



# We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution CALIFORNIA/NEVADA SUMMER INSTITUTE

July 6 – 12, 2010 ★ University of San Diego, California

## ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution helps students understand the history and principles of our constitutional government. The program focuses on the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights and fosters civic competence and responsibility among upper elementary, middle, and high school students in public and private schools nationwide.

The California institute is a rigorous professional development program that brings educators together 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, they also participate in a culminating activity modeled on the We the People simulated congressional hearing, an authentic assessment strategy.

The following topics are addressed in the lectures and group sessions:

- What are the philosophical and historical foundations of the American political system?
- How did the Framers create the Constitution?
- How has the Constitution been changed to further the ideals contained in the Declaration of Independence?
- How have the values and principles embodied in the Constitution shaped American institutions and practices?
- What rights does the Bill of Rights protect?
- What challenges might face American constitutional democracy in the twenty-first century?



## WHO CAN APPLY

Educators from schools throughout California and Nevada are eligible to apply. Enrollment is limited to 32 teachers from upper elementary, middle and high schools, both public and private. Applications are due May 3, 2010 with notification of acceptance by May 17, 2010.

## BENEFITS

Participants will receive AT NO COST

- Reimbursement of up to \$250 for transportation costs or mileage to and from the institute
- Lodging and meals
- A library of congressional literature
- A set of *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution* texts and other materials for the classroom

## LOCATION

The University of San Diego's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice is situated on a prominent hilltop with a 180-degree view of San Diego's Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean. The surrounding grounds include the Garden of the Sea, which features a reflection pool, lush gardens, sculptures, and stunning views. The university is minutes away from the airport and downtown.

## OBLIGATION

Participation in the institute—considered to be professional development worth more than \$3,000—obligates the recipient to conduct a simulated congressional hearing in his or her classroom. State, regional, and congressional district coordinators for We the People will assist with the hearing and other aspects of program implementation.



## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Kari Coppinger, California We the People Professional Development Coordinator  
Email: [coppinger@civiced.org](mailto:coppinger@civiced.org) Phone: (805) 426-5397



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**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE MAY 3, 2010**

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## HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete BOTH PAGES of the application form.
2. Secure written administrative support to conduct a We the People simulated congressional hearing in your classroom (*have administrator sign the "Statement of Administrative Support" section of this application*).
3. Email or fax both pages of the completed application form to:  
Kari Coppinger, California We the People Professional Development Coordinator  
Email: [coppinger@civiced.org](mailto:coppinger@civiced.org)  
Fax: (805) 421-5371

## APPLICATION

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE**

Name/position:		
Grade/classes you currently teach:		
Grade/classes assigned to teach in 2010–2011:		
School name/district:		
School address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
School telephone: (      )	School fax: (      )	
Home telephone: (      )	Email address:	
Home address:		
City:	State:	Zip:

## STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Administrative contact person:		
Title:		
School:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone: (      )	Fax: (      )	
Email address:		

The \_\_\_\_\_ school district understands that (*applicant*) \_\_\_\_\_ is obligated to conduct a We the People simulated congressional hearing in his/her classroom as part of the normal curriculum. The district will support him/her in this activity. The school district also understands that high school teachers may choose to enter their classes in a We the People national competition according to the We the People Rules for High School Competition.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**WRITTEN STATEMENT**

In no more than 300 words, describe your current teaching assignments and your interest in the institute subject matter. Explain how participating in the institute can benefit your teaching. Include your plans for using the material and implementing the program.