



The Center for Civic Education invites you to attend the

We the People Summer Institute

for Upper Elementary Teachers

July 6 – 13, 2011
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, Virginia



Funded by U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act approved by the United States Congress





WE THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION CURRICULUM HELPS STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE HISTORY OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND BILL OF RIGHTS AND FOSTER CIVIC COMPETENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY AMONG UPPER-LEVEL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE.



We the People institute, a rigorous professional development program, provides teachers the opportunity to work with constitutional scholars from a variety of disciplines. Participants complete academic readings, attend morning lectures and participate in afternoon sessions dedicated to the content and teaching methods appropriate to the **We the People** curriculum.

At the close of the institute, teachers also participate in a culminating activity modeled on the **We the People** simulated congressional hearing, an authentic assessment strategy. In addition to working with constitutional scholars and professionals, the week's experience will include a visit to Montpelier, the home of James Madison "Father of the Constitution" and fourth president of the United States.



The institute is held at James Madison University, located in Harrisonburg, Va. at the heart of the historic and beautiful Shenandoah Valley. The academic atmosphere of the institute is enhanced by comfortable accommodations and contemporary facilities on JMU campus. Participants are housed in modern residence halls and may use university facilities including the research library, recreation center and computer lab.

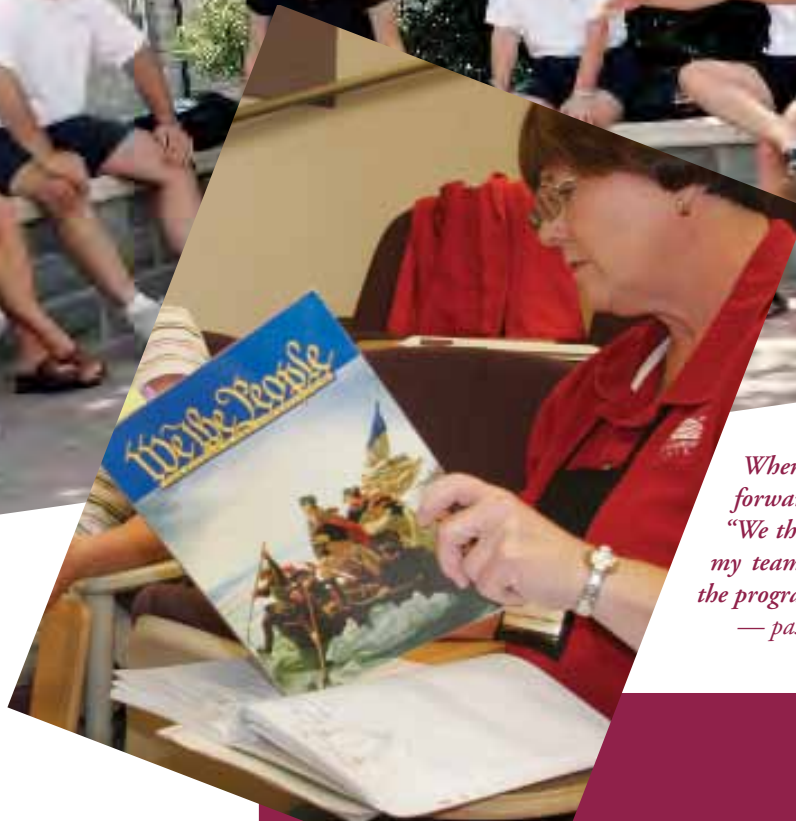
I learned so much and am anxious to share my excitement with my students. It was the most meaningful professional development of my teaching career.

—past institute participant





My experience at the "We the People" institute at James Madison University has been one of the most fulfilling programs I have ever had the privilege of participating in.
 — past institute participant



When school opens, I look forward to implementing "We the People" and getting my team teacher to apply to the program for next summer.
 — past institute participant

Participation in the institute, considered to be professional development worth more than \$2,000, obligates the recipient to conduct a simulated congressional hearing in his or her classroom. State and congressional district coordinators for **We the People** will assist with the hearing and other aspects of program implementation.

Forty-two teachers from public and private upper-level elementary schools throughout the U.S. will be selected to attend. Three hours of graduate credit in history or political science are available for a fee through James Madison University. Applications are due April 15, 2011, with notification of acceptance NLT April 20, 2011.

What an incredible experience it was for me as a professional educator! The new friends from across the country, the new sights and learning were more than I could have ever imagined when I first sent in the application.
 — past institute participant



THE FOLLOWING TOPICS ARE ADDRESSED IN LECTURES AND IN TEACHING METHODS AND ASSESSMENT SESSIONS:

- What basic ideas about government did the Founders have?
- How did the Framers write our Constitution?
- How does the Constitution organize our government?
- How does the Constitution protect our basic rights?
- What are the responsibilities of Citizens?

PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COST:

- Round trip airfare to Washington, D.C.
- Transportation to James Madison University and Montpelier
- Lodging and meals
- A selection of constitutional literature
- A set of textbooks and other materials for the classroom, and
- An opportunity to share ideas with upper-elementary teachers from across the country.



To be considered for the
We the People Institute:

The application is available at:
[http:// www.jmu.edu/wtp/national](http://www.jmu.edu/wtp/national)

For further information contact:
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