**Electronic News from the Michigan Council for History Education**

**February 2021, Vol. XIX, No. 6**

Hi, MCHE Members & Friends,

We have just been witness to one of the most historic months in American history. The very foundations of our democratic society were shaken by an electoral crisis created by disinformation and efforts to create confusion and chaos. These historic times call for responsible and creative efforts from all educators, with a special focus on those of us who teach history. I believe President Biden clearly stated the issue in his Inaugural Address:

"Recent weeks and months have taught us a painful lesson: There is truth

and there are lies. Lies told for power and for profit. And each of us

has a duty and a responsibility, as citizens, as Americans, and especially

as leaders, leaders who have pledged to honor our Constitution

and protect our nation, to defend the truth and defeat the lies."

(Washington, D.C., January 20, 2021)

One issue of great importance is the upcoming work of the Michigan Redistricting Commission. Once the final 2020 Census Report is issued, this small group of 13 Michigan citizens will be responsible for drawing congressional and state legislative district boundary lines. Please help your students understand the significance of this challenging tasks. Updates will be provided in future issues of MCHE E-Notes. In the meantime, be certain to celebrate NATIONAL HOT CHOCOLATE DAY! on Friday, January 29! Shake off those winter blues and start thinking about your summer travel plans.

With best wishes for happiness and success in the classroom and beyond

Jim McConnell, Editor, MCHE E-Notes, [jam1776@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jam1776@sbcglobal.net)

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For more info, visit MCHE on Facebook and the website. at http://teachinghistoryinmi.org

Questions, comments, corrections can be emailed to [teachinghistoryinmi@gmail.com](mailto:teachinghistoryinmi@gmail.com)

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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Joint Membership Application—National & Michigan NCHE

2. Presidents Day quiz

3. 2021 History Events in Michigan Calendar

4. April 4/8-11 NCHE Virtual Conference

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1. Gilder Lehman and McConnell Award  Deadlines Approaching

One of the most prestigious honors extended annually to history teachers is the Gilder Lehman National History Teacher of the Year. This award recognizes exceptional K–12 American history teachers across the country. The National winner, chosen from among state winners, receives a $10,000 prize presented at an award ceremony in their honor in New York City. State winners receive a $1,000 prize, an archive of classroom resources, and recognition at a ceremony in their state. While MCHE serves as the state coordinator, all nominations must be submitted via the Gilder Lehrman website at https://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-and-events/national-history-teacher-year/eligibility   Deadline for 2021 nominations: March 31, 2021.

In addition, MCHE offers three history teacher awards named in honor of MCHE founders Annette and Jim McConnell. The three award categories are elementary (K-5/6), secondary (5/6-12), and pre-service. Nominations for this award are due by May 1, 2021. Click on "Contests & Awards" at https://www.teachinghistoryinmi.org

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2. MCHE offers joint membership with National Council for History Education

Now is the time to join Both NCHE & MCHE for only $25, a 50% savings off the regular NCHE member charge of $50 annually. "We are pleased to offer this special rate to Michigan history teachers," said Tammy Shreiner, MCHE Executive Director and Grand Valley State University history professor. "This will also provide a discounted rate to attending the NCHE Virtual Conference this Spring." See the attached form to join both groups.

NCHGE Member Benefits include: "History Matters," monthly e-news with articles & resources,"Time Travelers", National Museum Admissions Network'' and discount Registration Fee for NCHE Conference (April 8-11. Details at https://ncheteach.org\* Access to Member Only website section

MCHE Member Benefits include: Free SCEUS; Fee for non-members, Special Members Only Events

Discounts on Museum/Historical site Tours Email Alert on Key Information, Service on MDE/Key Statewide education Committees. For more info, visit MCHE at http://teachinghistoryinmi.org

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3. "Virtual" Tours highlight of NCHE National Convention, Thurs.-Sun. April 8-11

With a theme of "Place and Time," the 2021 NCHE meeting offers tours of key facilities across the Nation.

The eight Virtual Field Trips offered to Conference "attendees" are visits to the  National Center for Civil and Human Rights, National Hispanic Cultural Center, National Museum of African American History and Culture, National WWI Museum and Memorial, 9/11 Memorial & Museum, Ford's Theatre, George Washington's Mount Vernon and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. With this intriguing theme and these great tours, the conference also features great keynote presenters, several breakout sessions poster sessions and more. Register NOW to ensure your place. Details at https://ncheteach.org/conference

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4. HSM Early-Bird Registration Ends: February 15th for the 62nd Annual Michigan in Perspective: Local History Conference Virtual Event, Friday-Saturday, March 19-20, 2021

Join HSM for the exciting keynotes...

