Columbus Day a national holiday; in 1971, it was officially designated as the second Monday in October.

1492: An Ongoing Voyage

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/1492/index.html>

In this exhibition, the Library presents a wide array of materials from both the Old and New World to provide a snapshot of life on both sides of the Atlantic in 1492. Examining artifacts from pre-Columbian Americas, as well as items from Mediterranean Europe in the late 15th century, this exhibition also explores the fateful contacts between Europeans and Native American peoples and their consequences.

Exploring the Early Americas

<http://myloc.gov/exhibitions/earlyamericas/Pages/default.aspx>

An ongoing exhibition that first opened in December 2007, *Exploring the Early Americas* gathers a selection of items from the Jay I. Kislak Collection to provide a rare insight into the lives of Native Americans before Columbian contact and explores the ways in which they interacted with Europeans once contact occurred. Click "Exhibition Items" tab to explore the exhibition, and be sure to examine the 1507 and 1516 maps by Martin Waldseemüller—these early maps provide one of the first depictions of the Western Hemisphere, and are among the Library's greatest treasures. To explore some of the physical artifacts of the exhibition, visit the interactive MyLOC collection [Reading Pre-Columbian Artifacts](#).

Images of Christopher Columbus and His Voyages

http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/list/080_columbus.html

This collection from the Prints & Photographs Reading Room selects 18 of the Library's finest images of Columbus and his journey to the New World. Since no portrait of Columbus was completed during his lifetime, all of the portraits here are artists' interpretations; comparing and contrasting them is a great way to have students think about interpretation and historical memory.

Top Treasures: Columbus's Book of Privileges

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/tr00.html#columbus>

The Top Treasures collection highlights particularly rare or valuable items in the Library's holdings. This grouping of Columbus-related items includes Angelo Trevisan's recollection of the voyage—likely the first written record of the expedition—as well as Columbus's own recounting of the journey and the Book of Privileges granted to him by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain upon successful completion of his mission.

Parallel Histories: Spain, the United States, and the American Frontier

<http://international.loc.gov/intldl/eshtml/eshome.html>

This unique collection is a collaboration between the Library of Congress, the National Library of Spain, and the Biblioteca Colombina y Capítular of Seville. Through a presentation of books, maps, prints, and other treasures from the various libraries' respective collections, this collection traces the various encounters, alliances, and skirmishes between the U.S. and Spain since the pre-Columbian era. Because the entire collection is presented in both English and Spanish, this is a terrific opportunity for teachers with ELL students to bring primary sources into their classrooms.

Halloween

Today in History (October 31): Happy Halloween!

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/oct31.html>

Originally a pagan holiday celebrating the end of summer, Halloween is today a secular, commercial holiday in which people of all ages seek out a good scare. No doubt many of you are already adorning your classrooms with orange-and-black decorations and stocking up on candy. If you're looking for some ways to bring primary sources into your Halloween celebration, the Library has several places to look!

American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1940

<http://www.loc.gov/collection/federal-writers-project/about-this-collection/#overview>

This collection of life histories from the WPA (a New Deal program) consists of nearly 3,000 documents from 24 states. The stories here represent a fascinating cross-section of American culture, combining life narratives, folklore recollections, and case histories. Some notable histories include encounters with Billy the Kid, surviving the Great Chicago Fire, and the harrowing experience of emigrating to America. Many of the WPA writers went on to fame elsewhere, including Nelson Algren and Ralph Ellison. Search *witch* or *ghost* to find scary stories and spooky legends.

Music for the Nation: American Sheet Music, 1870-1885

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/smhtml/smhome.html>

This American Memory collection includes nearly 50,000 pieces of sheet music from the years 1870 to 1885. Among the collection highlights are popular music, choral music, solo and instrumental music, and various method books and instructional materials. Search *witch* or *ghost* to find creepy recordings from the era.

American Memory Motion Picture Collections

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/browse/ListSome.php?format=Motion+Picture>

Search the American Memory database's collection of motion pictures to find early examples of horror films and other spooky movies.

Prints and Photographs Online Catalog

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/>

Search the Library's Prints and Photos catalog for examples of Halloween-related posters, like [this New Deal-era poster](#) advertising a costumed roller skating party in New York City's Central Park.

American Variety State: Vaudeville and Popular Entertainment, 1870-1920

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/vshtml/vshome.html>

This multimedia collection illustrates a whole series of popular forms of entertainment from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Included are more than 300 scripts, more than 100 playbills and programs, and more than 60 motion pictures. Search through the collection to find some creepy plays and vaudeville productions.

Topics in Chronicling America – Halloween

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/topics/halloween.html>

The Library's newspaper collection, *Chronicling America*, contains hundreds of historical newspapers, many of which have articles on Halloween and other scary topics. This page contains search strategies and terms, as well as a group of sample articles. Also be sure to read ["The Fantasy and Folklore of All Hallows,"](#) from Jack Santino of the American Folklife Center.