

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota Humanities Center's Landmarks of American History Workshop, *Building America: Minnesota's Iron Range, U.S. Industrialization, and the Creation of a World Power*, conducted by the Minnesota Humanities Center and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. We hope you consider joining some of the finest minds in America in studying the impact that Minnesota's Iron Range has had on American History.

It is our pleasure to provide you with specific details of our workshops, including eligibility and application requirements. Please review expectations in terms of attendance, reading requirements, and participation in the workshop program, *before* submitting your application. Contact Mallory Wessel if you have any questions at mallory@minnesotahumanities.org or 651-772-4252.

Visit the *Building America* web site (www.ironrangeworkshop.org) for the complete and the most up-to-date information about this residential teacher workshop, including streaming video featuring program scholars, and complete online application materials. This site will be updated regularly with new features and workshop details.

WHEN WILL THE WORKSHOPS TAKE PLACE?

Two one-week residential workshops will be conducted in northern Minnesota's Iron Range during the weeks of **June 13-18 and August 1-6, 2010**. Each week, 40 participants from across the nation will explore the Iron Range and the people who worked, sacrificed, and died in the mines to build industrial America and help win two world wars.

DID YOU KNOW?

- 80% of the iron ore that built industrial America, including the Brooklyn Bridge and the skyscrapers in New York, was taken out of the ground on Minnesota's Iron Range
- 188,310,000 tons of ore were extracted from the ground during WWII to supply steel to the U.S. war effort
- Since 1882, people from 46 different ethnic groups settled on Minnesota's Iron Range, an area that stretches only 100 miles long and 10 miles wide

WHAT IS THE WORKSHOP CONTENT AND FOCUS?

The history of Minnesota's Iron Range, its contributions, and its people is rarely, if ever, told. It is absent from general treatments of American history, absent from examinations of industrial America, and absent from studies of the U.S. military build-ups in the first and second world wars; the Iron Range appears as only a footnote in historical treatments of the American steel industry.

The history of the people who came to work these mines is the history of America; it is the story of immigrants, of conflict and assimilation, of people creating lives for themselves, their families, and others.

Minnesota's Iron Range is the historic region or main “landmark” central to the Minnesota Humanities Center's National Endowment for the Humanities Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop *Building America: Minnesota's Iron Range, U.S. Industrialization, and the Creation of a World Power*.

The workshops will focus on the history and activities that took place on the Vermilion and the Mesabi Iron Ranges. Participants will be provided with resources and new content knowledge for introducing the history of Minnesota’s Iron Range region, its contributions, and its people into their current American history curriculum. In order to make this easier, the workshops will be based on national history standards and national social studies standards and will be organized around three central themes that align with those standards. These three themes are: 1) Natural History of the Landmark: Geography and Geology; 2) The Mines and their Contributions to American History; 3) and the People and the Mines.

FIRST THEME

THE NATURAL HISTORY: GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF THE IRON RANGE

Teachers will begin their examination of the importance of this place by studying the Natural History of the Landmark: Geography and Geology. The history of the Range will be introduced and participants will hear presentations on the natural history of the area by Dr. Richard Ojakangas along with discussion led by the program’s lead scholars Dr. David Lanegran and Ms. Pamela Brunfelt.

SECOND THEME

THE MINES AND THEIR IMPORTANCE TO AMERICAN HISTORY

The history and significance of this mine in local and national contexts will be discussed. Teachers will tour the Soudan Underground Mine on the Vermilion Range, the oldest and deepest iron mine in Minnesota. The group will travel one-half mile into the earth. This tour will help teachers focus their energies on experiencing what daily life was like for those who worked the mines. Afterward, teachers will participate in a discussion about how the Iron Range contributed to building industrial America. Opportunities to work one-on-one with scholars and the program’s lead teachers will be available throughout the course of the week.

