

# Teaching with Primary Sources at DePaul University

## December 2013 Newsletter: The Bill of Rights, Christmas, and more!

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Greetings, educators!

We hope you had a happy Thanksgiving. With the holiday season in full swing, there are a number of terrific resources to guide you through the month of December!

### Important Dates in December

Hanukkah: Wednesday, November 27-Thursday, December 5

Human Rights Day: Tuesday, December 10

Bill of Rights Day: Sunday, December 15

Christmas Eve: Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Day: Wednesday, December 25

New Year's Eve: Tuesday, December 31

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

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

#### Level II: Content Analysis, Lesson Planning, and Curriculum Alignment with Primary Sources

- **Title:** *Double Victory: The New Deal and World War II through Library of Congress Primary Sources*
- **Dates:** January 18, February 1, February 15
- **Information:** In this program, participants will use a variety of primary sources from the Library of Congress to examine the ways in which the Great Depression, New Deal, and World War II transformed the lives of ordinary Americans. Participants will study collections such as "By the People, For the People: Posters from the WPA, 1936-1943," "American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1940," "After the Day of Infamy: Man on the Street Interviews Following the Attack on Pearl Harbor," and a variety of digital collections from the Veterans History Project, among others. By the end of our program, participants will be prepared to create a full lesson plan based on Library resources, which can be delivered in class for TPS observers and submitted to the TPS website (if desired).
- **\*Note\*** Participants must complete a full Level I program to be eligible for the Level II program

#### Level I: Primary Sources and the Common Core State Standards

- **Dates:** April 19, May 3, May 17 (dates subject to change)
- **Information:** The new Common Core State Standards present a series of challenges to teachers, but their emphasis on an integrated model of literacy and the use of "informational text" is a tremendous opportunity for educators of every subject and grade level to make use of primary sources—the "raw materials of history"—in the classroom. In this multi-session program, participants will learn how to locate primary sources in a variety of differentiated media formats at the Library of Congress website, [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov). Additionally, they will engage in a series of exemplar activities that display how teachers can use primary sources to achieve both content knowledge and curriculum alignment.
- **\*Note\*** We can also do a Level I program on-site at your school! Contact Dave Bates at [dbates2@depaul.edu](mailto:dbates2@depaul.edu) for details!

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. To register, please contact David Bates at [dbates2@depaul.edu](mailto:dbates2@depaul.edu).

## **RESOURCES**

### **Pearl Harbor**

*Today in History (December 7): Air Raid on Pearl Harbor*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/dec07.html>

On December 7, 1941, Japanese air forces launched a surprise attack on the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, killing more than 2,300 American soldiers and sailors and destroying a dozen American ships. The following day, President Franklin Roosevelt memorably referred to December 7<sup>th</sup> as “a date which will live in infamy,” and secured a declaration of war against Japan, as well as Germany and Italy, formally bringing the U.S. into World War II. This edition of Today in History includes [the chilling dispatch](#) from U.S. Pacific Command announcing the attack.

*After the Day of Infamy: “Man-on-the-Street” Interviews Following the Attack on Pearl Harbor*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/afcphtml/afcphtmlhome.html>

On December 8, 1941—a day after the Pearl Harbor attack—Alan Lomax of the Library of Congress's Archive of American Folk Song sent fieldworkers into cities around the country to solicit the opinions of ordinary Americans. In this extraordinary collection, you'll find twelve hours of recorded testimony of hundreds of Americans sharing their thoughts on the attack, its aftermath, and the way the U.S. should respond. Note that almost all of the interviews are available as an audio file or a printed transcript.

*Veterans History Project: Pearl Harbor: 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

<http://www.loc.gov/vets/stories/ex-war-pearlharbor.html>

This collection of stories from the Veterans History Project includes a variety of interviews (video, audio, and printed transcripts) from American military personnel who lived through the Pearl Harbor attack. Of particular interest are Army nurse [Kathryn Mary Doody](#) and civilian Bronze Star winner [James Mitsuo Furukawa](#).

*Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information Black-and-White Negatives*

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsa/about.html>

*Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information Color Photographs*

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

These two collections contain numerous photographs of the American homefront during World War II from the Office of War Information, created shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack. Of particular interest are photos documenting World War II mobilization, including factories and railroads, training, and women at work in war industries.

### **The Bill of Rights**

*Today in History (December 15): The Bill of Rights*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/dec15.html>

On December 15, 1791, the United States officially ratified the first ten amendments to the Constitution. Now known as the Bill of Rights, these amendments guaranteed fundamental liberties to the fledgling

nation's citizens, including freedom of speech, press and assembly; protection against unreasonable search and seizure; and rights for defendants during criminal trials.

*A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1785*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html>

This collection gathers thousands of documents from the U.S. Congress, dating back to the first Continental Congress in the 1770s. Check out the special presentation "[The Making of the U.S. Constitution,](#)" or search "Bill of Rights" to find more information about the first ten amendments.

*The James Madison Papers, 1723-1836*

[http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/madison\\_papers/](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/madison_papers/)

A collection of James Madison's personal and official papers and correspondence, this group of documents consists of 12,000 digitized items comprising more than 72,000 individual images. Madison was instrumental in writing and ratifying the Bill of Rights, and this collection contains a number of documents detailing Madison's thinking about the future of the Republic.

## **Christmas**

*Today in History (December 25): Welcome Christmas*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/dec25.html>

Christmas, a holiday in which Christians worldwide celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, dates back at least to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD, in which the Roman Christian church celebrated the so-called "Feast of the Nativity." Since then, the holiday has spread worldwide and picked up a whole host of cultural traditions—the feasting of the Roman holiday of Saturnalia, the Celtic yule log, and the appropriation of St. Nicholas or Santa Claus from Northern Europe. Americans, of course have added to these traditions.

*Performing Arts Encyclopedia*

<http://www.loc.gov/performingarts/index.html>

*Historic American Sheet Music: 1850-1920*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award97/ncdhtml/hasmhome.html>

*America Singing: Nineteenth-Century Song Sheets*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amsshtml/amsshhome.html>

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

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

*California Gold: Northern California Folk Music from the Thirties*

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/afcchtml/cowhome.html>

These collections gather the Library's massive holdings of sheet music, lyrics, and musical recordings. Visit the various collections and search them for "Christmas" or "holidays" to discover festive American songs from various periods throughout the nation's history.

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

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wpaintro/wpahome.html>

The Library's collection of personal testimonials from the Federal Writers' Project is a treasure trove of information about family traditions and rituals. Search "Christmas" or "holidays" to find interviews with ordinary Americans about their holiday traditions, including tree-trimming, recipes, gift-giving, and other rituals.