

The Dakota Writing Project 2009 Holocaust Institute

Exploring the Issues of Cultural Trauma, Identity, and Resilience in the Jewish and Native American Communities

What: The Dakota Writing Project Holocaust Institute

When: July 26-31, 2009 (follow-up meeting November 7, 2009)

Where: University of South Dakota, Vermillion

Who: For middle-school and high school teachers in a variety of subject areas

Cost: \$275 including on-campus housing (food extra)



Using identity as a central theme, the institute will focus on the resilience of the Jewish and Native American communities when confronted with traumatic events such as the Holocaust and the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890. Middle school and high school teachers at this institute will explore these issues and develop lesson plans that can be brought back to their classrooms. This institute is intended to help

teachers and their students appreciate the importance of tolerance, acceptance, and respect of all cultures while recognizing the unique challenges that our state faces.

At the Holocaust Institute, we will

- Focus on catastrophe and healing, discussing where our students are now in their understanding of perpetrators, victims, bystanders, and rescuers—as related to the Holocaust, Native Americans, and individuals within their own classrooms and larger communities.
- Discuss readings and other relevant materials on the Jewish Holocaust and Native American genocides, as well as connecting with guest presenters.
- Discuss the process of integrating the state standards into classroom activities on the Jewish Holocaust and Native American genocides.
- Share classroom strategies that can be used to help students understand that teasing and harassment can lead to intolerance and a lack of respect for others' cultural/racial identities.
- Develop writing assignments and other classroom activities that will support our students' understanding of tolerance and respect for others.
- "Pack a trunk": The highlight activity of the Institute will be the teachers "packing a trunk" that contains materials and resources for student assignments and other classroom activities

stemming from the Holocaust Institute, trunks that teachers can take home with them and continue to fill.

- Attend a follow-up meeting November 7, 2009, in which participants will share their expanded trunks and discuss the ongoing process of integrating the Jewish Holocaust and Native American genocides into their classroom teaching.

The Institute will be held July 26th-31st, 2009 at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, with a follow-up meeting on November 7, 2009. DWP teacher-consultants leading this institute include the following individuals:



Professor Jan Hausmann. — Hausmann teaches at Mount Marty College in Yankton, South Dakota; attended the 2008 Memorial Library Summer Seminar on Holocaust Education in New York City; and regularly incorporates Holocaust literature into her courses for pre-service teachers.

Sue Morrell. — Morrell, a National Board Certified teacher, teaches English courses at Wagner Community School, in a school district that includes a significant Native student population.



Jason Murray. — Murray is a Native American (Chocktaw and Chickasaw) graduate student and teaching assistant working on his PhD in English at the University of South Dakota and completing a dissertation on Yankton Sioux (Nakota) author Zitkala-Sa.

To register for the DWP Holocaust Institute, fill out the registration form available on our website at <http://orgs.usd.edu/dwp/> .

Established in 1982 and closely affiliated with the National Writing Project (NWP), the Dakota Writing Project is one of approximately 190 Writing Project sites across the nation. The Dakota Writing Project (DWP) offers South Dakota teachers in any subject area and at any grade level (kindergarten through college) opportunities for professional development, including a four-week invitational summer institute, writing retreats, national meetings, and in-service in South Dakota schools. DWP provides opportunities for some of the best teachers in the state to become teacher-consultants and lead professional development. For more information, email dwp@usd.edu or visit <http://orgs.usd.edu/dwp/>.