



## TEACHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2009 - 2010

*Join a worldwide effort to preserve the past and inspire future generations*

Civic Voices offers:

- Civil Rights Seminars for teachers in Birmingham and Boston
- International teacher exchanges to Colombia, Georgia, Mongolia, Northern Ireland, the Philippines, Poland and South Africa; and
- Free teaching materials

---

### CIVIC VOICES

Civic Voices is an international civic education exchange program that will involve teachers and students from around the world in the task of preserving the legacy of their countries' democratic struggles. Participating teachers will ask their students to conduct interviews with activists and analyze their stories to explore how civic ideals are realized through grass-roots efforts. The project focuses on the power of personal narrative to inform and inspire future generations of citizens.

The American Federation of Teachers Educational Foundation will administer the project with teachers' union partners in seven countries. The project will help commemorate the stories of these important struggles:

- Civil Rights Movement in the United States
- Solidarity Movement in Poland
- The Troubles in Northern Ireland
- People Power Revolution in the Philippines
- Anti-Apartheid Struggle in South Africa
- Democratic Transition in Mongolia
- Struggle for Rule of Law in Colombia
- Rose Revolution in Georgia

---

### DEMOCRACY MEMORY BANK

All teachers who participate in the Civic Voices project will be asked to work with their students to collect and record oral histories from at least three activists for democracy and rights within their communities. These stories will be uploaded to an online democracy memory bank, where they will be catalogued along with the narratives of other activists from around the world. The stories will then be available for analysis by students, historians, and researchers at:

[WWW.CIVICVOICES.ORG](http://WWW.CIVICVOICES.ORG)

In addition to housing the memory bank, this web site will feature a map of civic engagement and provide a virtual forum where students worldwide can voice their opinions on vital civic issues. The site also provides a rich collection of resources for classroom projects, including an international student survey, student essays from around the world, background readings on core civic concepts, and lesson ideas.

---

## CIVIC VOICES FELLOWS

To apply for a Civic Voices Fellowship, you must be a secondary-school social studies teacher with classroom assignments that allow you to incorporate Civic Voices materials and projects. You must have at least three years teaching experience and be willing to participate in program evaluation. Travel and accommodation expenses for all professional development programs will be covered by the project grant and Fellows may also receive a modest stipend, dependent on their level of engagement.

*U.S. Fellows.* Civic Voices will offer domestic professional development opportunities focused on the American civil rights movement for U.S. Fellows. These seminars will feature foot soldiers who participated in historic desegregation efforts and focus on the power of the individual to promote social change. The content-rich programs will also include discussion of methodological best practices for comparative civics, community research, and oral history projects. The seminars will be held at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and the MLK Library at Boston University.

U.S. Fellows will be required to

- Participate actively in a Civil Rights Seminar in either Birmingham or Boston. The events will be held in March and April (respectively) of 2010
- Incorporate program materials into classroom teaching
- Submit at least three oral history interviews to the Democracy Memory Bank

*International Fellows.* **NOTE:** Competition for international fellows is currently closed. Further opportunities will be available in the 2010-2011 academic year.

Civic Voices International Fellows will take part in exchanges that feature professional development seminars and visits to schools and historic sites in one of the seven partner countries. Spaces on these trips are extremely limited and will be reserved for teachers who show an active interest in conducting the oral history project and infusing international experiences into their teaching.

International Fellows will be required to

- Participate professional development events sponsored by Civic Voices
- Conduct peer-to-peer professional development for at least 25 teachers
- Incorporate program materials into classroom teaching
- Submit at least three oral history interviews to the Democracy Memory Bank

For updates and further details on professional development opportunities, visit:

[WWW.AFT.ORG/CIVICVOICES](http://WWW.AFT.ORG/CIVICVOICES)

---

## BACKGROUND

Civic Voices is administered by the American Federation of Teachers Educational Foundation as part of grant Q307A090003, funded by the the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act approved by the U.S. Congress. The project builds upon the work of long-term partnerships with Russell Sage College and the Center for Civic Education.

American partner organizations include: Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Boston University School of Education, Council on Citizenship Education at Russell Sage College, Freedom House, and New York City Justice Resource Center.

## CIVIC VOICES FELLOW APPLICATION

*If you are interested in becoming a Civic Voices Fellow, please submit the following material:*

- A completed application form (below)
- A one-page statement of interest
- A relevant sample lesson plan
- A letter of reference

*Please rank the following Civic Voices professional development programs in order of your preference, 1 being most preferred and 2 being second. If selected, you will be notified of which program is still available. Applications for the limited number of spaces will be accepted on a rolling basis until all are filled, so apply now.*

**U.S. Civil Rights Seminar -- Birmingham**  
**Thursday, March 4-Sunday, March 7, 2010**

rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellows will visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute to interact with participants in the city's desegregation movement as well as international educators taking part in the project, who will share their stories of activism.

**U.S. Civil Rights Seminar -- Boston**  
**Wednesday, April 7-Sunday, April 11, 2010**

rank: \_\_\_\_\_

In conjunction with Boston University's Human Rights Week, participants will delve into the papers and archives of Martin Luther King, Jr., and interview local activists who participated in the civil rights movement.

LAST NAME		FIRST NAME	
HOME ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP
HOME PHONE		EMAIL	
SCHOOL NAME		DISTRICT NAME	
SCHOOL ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP CODE
SCHOOL PHONE		SCHOOL FAX	
YEARS OF TEACHING	CERTIFICATION AREA		
CURRENT CLASSES			
OTHER LANGUAGES SPOKEN			

*Applications should be sent by email, fax, or regular mail to:*

American Federation of Teachers Educational Foundation  
 ATTN: International Affairs  
 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009  
 iad@aft.org  
 phone: 202/879-4448  
 fax: 202/879-4502