



Amistad Curriculum Consortium

Montclair State University – Montclair, NJ

August 3-5, 2009

Application Information and Instructions

The New Jersey Amistad Commission is proud to present the Fifth Annual Summer Teacher Institute at Montclair State University in Montclair, NJ. The one week session are designed for public school elementary and secondary social studies teachers and supervisors to learn additional methodological and pedagogical techniques to infuse African-American history into the social studies curriculum. The Amistad Summer Institute is a residential program which gives educators access to prominent historians and scholars. In addition, the Institute seeks to enhance teachers' curricular approaches while taking advantage of the resources offered at Montclair State University, Home of the Center for Pedagogy. Professional Development credit will be offered as well as the opportunity to design study curriculum development strategies at the Center for Pedagogy.

During the week, 50 educators will have the opportunity to work in collaboration with knowledgeable historians and scholars. Participants will craft lesson plans, study texts, topics, and ideas central to elementary and secondary social studies education and have access to Montclair State University's library collections, with time reserved to pursue individual research. Further, the Institute aims to prepare participants to return to their classrooms with a deeper knowledge of current scholarship in American History with an understanding of the significant contributions of African-Americans.

This summer, the central focus for the Summer Institute will be an extensive tutorial with the Amistad web-based curriculum. In a concerted effort to turnkey district by district the usage of this resource, in preparation of curriculum redesign for the 2009-2010 school year; the institute at Montclair State University, will allow Educators a unique opportunity to be trained on the utilization of our web-based curriculum, a premier multimedia resource for teachers in the state but also allow a venue to receive professional development credit hours by enhancing their content knowledge and

teaching methodology. With the onset of the highly anticipated curriculum release, the Amistad Summer Institute wants to guarantee opportunities for the multitude of district curriculum specialists and classroom teachers that will require training for statewide compliance with the Amistad legislation.

ELIGIBILITY

Any New Jersey public school elementary or secondary educators are eligible to participate. Selected candidates must attend the full, one week session to be given professional development credit. *Partial attendance or daily visits are not allowed.* Only those candidates who are able to commit to the full 3 days of residential study should apply. Some exceptions will be made for individuals interested in a commuter option.

Applicants must complete the Amistad application and essay, and provide all of the information requested to be considered eligible.

SELECTION CRITERIA

A selection committee will read and evaluate all properly completed applications in order to select the most promising applicants and identify a small number of alternates. The most important consideration in the selection of participants is the likelihood that an applicant will benefit professionally and translate this knowledge into the classroom. The selection committee members weigh several factors including:

1. quality and commitment as a teacher and interpreter of American history;
2. intellectual interests, both generally and as they relate to the work of the Institute;
3. special perspectives, skills, or experiences that would contribute to the Institute;
4. commitment to participate fully in the formal and informal collegial life of the Institute;
5. the likelihood that the experience will enhance the applicant's teaching and ability to infuse African-American history into the social studies curriculum.

STIPEND, TENURE, AND CONDITIONS OF AWARD

Individuals selected will receive a modest stipend upon completion of 5 lesson plans. In addition, each selected candidate will receive housing, meals, books and supplies for the duration of the period spent in residence. Institute participants are required to attend all meetings and to engage fully in the work of the Amistad Summer Institute. During the Institute, teachers may not undertake teaching assignments or any other professional activities.

At the end of the Institute's residential period, participants will be asked to submit evaluations in which they review their work during the summer and assess its significance to their personal and professional development. Special forms for this report will be distributed. Completed forms should be returned directly to Amistad staff.

CHECKLIST OF APPLICATION MATERIALS

The following items constitute a completed application to the Amistad Summer Institute. Three copies of the completed application,

- three copies of a detailed résumé, and
- three copies of the application essay as outlined below.

Materials should be mailed to:

New Jersey Amistad Commission

Attn: Amistad Summer Institute

225 West State Street, 4th Floor

P.O. Box 458

Trenton, NJ 08625-0458

THE APPLICATION ESSAY

The application essay should be no more than two double-spaced pages, using no smaller than a Times New Roman 12 size font. This essay should include any relevant professional and personal information. It should address reasons for applying; the applicant's interest, qualifications and experiences that equip the applicant to do the work of the Amistad Summer Institute and the contributions one brings to a learning community; a statement of what the applicant wants to accomplish by participating; and the relation of the Amistad Summer Institute to the applicant's professional responsibilities. Applicants should feel free to elaborate on the relationship between the Amistad Summer institute and their responsibilities for teaching and curricular development.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Completed applications should be submitted to the New Jersey Amistad Commission and should be **postmarked no later than July 10, 2009. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and applicants will be notified of their acceptance no later than 2 weeks after deadline.**

Upon notification, applicants need to submit an e-mail by date to determined to Tashanna Williams at Amistad.temp@sos.state.nj.us, which indicates whether or not they accept the offer. Please contact 609-984-6428 with any questions about the application process.

Amistad Curriculum Consortium Application Form

Name: (First) _____ (Last) _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Work address: (Department, school, street address, city, state and zip code)

School: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail (personal): _____

E-mail (school/institution): _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____

Fax number: _____

Courses and/ or grades taught: _____

Number of students taught this year: _____

Number of years of teaching experience: _____

Citizenship: (If not a US Citizen, please specify number of years as US resident.) _____

How did you learn about this institute?

Amistad Professional Conference E-mail Amistad Website

School administrator Other (please name source): _____

Date of Institute: **August 3, 2009 – August 5, 2009**

Please check here if you would like to be a Commuter Participant. _____

Please check here if you would like to be a Residential Participant. _____