

**Electronic News from the
Michigan Council for History Education
May 2021, Vol. XIX, No. 9**

Dear Friends of MCHE,

As our hope rose that COVID-19 was lessening, Michigan faced a resurgence which left us questioning if life could ever return to normalcy. Actually, we know that our lives have been permanently impacted by this pandemic. To provide some food for thought, check out the attachment on the "Social Implications of COVID." In addition, even as we strive to put the 2020 election in the rearview mirror, key issues that will impact the 2022 election are pressing down upon us. Specifically, I encourage all of you to closely follow the work of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC). A list of their public hearings is attached along with an "Apportioning Districts" game for students.

Once again this issue is filled with info on resources and events that might be beneficial for you and your students. My sincere thanks to Kallie Burk, Dick Cooley, David Hale, Nadine Hall, and Jana Pisani for their contributions. Let me note my appreciation also to Annette McConnell for proof reading/editing final copy and to Scott Durham and Nick Orłowski for their skills with our electronic media.

Best for a wonderful close to this chaotic school year,
Jim McConnell, MCHE E-Notes Editor

For more info, visit MCHE on Facebook and the website at <http://teachinghistoryinmi.org>
Questions, comments, corrections can be emailed to teachinghistoryinmi@gmail.com

Attachments

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1. MCHE SCECH Available for Gilder Lehrman PD Programs

MCHE is pleased to announce that it will be the SCECH provider for all 2021-2022 Gilder Lehrman PD programs. This includes both their online courses which often require a registration fee, as well as their free sessions like "Book Breaks" and "Inside the Vault". MCHE still has an active SCECH application for the 2020-2021 school year, so any credit earned from Gilder Lehrman through June 30 is also eligible. Any Michigan Educator, upon completing a session with Gilder Lehrman, can email their certificate of completion to teachinghistoryinmi@gmail.com, MCHE will follow up should any additional information be needed. If submitting multiple PDFs, please combine them into one file. MCHE will also be the SCECH provider for the 2021 OC Conference for Social Studies sponsored by the OER Project scheduled for August. Stay tuned for more details.

2. MCHE 2021 Elections Begin May 1st

Beginning May 1st, MCHE members may cast a ballot for the 2021 MCHE Board. The MCHE offers candidates in the 2021 elections for President Elect, Secretary, and seven board members. There are two ways to cast a ballot. Voters may cast an electronic ballot by visiting the MCHE website at <https://www.teachinghistoryinmi.org> or printing and scanning the ballot and emailing it to teachinghistoryinmi@gmail.com no later than May 22nd. Please mark an x on the line in front of the names of the candidates for whom you wish to vote. Space is also provided for write-in candidates. Only one ballot per member will be accepted. (Ballot attached.)

3. Midwest History Conference, May 26-27, GVSU, Grand Rapids Campus

“The Midwest at the Intersection of Past and Present” is the theme of this 7th annual event presented by the Hauenstein Center for Presidential studies (BVSU) in collaboration with the Midwestern History Association and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library & Museum. As in 2016, the 2020 election year shined a spotlight on the Midwest with its battleground states. This conference continues a vibrant discussion which has grown significantly over the last six years, a collaborative conference designed to spark – and sustain – a revival of Midwestern studies in American historiography. More info on conference details at <https://www.gvsu.edu/hc/midwestern-history-conference-377.htm>. Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the event will be virtual via Zoom. For info on the Midwest History Association, visit <http://www.midwesternhistory.com>

4. McConnell Award Nominations Due No Later Than Sat., May 1st

Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the three Annette & Jim McConnell History Educator honors presented each year by MCHE in honor of the organization's founders. The three categories are Secondary (Middle/High School), Elementary (K-6), and Pre-Service. Details available at <https://www.teachinghistoryinmi.org>

5. NCGE Announces 2022 Conference Plans/Dates & Seeks Session Proposals

With a theme of "Historical Communities of Promise and Practice," the 2022 NCHE Conference is set for St. Louis, MO, March 17-19, 2022. Call for Proposals, Keynote Speakers, Registration, and Enrichment Excursions. Check NCHE at www.ncheteach.org for updates.

6. Students Can Play the Redistricting Game

To help your students better understand the importance of the legislative apportionment process, attached is "Apportioning Districts" activity that I have used in my classroom MANY years ago. Students can work either individually or in small groups to draw district boundary lines either favoring a group, or neutral. Then, have them look at the current boundaries of Michigan's U.S. Congress districts posted at https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Michigan%27s_congressional_districts This website includes a full list of Michigan's current Representatives as determined by the 2010 census.

