

**Strengthening Democracy through History and Civics:  
American History and Civics Presidential Academies and Congressional Academies**

**PR Award #:** U422A170004

**Organization:** Center for Civic Education

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**CPP 1 Component:** Serving high need students

**CPP2 Component:** Using the Resources of the National Parks

**Total Projected Award Amount:** \$2,845,272

**Project Description:** The Center for Civic Education proposes a 5-year series of Presidential Academies for teachers and Congressional Academies for students that will address both of the Absolute Priorities as well as both of the Competitive Preference Priorities for high-need students and use of the National Parks. Both Academies will include a 2-week experience each summer in conjunction with exemplary scholars and mentor teachers. Participants will be immersed in the study of constitutional history and principles following project's objectives are to provide: 1) high-quality professional development in the content and methods of history and civics for a group of teachers of high-need students per year, 2) high-quality, interactive instruction in history and civics for a group of high-need high school students, 3) outreach and follow-up activities with scholars that will benefit teachers, students, and the general public during the year.

**Project Expected Outcomes:**

- 1) Improved subject knowledge and pedagogy for 51 teachers/year, leading to high-quality interactive instruction and a professional learning community aided by a History and Civics Online Forum
- 2) Improved content knowledge, skills, and attitudes for 102 students/year, aided by a Student Online Forum, and
- 3) A series of 8 online videos and 4 webinars that will help extend the teachers' professional development and can also benefit students and the general public.

**Special Project Features:** Partner organizations in every state will help the selection and follow-up processes. Teachers will be selected from schools with strong administrative support for work with high-need students. For each teacher, 2 high-need students from that teacher's school or school district will apply jointly and participate in the Academies. At most sessions the teachers and students will meet separately but there will be times for joint activities during the summer and school year.

**Project Partners:** James Madison University; state partner organizations