\*\*\* The Heart of the Matter: A Conversation With Senator Carl Levin

\*\*\* The Roar of ’84: An Interview With Dave Rozema

\*\*\* Crusader for Justice: Judge Damon J. Keith

\*\*\* Motor City Rising: The Revitalization of Detroit

\*\*\* A Revolutionary and “Solutionary”: The Life of Ahmad Rahman

The full.program features two days filled with 32 “breakout” sessions that address local and statewide history; On-demand videos before, during, and after the conference; Tours; Hear authors talk about their books; Workshops; and opportunities to learn more about the conference sponsors.

All from the comfort and safety of your home!

Learn more at www.hsmichigan.org or by calling (800) 692-1828

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5 . HSM offers "History Hounds" weekly virtual programs

The Historical Society of Michigan offers an interesting weekly series of lectures focused on a wide variety of Michigan history topics. History Hounds programs are free to all HSM members and to members of groups having an HSM organizational membership, such as the Detroit Historical Society. Non-members can register for $7.00. All History Hounds® presentations will be REMOTE-ACCESS-ONLY until further notice. You can enjoy the content from the comfort and safety of your home. For details and to register, visit <https://hsmichigan.org/programs/history-hounds-lecture-series/>. See attached schedule.

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6. The Midwest at the Intersection of Past and Present: Midwest History Conference :  
Wednesday, May 26 ^Thursday, May 7

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. Infused with the varieties of original research pursued by scholars from many different career paths and stages, this annual gathering strives to cultivate rigorous historical understanding of a complex, dynamic, and misunderstood region. Hosted for the seventh consecutive year by the Hauenstein Center in collaboration with the Midwestern History Association, this conference will assemble a broad array of historians, literary scholars, and cultural commentators dedicated to rebuilding the field of Midwestern studies, a field largely neglected by scholars in recent decades. “The Midwest at the Intersection of Past and Present” will continue the project of rebuilding the intellectual infrastructure necessary for studies of the American Midwest to flourish

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7. Historical Society of Michigan   
The Historical Society of Michigan produces the “Michigan History Moment,” which is a three-minute radio program that looks at people, places, and events in Michigan history. Topics include “The Toledo War,” “Memorial Day: How It all Began,” and “Rosie the Riveter.” To access the complete list of programs, see https://hsmichigan.org/programs/michigan-history-moment/. (From Jana Pisani, Ferris State University) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

8. "Bridge" (The Center for Michigan)

Ron French, “Blank Screens, Distracted Students; Michigan Teachers on COVID classrooms,” January 5, 2021.

Ron French, “Gov. Whitmer Urges Michigan Schools to Offer In-Class Learning by March 1,” January 8, 2021.

To access these articles and more, see https://www.bridgemi.com/topics/talent-education.

(From Jana Pisani, Ferris State University) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

9. "This Month in History” from the History Place

February 2, 1848—The Mexican-American War ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

February 15, 1820—Women’s rights pioneer Susan B. Anthony was born in Adams, Massachusetts.

February 26, 1848—The Communist Manifesto was published by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. (From Jana Pisani, Ferris State University)

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10. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum website provides access to links for document collections involving Abraham Lincoln including the Abraham Lincoln Papers at the Library of Congress, the Internet Public Library (POTUS series), and the Abraham Lincoln Historical Digitization Project. The links may be found at <http://lincolnlibraryandmuseum.com/websites.htm>. (From Jana Pisani, Ferris State University)

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11. Library of Congress lessons. February marks the opening of baseball training camps in Florida and Arizona and I played through American Legion Baseball and then coached the sport for several decades. This lesson plan uses primary sources in “exploring the American experience regarding race and ethnicity. The lesson plan spans 5 days and has students analyze historical images, create an original argument, pose historical questions, employ search strategies and place developments of race and ethnicity in historical context. https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/baseball-race-and-ethnicity-rounding-the-bases/

(From Dick Cooley, GVSU) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

12. River Raisins National Battlefield Park programs/events/ From the River  
This lesson plan is for upper elementary. “A Nation Divided”  It helps answer the essential questions: “How does conflict lead to change within societies?  How did conflict between the North and the South create changes?   The lesson takes 90 minutes. The first suggested activity has the students write a play that depicts a modern problem and then decide as a group how to solve it. <https://www.nps.gov/teachers/classrooms/a-nation-divided-elementary-school-lesson-plan.htm> (From Dick Cooley, GVSU)

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13. Colonial Williamsburg  A link through the Colonial Williamsburg website connects to the Teaching Tolerance website.  This lesson plan is entitled “The Truth About Voting”. With this lesson plan students learn some common myths about voting today, brainstorm who this myths might benefit, why the myths are incorrect and how they might work to ensure that every eligible voter has an opportunity to vote. The extension activity teaches students how to register to vote. <https://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources/tolerance-lessons/the-truth-about-voting>. (From Dick Cooley, GVSU) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