You will need to provide some background on the process, how the Census is used, and the new procedure being followed in Michigan. Key info is provided at the CIRC website at <https://www.michigan.gov/micrc/> If you have any questions or comments, email Jim McConnell at jam1776@sbcglobal.net For a comprehensive discussion, with statistical details, visit Redistricting in Michigan at https://ballotpedia.org/Redistricting_in_Michigan

7. The Shot Heard Round the World

This virtual program developed by the Concord Museum uses the Museum's artifacts and multimedia animations to bring the story of the iconic events of April 19, 1775 to life. The microsite brings together the voices of actors in this true-life drama, images of artifacts that allow for close inspection, animations of contemporary artwork and troop movements, and a running tally of the numbers engaged on both sides. Visit Concord Museum at <https://concordmuseum.org>

8. Preservation Detroit Announces Summer Plans

Due to COVID-19, the 2021 Preservation Detroit tour season will look a little different. Please check for additional updates and virtual offerings. You can follow them on Facebook and Instagram for more updates. Their award-winning tours share our rich architectural and cultural history with residents and visitors to the Detroit region. They are Detroit's longest-running non-profit tour organization. For details and other info on Preservation Detroit, visit <https://preservationdetroit.org>

9. Columbia University Announces Winners of the 2021 Bancroft Prizes

Columbia University Libraries has announced that two acclaimed works will be awarded the 2021 Bancroft Prizes in American History and Diplomacy: "Katrina: A History, 1915-2015" by Andy Horowitz (Harvard University Press, 2020) and "Unworthy Republic The Dispossession of Native Americans and the Road to Indian Territory" by Claudio Saunt (W.W. Norton & Company, 2020).

10. MCHE "History Matters", March 2021, Offers Thoughtful Information

The December 2020 issue of "Perspectives on History" from the American Historical Association included this piece from Trevor R. Getz and Steven M. Harris. They write, "...emerging responses to this challenge

have sometimes taken the form of grassroots collaborations among instructors and historians. This article serves as an invitation to participate in one such collaboration. History for the 21st Century (H/21) is a project that mobilizes and equips faculty to address together the challenges facing our discipline, our students, even our fellow faculty through a redesign of introductory college history courses."

While aimed primarily at university level history professors and students, the project provides a wealth of resources and ideas that can be used at any level of the teaching and learning of history. The current set of MRE's (Modules Ready to Educate) focus on World History called "Our World in Time" and should be a part of the repertoire for anyone who is interested in history.

11. When & Where Are the Olympics?

(A) The XXXII 2020 Summer Olympics will begin on Friday, July 23, 2021 and end on Sunday, August 8. Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga will host the Opening Ceremony in Tokyo. Details and updates at <https://www.olympic.org/tokyo-2020>

(B) The 20 XXIV Olympic Winter Games will take place in Beijing, China, from Fri., Feb 4 to Sun., Feb 20, 2022. There will be 109 events in 7 sports.

(C) The 2024 XXIII Summer Olympiad will take place in Paris, France, from July 26 to August 11, 2024. There will be 329 events in 32 sports

12. Great Programs on C SPAN 3 American History January 21, 2021

(A) "The Constitution and Equal Rights": Jan. 21, 2021, at <https://www.c-span.org/video/?509714-1/constitution-equal-rights#!> ("Great" quote from two 1870s Rights of Women Supreme Court decisions))

(B) "Liars - Falsehoods and Free Speech in an Age of Deception" March 2, 2021, at <https://www.c-span.org/video/?509533-1/liars-falsehoods-free-speech-age-deception>

13. History News Network (<http://historynewsnetwork.org/donations.html>)

Features articles for Historians: "Understanding America's History of Gun Control", "Devoted to the Deaf", "Did Alexander Graham Bell Do More Harm Than Good?" and "Can Joe Biden Replicate FDR's Success in Rebuilding the Democrats' Coalition?"

(From Nadine Hall, Greenhills School, Ann Arbor)

14. Other Michigan Museums

Arab American National Museum (<https://arabamericanmuseum.org/>)

Yalla Eat! Chef Series: Yaseen Jawad presents... Tuesday, May 11, 5:30pm

Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (<https://www.thewright.org/>)

*** Virtual Exhibit: "The Journey to Reparations Series: What We Are Owed", May 11 - June 15. This series highlights the origins, purpose, legislation, and impact of reparations throughout US history.

