

TEACHERS NOT TOURISTS

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOUNT VERNON ESTATE AND GARDENS
ANNOUNCES ENRICHING NEW PROGRAMS FOR

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY GRANT RECIPIENTS

- **First-Time-Ever Residential Programs**
- **Enhanced menu of one-day programs and tours**
- **District Outreach by Mount Vernon staff**

Mount Vernon, which opened to the public in 1858, is one of the nation's oldest and most significant historic house museums. For over 150 years, visitors to the Estate have learned about the character and accomplishments of George Washington and his lasting legacy in our nation's founding era. The Mount Vernon Education Department has now created a menu of programs designed to take teachers off the "tour-bus" and into an engaging exploration of George Washington and the early years of our nation.

Through on-going documentary and archaeological research over the last 30 years, this story has broadened well beyond the walls of the mansion Washington designed. You can now experience a four-acre farm site dedicated to teaching about Washington's innovations in agriculture; a replica of his revolutionary 16-sided treading barn designed to streamline the processing of wheat and other grain products; a reconstructed slave cabin, where the story of the enslaved population comes to life; a working gristmill and distillery, where Washington's economic vision for his nation is revealed; a working blacksmith shop that helps to tell the story of a large plantation; and a 17,000-square-foot education center and museum, where the story of Washington's remarkable life and the founding of our nation is told through engaging exhibitions and interactive media.

In support of the Teaching American History grant program goal to raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge and understanding of and appreciation for traditional U.S. history, Mount Vernon has expanded its program offerings. Grant participants can now get off the tour bus and engage in programs designed to enhance their understanding and appreciation of Washington's accomplishments and character. Through in-depth discussion, tours, and workshops, they will explore how Washington's legacy of decisive leadership, innovation, and civic responsibility remain relevant today.

Residential Programs

For the first time ever, Mount Vernon will offer a **residential program** where participating teachers will reside on the grounds of Washington's home while immersing themselves in the study of his leadership and his impact on the founding of our nation. Notable Washington scholars and Mount Vernon educators will conduct this intensive 3 night/2-day study of Washington's leadership in both the public and private sector. A combination of lectures, workshops, and tours, the program is designed to enhance teachers' understanding of Washington's role in founding the nation; engage their interest through first-hand observation and discussion; and provide ideas and activities to take back to the classroom. Participants will be encouraged to look beyond the confines of the 18th century and discuss how the concepts and ideas discussed can be used throughout their curriculums.

Sample Itinerary:

Day One: (Arrival)

Late Afternoon Arrival (between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m.)

Dinner at the Mount Vernon Inn

Day Two: *George Washington: Commanding the World Stage*

Breakfast	Mount Vernon Inn Terrace Room
Lecture	<i>The Evolution of Leadership</i>
Tour	Grounds and Outbuildings (evolution of Mount Vernon)
Lecture	<i>Commander in Chief</i>
Lunch	The Bolton Dining Room
Lecture	<i>Leading a Nation: Constitution and Presidency</i>
Workshop	<i>Commanding the World Stage: Documents and Images</i>
Tour	Project - Directed tour of the Education Center
Dinner	Mount Vernon Inn

Day Three: *George Washington: Visionary Entrepreneur*

Breakfast	Mount Vernon Inn Terrace Room
Lecture	<i>George Washington: Entrepreneur</i>
Tour	Pioneer Farm Site/Slave Cabin <i>Conversation with Billy Lee</i> (or other member of the enslaved community)
Lunch	The Mount Vernon Inn
Lecture	<i>Slavery at Mount Vernon</i>
Workshop	<i>Understanding Slavery through Documents</i>
Tour	Gristmill/Distillery
Tour	Curator's Tour of the Mansion
Dinner	Bolton Dining Room

Day Four Departure

Breakfast	The Mount Vernon Inn
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For information on program costs, scheduling, and a menu of special programs and reception possibilities, please contact Nancy Hayward, Director of Programs at nhayward@mountvernon.org (703-799-8603) or Laurel Noe, Education Associate at lnoe@mountvernon.org (703-799-5234).

One-Day Program Experiences

Mount Vernon has created a variety of programs to provide teachers with engaging explorations of George Washington, his home, and his times. Depending on the focus of study, teachers can explore Washington's public leadership; discuss his belief in agriculture and commerce as the base of America's economic success; learn about the role archaeology and research play in interpreting the past; or explore Washington's role as a slave owner. These lectures can be augmented with specially-designed guided tours of the Estate and encounters with character interpreters portraying "18th-century residents of Mount Vernon."

For more information on these programs, please contact Laurel Noe at lnoe@mountvernon.org (703-799-5234)

District Outreach

Upon request, Mount Vernon will reinforce the above day-long or residential programs through follow-up workshops in the TAH-grant home school district.

These programs may include either half-day or full-day lecture/workshops.