14. PBS offers education programs World History lesson plan. “One Nation: Two Futures? This lesson analyzes the economic and political changes in China and the increasing economic disparity or “wealth gap” and, in the process, offers the opportunity for teachers to apply some of the same problems that are currently facing the United States, especially between rural and urban areas. <https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/wa08.socst.world.glob.lpfutures/one-nation-two-futures/>. (From Dick Cooley, GVSU)

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15. Three recent books I have enjoyed listening to on my Kindle

(1) "Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World" By: Margaret MacMillan…Winner of the Samuel Johnson Prize, renowned historian Margaret MacMillan's best-selling Paris 1919 is the story of six remarkable months that changed the world….(A complex, complicated tale of the many issues and treaties following the First World War. J.M.)

(2) "An Honest President: The Life and Presidencies of Grover Cleveland" By: H. Paul Jeffers Narrated by: Raymond Todd Length: 10 hrs and 9 mins from Audible (NOTE: Audible just emailed me with the report that I had listened to 21 of their books in 2020, totaling more than 180 hours…Is this a COVIC benefit?)

(3) "Leadership in Turbulent Times " By: Doris Kearns Goodwin

Narrated by: Beau Bridges , David Morse , Jay O. Sanders , Richard Thomas, Doris Kearns Goodwin - In Leadership, Goodwin draws upon four presidents - Lincoln, the two Roosevelts, and LBJ (in civil rights) - to show how they first recognized leadership qualities within themselves, and were recognized by others as leaders....

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16. Check out C Span 3—American History Q&A on Hoover

This 60 minutes Interview by Brian Lamb features Presidential historian Richard Norton Smith talking about "An Uncommon Man", his biography of President Herbert Hoover. Visit <https://www.c-span.org/video/?450713-1/qa-richard-norton-smith>

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17. What was the worst year in American History?

Here are three interesting articles that you might enjoy sharing with friends, colleagues and your students..

(1) "2020 was a difficult year for many, but according to historians, it's not the most stressful year in U.S. history" by Caitlin O'Kane, December 28, 2020 / CBS News https://www.cbsnews.com/amp/news/most-stressful-years-american-history

(2) "Is This the Worst Year in Modern American History? Comparing 2020 to 1968 offers some disquieting lessons for the present." May 31, 2020, by James Fallows. The Atlantic: https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/05/1968-and-2020- lessons-from-americas-worst-year-so-far/612415

(3) "536 AD — the worst year in history" Scholars and researchers agree on the year that was worse than any other. https://medium.com/lessons-from-history/536-ad-the-worst-year-in- history-472a32797e46 472a32797e46https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/11/why-536-was-worst-year-be-alive

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18. Can you name the Presidents who skipped their successors inauguration?

The History of Skipping a Successor's Inauguration

<https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/178794Th>

Brief articles offers comments on the four (not three) POTUS who skipped their successors inauguration: John Adams in 1801; John Quincy Adams in 1829; Martin VanBuren in 1841; and Andrew Johnson in 1869. Update… Jan. 20, 2021… Donald J. Trump

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19. Generational Theory offers Presidential Trivia

In their scholarly, ground-breaking book, "Generations: The History of America's Future, 1584 to 2069 (1991), authors Neil Howe and William Strauss develop a pattern of four generational value systems impacting all aspects of American life. Their complex theory notes one exception: the American Civil War generation. An interesting point they make about modern American politics is that only one generation in American history has never been able to have a person from their generation elected to the presidency. That generation was the "Silents (1925 to 1964), sandwiched between the G.I. ("Greatest") Generation (1901 to 1924) and the Baby Boomer (1943 to 1960). As a proud member of the "Silents," I have always felt deprived of one of my constitutional rights. However, Joseph R. Biden has actually caused Howe and Strauss to edit that sentence out of new editions of their book. Born in 1942, Biden has also earned the distinction of becoming the oldest person ever elected President. Seriously, I do recommend you consider reading Howe and Strauss' intriguing book.

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20. Michigan Women History Center (https://miwf.org/)   
WomanUp and Pitch on Feb. 4 at 5:30 -7:30 pm.Watch as 30 competition finalists pitch their business ideas to a team of judges and vote for your favorite.