*** Current Exhibit: "Posters on Politics", April 03-June 27. Reminds us that others view the US as a model for democracy. Yet, some of the artists remain nameless. Could they be afraid of retribution for creating art that critiques governance in America?

Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus (<https://www.holocaustcenter.org/>)

Current Exhibit - "Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race", traces this history from the early 20th century international eugenics movement to the Nazi regime's "science of race." It also challenges views to reflect on the present-day interest in genetic manipulation that promotes the possibility of human perfection.

Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways <http://www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing/> Visit the Ziibiwing Center's exhibits to learn about the history, culture, and contemporary society of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and other Great Lakes Anishinabek. Exhibit curriculum resources available.

(From Nadine Hall, Greenhills School, Ann Arbor)

15. Clements Library/UM (<https://clements.umich.edu/>)

*** Online Event: "Visualizing Equality: African American Rights and Visual Culture in the Nineteenth Century", May 5, 7:00-8:30pm. Aston Gonzalez will discuss his book, which studies the lives of Black activists who produced and circulated images to advance numerous Black rights campaigns in the middle decades of the 19th century.

*** Online Event: The Clements Bookworm: Online Event for History Lovers- Topic TBA, May 21 at 10:00am.

(From Nadine Hall, Greenhills School, Ann Arbor)

16. Historical Society of Michigan

The Historical Society of Michigan publishes the Michigan History magazine, which includes feature articles as well as special sections. The magazine is published six times per year and is available as either an individual subscription or in combination with membership in the Historical Society of Michigan. For more information, see <https://hsmichigan.org/join/michigan-history/>

(From Jana Pisani, Ferris State University)

17. Selected Articles from Bridge (The Center for Michigan)

(A) Teacher retirements soar in Michigan schools amid COVID pandemic (Source: Michigan Public Schools Employees' Retirement System)—[https://www.bridgemi.com/talent-education/teacher-retirements-soar-michigan-schools-amid-covid-pandemic?](https://www.bridgemi.com/talent-education/teacher-retirements-soar-michigan-schools-amid-covid-pandemic?omhide=true&utm_source=Bridge+Michigan&utm_campaign=52df7b65a3-Bridge+Week-in-Review+RSS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c64a28dd5a-52df7b65a3-73829993)

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(B) "Future of American History Education" a panel discussion with three historians taped the morning of January 6th on C Span 3 American History. A very interesting discussion at <https://www.c-span.org/search/basic/?query=Future+of+American+History+education>

(C) "Michigan CEOs to GOP: Don't disenfranchise voters" at [https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-government/michigan-ceos-gop-dont-disenfranchise-voters?](https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-government/michigan-ceos-gop-dont-disenfranchise-voters?utm_source=Bridge+Michigan&utm_campaign=a9ebebe1e2-Bridge+Newsletter+4%2F14%2F21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c64a28dd5a-a9ebebe1e2-73829993)

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[Bridge+Newsletter+4%2F14%2F21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c64a28dd5a-a9ebebe1e2-73829993](https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-government/michigan-ceos-gop-dont-disenfranchise-voters?utm_source=Bridge+Michigan&utm_campaign=a9ebebe1e2-Bridge+Newsletter+4%2F14%2F21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c64a28dd5a-a9ebebe1e2-73829993)

(D) "Coronavirus Tracker" info at [https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-health-watch/coronavirus-tracker-what-michigan-needs-know-now?utm_source=Bridge+Michigan&utm_campaign=a9ebebe1e2-](https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-health-watch/coronavirus-tracker-what-michigan-needs-know-now?utm_source=Bridge+Michigan&utm_campaign=a9ebebe1e2-Bridge+Newsletter+4%2F14%2F21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c64a28dd5a-a9ebebe1e2-73829993)

[Bridge+Newsletter+4%2F14%2F21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c64a28dd5a-a9ebebe1e2-73829993](https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-health-watch/coronavirus-tracker-what-michigan-needs-know-now?utm_source=Bridge+Michigan&utm_campaign=a9ebebe1e2-Bridge+Newsletter+4%2F14%2F21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c64a28dd5a-a9ebebe1e2-73829993)

18. "This Month in History," from "The History Place"

*** May 5, 1865—Decoration Day was first observed in the United States, in which the graves of Civil War soldiers were decorated with flowers. The date was eventually moved to the last Monday in May and became known as Memorial Day.

*** May 10, 1994—Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as the president of South Africa.

*** May 14, 1796—The smallpox vaccine was developed by English doctor Edward Jenner.

*** May 24, 1844—The inventor of the telegraph, Samuel Morse, sent the first official telegraph message from Washington D.C. to Baltimore, Maryland, writing "What hath God wrought?"

