

The Presidential Primary Sources Project

Global Democracy: Presidents and Policy - 2012 – 2013 Video Conferencing Program



The Presidential Primary Sources Project is a collaborative program sponsored by the U.S. Presidential Libraries and Museums, National Parks, the Internet2 K20 Initiative, and other primary source stakeholders. The goal of the annual project is to engage classrooms throughout the national and international education community with an overarching theme, utilizing primary source documents for student research and presentation.

Audience: Students Grades 6-12

National Standards:

Because of the broad nature of the presidential theme, teachers will find that a number of the historical presentations coincide with their yearly curriculum. Additionally, research and synthesis requirements expected by national and state standards can also be integrated at various points in a teacher's syllabus. Each video conference will be associated with its coinciding National Standards to assist teachers in these efforts.

Registration:

<https://docs.google.com/a/tetnplus.net/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dGEzRnh1d1JZTktMVVRBWms2Y2JZYnc6MQ#gid=0>

Equipment Requirements: Your classroom will need access to a H.323 compliant desktop video conferencing software program or room system. The video conferencing system should be able to operate at a minimum of 384kbps. Every participating site must test with a State program coordinator and receive a site certification prior to the October start date.

Schedule:

October 4 & 5 - Initial Teacher Training Event

October 30, 2012 - Initial Project Launch Event (Teacher + Student)

November & December 2012– Content Presentations – details below

January 16 – Follow Up Presentation Date — In the event of scheduling difficulties or technical problems Jan. 16 has been reserved as a follow up date for this event.

January-April 2013 – student research and synthesis & content presenter office hours

May 2013 – Student presentations

Content Provider Presentations -

George H. W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum (Bush 41) – November 8

Expansion of Global Democratization Following the Fall of the Berlin Wall

In 1945 at the end of World War II Germany was divided between the victors permitting a nondemocratic Eastern zone led by a German communist party affiliated to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) to exist beside a Western democratic zone of cooperation allied to the United States, Great Britain and France. The city of Berlin located in Eastern Germany was also divided between a free Western democratic zone and a communist zone. To keep the Eastern Germans from fleeing to democratic freedom in the West, in 1961 the East German government built the Berlin Wall. It was a 113-mile concrete and steel wall topped with barbed wire which surrounded the Western sector of occupied Berlin for 28 years. There are two web quests with primary sources (maps, photos, memorandum of telephone conversations and documents) online:



www.presidentialtimeline.org/html/educators/GHWB/berlinwall1st_wq/

A geopolitical transformation marking the end of the Cold War and ushering a new era encouraging democratic government happened on Nov. 9, 1989, with the fall of the Berlin Wall. Using key primary sources, an overview will be presented about diplomatic discussions between President Bush and international leaders. This will show how diplomacy helped to change attitudes and generate support of new pro-democracy movements in Eastern Europe. The rise of pro-democracy movements urging self-determination gained momentum with the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe resulted.

Harry S. Truman Library – November 13

Cold War Crisis: Protecting Democracy in Berlin



Following World War II, a delicate balance of power had surfaced between Great Britain, the United States, France, and the Soviet Union. The opposing economic structures of capitalism and communism emerged triumphant at the end of the war. The two blossoming superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, sought to ensure their permanence by negotiating territorial claims throughout the globe. Germany was divided into fourths. This divided Germany was to become the first battleground of the emerging Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. The US and its Allies were determined to protect Democracy in Germany. The Soviets announced a total ground blockade of Berlin in July 1948. What would the Allies do? This presentation utilizes primary sources to examine this

Cold War Crisis, the options available to President Truman, and the decisions made in 1948 to protect democracy in Europe.

Valley Forge National Historical Park – November 20

Washington's Leadership in the Global Community of the 18th Century



Valley Forge National Historical Park will present: "Washington's Leadership in the Global Community of the 18th Century." This interactive video conference provides a summary of the significance of Valley Forge National Historical Park, an overview of the 1777-78 winter encampment, and an demonstration of the traits of leadership as demonstrated by General George Washington at the Valley Forge command center of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War and replicated by the contemporary United States Army in the 21 st century: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage (LDRSHIP.)