(From Nadine Hall, Greenhills School, Ann Arbor) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

21. History News Network (http://historynewsnetwork.org/donations.html)   
Featured stories from historians: Donald Trump’s Situational Fascism, By the People, for the People, but Not Necessarily Open to the People and What it Means to Censure a President

(From Nadine Hall, Greenhills School, Ann Arbor) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*8\*\*\*\*\*\*

22. Other Michigan Museums

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

Educators Virtual Open House on Feb. 16 at 4:30 - 6:00pm. This first Open House of 2021 will showcase the many educational, cultural and digital offerings and resources available to use in classrooms. For questions, email Dave Serio, Public Programming Specialist at dserio@accesscommunity.org

Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (https://www.thewright.org/events) Conversations with Ghanaian artist Ibrahim Mahama on Monday, February 15 at  6:00pm. His current installation covers a full wall of the Wright Community Gallery, commenting on capitalism, globalization, and African independence today.

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

Genocide Today: The Uyghurs in China on Thursday, Februray 11 at 7:00pm.The Uyghurs, a Turkic Muslim miniority in China, are being perseuted by the Chinese government with incarceration in concentration camps, forced sterilization, mass disappearances, and the destruction of their culture.

Learning from the Germans: Race and the Memory of Evil on Sunday, February 21 at 2:00pm. As an increasingly polarized America fights over the legacy of racism and slavery, what can we learn from the Germans about confronting the evils of the past?

(From Nadine Hall, Greenhills School, Ann Arbor) \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

23. Clements Library/UM (https://clements.umich.edu/)   
“Framing Identity” Representations of Empowerment and Resilience in the Black Experience on Friday, February 19 at 10:00am. Online Exhibit, focuses on early photography of African Americans.  (From Nadine Hall, Greenhills School, Ann Arbor)

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24. NCHE recommends "The Sword and the Shield"

History Professor Peniel Joseph has written a new book, "The Sword and the Shield: The Revolutionary Lives of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr" that might be of interest to you. The book offers a definitive history of the relationship between Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. and the way their political legacies continue to shape debates over race, democracy, citizenship and civil rights.

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25. News from the Michigan History Center

(A) Interested in being a Hartwick Pines volunteer?

Hartwick Pines State Park, located just northeast of Grayling, is seeking volunteer hosts for the newly reopened Memorial Building this summer. Participating hosts camp for free at Hartwick Pines State Park campground in exchange for presenting programs and leading tours at the historic Memorial Building. The host schedule is designed to allow time to enjoy recreational activities. Visit the DNR Campground Hosts page for more information and to apply at https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79137\_79767\_79866\_96973\_96974---,00.html?utm\_campaign=JanFeb%202021%20News&utm\_medium=newsletter&utm\_source=govdelivery

(B) New videos on voting history in Michigan are now online. The COVID-19 pandemic delayed the opening of our newest Michigan History Museum exhibit, "I Voted: Michigan's Struggle for Suffrage."

Museum curators have begun adapting the research and exhibit content into new digital forms, including videos. The first four short videos are now available at [vimeo.com/MichiganHistory](http://vimeo.com/MichiganHistory) (NOTE: I did not find this info, but did spot other interesting items, especially Mann House tour…JM)

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26. The Henry Ford Seeks Nominees for Teacher Innovator Awards

Do you know a teacher who inspires creativity, is incredibly resourceful and has had a positive impact in the classroom and community? If so, nominate that teacher now for the Teacher Innovator Awards sponsored by Raytheon Technologies. Applications are being accepted through March 12, 2021. More info at https://www.thehenryford.org/education/competitions-and-events/teacher-innovator-awards/?utm\_campaign=edu\_inhub\_innovator\_awards\_january\_2021&utm\_source=ipost&utm\_medium=email

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27. Keep an eye out for... C Span

48 Hours of Book TV and American History TV: Every weekend, C-SPAN2 and C-SPAN3 pivot from the week's public affairs programming to 48 hours of Book TV and American History TV. Tune in as they feature programs related to this transition in government (plus a lot more!) in the coming weeks and months. Programming starts at 8 am ET every Saturday. Book TV on C SPAN 2 and American History TV on C SPAN 3.

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28. Will Trump's mishandling of records leave a hole in history?

As the Trump administration departs the Nation's Capitol, this article written by Debra Rechmann expressed her concerns in this thoughtful article. She raises serious concerns about the need to preserve documents for future use in archives. I believe this concerns applies as well to the records of many public and private organizations from the national to the local level. Visit <https://my.earthlink.net/article/top?guid=20210116/dff3ec35-5d84-49a0-898d-6a3707df3f79>

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29. How did the most populous U.S. cities change over time?

"The Past in Person" (Michael Deren) recently emailed to me a very brief video "The Top U.S. States by Population from 1790 to 2050" (History + Projection)  
He stated, "An interesting graphic. Notice that Michigan did not have a jump in numbers of population (just the quality!) when I moved here,(from New England), in 1979! These are interesting to watch. There are several others...Iron Ore production, Copper production, etc."

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