(From Jana Pisani, Ferris State University)

19. George Washington's Mount Vernon

George Washington's Mount Vernon offers distance learning programs through the Webex Video Conference Platform. The programs virtually link classrooms with Mount Vernon staff and primary sources from the 18th

century. Special full discounts are provided for qualified Title One schools. For more information, see <https://www.mountvernon.org/education/distance-learning-programs/>
(From Jana Pisani, Ferris State University)

20. Michigan History Center Provides Easy, Safe Access to History Near You

With one quick click your students can find every marked, historic site in the state of Michigan. The Michigan History Center has created the “Find a Marker” map on their website so you, your family, or your students can get outside and see what history might be living in your neighborhood. This provides an easy and safe classroom activity or extra credit opportunity.

Additionally, if you believe a historic site in your city or neighborhood deserves recognition, you can apply for a marker here and be added to Michigan History Center’s map and database.

(from Kailie Burk , Rockford Schools)

21. Become a "Great Michigan Read" Partner, Get Free Resources For Your Classroom

Starting in Fall, 2021, the Michigan Humanities Council will sponsor the Great Michigan Read, with a spotlight on the historical fiction novel, "The Women of Copper Country". Written by author Mary Doria Russell, the story takes place in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and tells the story of a woman who takes a stand against a copper mining company. Those who register as ‘Great Michigan Read’ partners can receive free copies of the book for their classroom as well as reading guides, teacher guides and more resources which will help bring history to life in your classroom.

(from Kailie Burk , Rockford Schools)

22. MotorCities National Heritage Area

MotorCities National Heritage Area has proudly joined many Michigan businesses and organizations in the Pollinator Pledge. The Pollinator Pledge is a promise to support, protect, and create pollinator-friendly habitats in Michigan, therefore protecting local plant life in the long-term. In doing so, MCNHA demonstrates that those who love history, understand the value of the environment and encourage you to have your school, district, or community sign the Pollinator Pledge as well. Learn more about the Pledge and this collaboration with National Parks here.

(from Kailie Burk , Rockford Schools)

23. The Henry Ford

On the first Friday of each may (May 7, 2021), The Henry Ford hosts a story-telling session on Instagram Live, featuring unique historic artifacts and primary sources. Find the up-coming topics here to choose one to fit your lesson, or encourage your students to follow The Henry Ford on Instagram @thehenryford to foster their love and access to local history.

(from Kailie Burk , Rockford Schools)

24. Library of Congress lessons

This Library of Congress article is entitled “What the Library of Congress Has for Teachers: Primary Sources and Tools and Techniques to Use Them” The information provided in the article gives links to sections of the website and suggestions on how the Library’s resources may be used by teachers. <https://blogs.loc.gov/teachers/2013/08/what-the-library-of-congress-has-for-teachers-primary-sources-and-tools-and-techniques-to-use-them/>

from Dick Cooley, GVSU)

25. River Raisin's National Battlefield Park

From the River Raisin National Battlefield Park Lesson: "It's Not My Fault" This 3rd through 5th grade lesson plan explores the use of social media by engaging the students in various points of view and historical perspective focusing on the geography of the Old Northwest and the War of 1812. The end project has students create a fake social media page where the students assume the identities of the personalities involved in the battle. The objective of the lesson is reducing conflict, reaching compromise, and viewing different perspectives. <https://www.nps.gov/common/uploads/teachers/lessonplans/It-s-Not-My-Fault.pdf>

(From Dick Cooley, GVSU)

26. Colonial Williamsburg

This section of the website presents information on the clothing and accessories which were worn during Colonial times. Students will be able to compare, contrast and analyze the differences in what people in all walks of life, from the plantation owners to the workers to the African Americans and Native Americans wore. http://museuminteractives.colonialwilliamsburg.org/history/museums/clothingexhibit/museum_learn.cfm#fashionable

(From Dick Cooley, GVSU)

27. PBS Offers Education Programs

Using a short 4 minute and 11 second segment of "Finding Your Roots" by Henry Lewis Gates, this video interview with actress Tina Fey explores her relative's involvement with the Greek nationalism movement, which would allow teachers and students in further examining nationalism movements throughout world history, as well as promoting student self-discovery with their own family's past. <https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/740126ee-5355-404b-b7f5-e9ea01858936/the-rise-of-nationalism/>

(From Dick Cooley, GVSU)