Leadership values are illustrated with historic artifacts, paintings and sculpture from Washington's time and primary sources including Washington's daily orders, official correspondence, drawings and maps during a distinctive time of international conflict, friendship, rivalry and alliances.

Students will have the opportunity to examine the application of the same leadership values in their circles of influence in school, in the family, on the job and in their communities.

The program utilizes the power of Prezi, the internet zooming software, and the technology of the Smart Board, so that students in the Valley Forge studio can collect feedback from students in remote classrooms and enter their contributions into the Prezi slides which will then be available on-line for participating classrooms. Extension learning activities will also be available for classroom use or independent study. Cadets from the Valley Forge Military Academy and College will help host the video conference.

Theodore Roosevelt Center – November 27

Theodore Roosevelt and the Evolution of American Ideals

In a speech explaining the colonial policy of the United States during his presidency, Theodore Roosevelt likened developing nations to children needing governance, stating, “A child has to be governed from without, because it has not yet grown to a point when it can govern itself from within; and a people that shows itself totally unable to govern itself from within must expect to submit to more or less of government from without, because it cannot continue to exist on other terms—indeed, it cannot be permitted permanently to exist as a source of danger to other nations.”

This statement reflects the perception of America’s role in the world which was common in Roosevelt’s time. The ideal of bringing democracy to other nations had not yet taken hold. Rather, in Cuba, the Philippines, the Dominican Republic (San Domingo), and Panama, TR advocated self-government to the extent that the peoples were capable of governing themselves. The *form* of government was not as important as the *ability* or *capacity* of the developing peoples.

In this session, Theodore Roosevelt (portrayed by humanities scholar Clay Jenkinson) will discuss his policies and actions in Cuba and the Philippines. Roosevelt’s speeches and writings will provide the foundation for considering how our conception of America’s role in world affairs differed in Roosevelt’s time from our understanding of the ideal of democracy today.



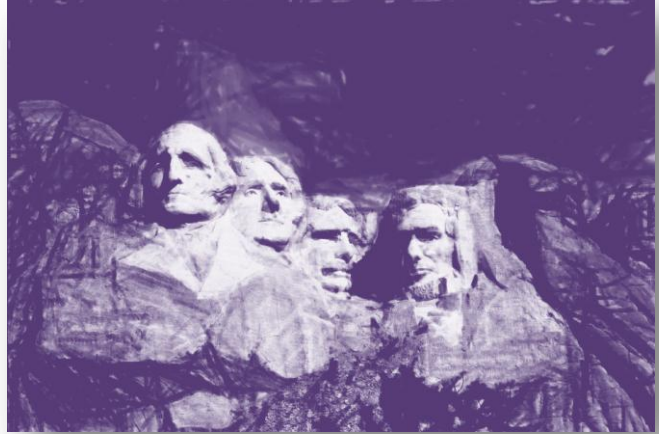
Mount Rushmore National Memorial – December 4

Reflecting the Past, Sculpting the Future: The Evolution of Democracy in America

The four presidents on Mount Rushmore National Memorial, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt, reflect key moments in the evolution of democracy in the United States. Artist Gutzon Borglum described his inspiration behind the “Shrine of Democracy”

as “These eleven words ‘man has a right to be free and to be happy’ alone will hold forever the great western experiment as a guiding

star.” The actions and decisions of these four presidents represent the evolving country in its early years as we strive to live up to their vision for America.



In this distance learning program, we will use primary sources to explore the decisions and beliefs of these four presidents as they set out to ensure that “man has a right to be free and to be happy.” From the debate over the constitution to the concern President Roosevelt had for the working man, the country has been transformed by each democratic decision in history. Focusing on the relevancy of these decisions on our current nation, we will also discuss how this country has evolved since that time and what students can do to participate in the future of the country.

Jimmy Carter National Historic Site – December 11

