

We the People

Article 1

We The People:

The Citizen And The Constitution

ARIZONA

SUMMER INSTITUTE

A FREE Professional Development Opportunity

June 9-13, 2008

Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education

Phoenix, Arizona

Sponsored By

Arizona Foundation for
**LEGAL SERVICES
& EDUCATION**

With Funding Provided by the
**Center for Civic Education &
the Arizona Supreme Court**

We the People...

The Citizen and the Constitution is a curriculum designed to help 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 elementary, middle, and high school students in public and private schools nationwide.

The institute is a rigorous professional development program that brings teachers to Yavapai College to work with constitutional scholars from a variety of disciplines. Teachers attend lectures and sessions dedicated to teaching methods appropriate to the *We the People* curriculum. They also participate in a simulated congressional hearing modeled on the *We the People* culminating activity.



Lecture, Teaching Method, and Assessment Content address the following topics:

- What Are the Historical and Philosophical Foundations of the American Political System?
- How Did the Framers Create the Constitution?
- How Did the Values and Principles Embodied in the Constitution Shape American Institutions and Practices?
- How Have the Protections of the Bill of Rights Been Developed and Expanded?
- What Rights Does the Bill of Rights Protect?
- What Are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?

Twenty-Four Arizona teachers from upper elementary, middle, and high schools, both public and private, will be selected to attend. Participation in the institute, a free professional development opportunity worth more than \$2000, obligates the recipient to conduct a simulated congressional hearing in his/her classroom. State and congressional district coordinators for *We the People* will assist with this and other program implementation.

Institute Participants Receive at NO COST:

- Training and interaction with Constitutional Scholars
- A library of Constitutional literature
- A set of textbooks and other materials for the classroom
- Travel stipend
- Lunch

Participants traveling outside of Maricopa County will also receive lodging and all meals.

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 14, 2008

Participants will be notified of acceptance first come, first served.

HOW TO APPLY:

1. Complete BOTH PAGES of the application form.
(Please print or type!)
2. Secure administrative support for a *We the People* simulated congressional hearing in your classroom.
3. Enclose two letters of recommendation from past or present colleagues.
4. Fax or mail the application form along with letters of recommendation to:

Jennifer Nickason, Professional Development Manager
The Arizona Foundation for Legal Services &
Education
4201 N. 24th St. Suite 210
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Fax 602-416-7564

Location:

The 2008 We the People Summer Institute will be held in **Phoenix, Arizona** at the Arizona Foundation for Legal Service & Education office.

4201 N. 24th ST, STE 210
Phoenix, AZ 85016

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS, CONTACT:

Jennifer Nickason at 602-340-7364 •
Jennifer.Nickason@azflse.org

PRAISE FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS OF SUMMER INSTITUTES :

- “This is the best education experience I have had! The information I acquired at the institute will be an integral part of my curriculum. I walked away with greater confidence as an educator, scholar, and American citizen.”
- “This was the most rewarding, personally fulfilling professional development experience I’ve had in my fifteen years of teaching. In terms of the content, organization and the quality of the facilitators, the expression “professional” must be emphasized. There was just the right balance throughout the week between academic rigor and relaxation.”
- “This was the BEST teacher experience that I have had in my entire professional career. Never before have I felt as if what I did was of such vital importance.”
- “The true beneficiaries of this institute are not the teachers who attended. Rather, our students will be the real winners. I can’t think of a program that will have such power over what is taught in the classroom.”
- “This program ranks as one of the real high points in my career as an educator. I really worked hard at the institute, but it was well worth it.”

APPLICATION FORM

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION:

April 14, 2008

Fill out BOTH PAGES completely (please print or type)

Name/position _____

Grade/classes you teach _____

Years teaching _____

School name/district

School address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip+4 _____

School telephone () _____ School fax ()

Home telephone () _____ E-mail address

Home address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4

Have you used We the People... materials in your classroom? If so, for how long and to what extent?

(Note: We the People... experience is not a determinant of institute participation)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Administrative contact person

School _____ Title

School address

City _____ State _____

Zip+4 _____

School telephone () _____ School fax ()

E-mail address

The _____ school district understands that
_____ 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* competition according to the guidelines in the *We the People...Program Participation Handbook*. Elementary and Middle school teachers may choose to participate in a showcase at the congressional district and state levels.

Signature _____
WRITTEN STATEMENT

In no more than 300 words, describe your current teaching assignments and your interest in the institute subject matter. Explain how you think participating in the institute can benefit your teaching. (Attach additional pages if needed)