Keeping with the second theme, teachers will learn about and see the Hull Rust Mahoning Mine in Hibbing, MN. Here teachers will learn about and experience firsthand the biggest operating open-pit iron ore mine in the world. Initially an underground mine, over 519 million tons of waste material and 690 million tons of iron ore have been removed from this mine area since ore shipments began in 1895. During the tour teachers will be encouraged to take note of differences between underground and open-pit mining. After the Hull Rust Mahoning Mine, activities will continue with a tour of Hibbing High School, a testament to the wealth of U.S. Steel. Area teacher and one of the program’s lead teachers Craig Hattam will tour the group through this magnificent high school building. With its medieval castle-like framework, 1,800 velvet seat grand auditorium with cut-glass crystal chandelier imported from Belgium, it is a good example of how people on the Range kept some of the wealth generated by the iron ore in their communities. Teachers will also hear how the entire town of Hibbing was moved in order to access more iron ore.

THIRD THEME

THE PEOPLE AND THE MINES

With the introduction of the third theme – The People and the Iron Range – teachers will study the diverse populations who worked the Range. The day will begin with an exploration of Jewish life at the B.nai Abraham Synagogue, the only remaining of four original synagogues on the Iron Range, along with a presentation on immigrant populations on the Range by David Lanegran and Arnold Alanen. The afternoon shifts focus from the Jewish to the Finnish populations that entered the Iron Range. During and after lunch, at Kaleva Hall, teachers will get a deeper look into company towns and communities on the Range.

Teachers will have the opportunity to participate in an interactive workshop on how the Range contributed to industrialization and the history of the United States. Participants will be asked to imagine America without the ore and the Iron Range. They will learn how to make this learning relevant for their classroom instruction through small group work and large group interaction.

A chartered train tour from Two Harbors to Duluth-Superior will move us from looking at the relationship of The People and the Mines to the relationship between the Mines and the Ports. Teachers will learn where in the world all the ore has been distributed and used. Our time in Duluth will include a stop at Canal Park.

Listen to streaming video clips from workshop scholars on the *Building America* web site to learn more about the workshop content.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

Classroom teachers and librarians in public, private, parochial, and charter schools, as well as home-schooling parents are eligible to participate. Other K-12 school personnel, including administrators, substitute teachers, and classroom paraprofessionals, are also eligible to participate, subject to available space.

Teachers at schools in the United States or its territorial possessions or Americans teaching in foreign schools where at least 50 percent of the students are American nationals are eligible for this program. Applicants must be United States citizens, residents of U.S. jurisdictions, or foreign nationals who have been residing in the United States or its territories for at least the three years immediately preceding the application deadline. Foreign nationals teaching abroad are not eligible to apply.

Applicants must complete the NEH application and provide all of the information requested to be considered eligible. An individual may apply to a maximum of three (3) separate projects (Landmarks workshops, seminars or institutes); however, they may participate in only ONE project per summer. Past or present participation in the NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes program does not affect an individual's eligibility to participate in Landmarks programs.

HOW MUCH DOES THE WORKSHOP COST?

There is no fee for NEH-funded Landmarks of American History and Culture summer programs. NEH provides a \$1200 stipend per participant. Teachers use this stipend to cover travel expenses to and from the workshop as well as lodging and meals during the workshop week. The Minnesota Humanities Center will be providing participants packages for meals and

lodging. More information about packages will be available by March 2010. Participants receive their stipends on the last day of the workshop.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS OF PARTICIPANTS?

Teachers are expected to participate in the intellectual discovery of exciting and engaging humanities with exceptional scholars and educators. Specifically, teachers attending the workshops will be expected to actively participate in all lectures, discussions and field experiences. Participants who do not complete the full tenure of the program will receive a reduced stipend. Readings and other materials will be made available to participants before and/or during each workshop.

Participants will provide NEH with an assessment of their workshop experience, especially in terms of its value to their personal and professional development. You will be asked to provide a confidential evaluation at the close of the workshop. We will also remain in touch with you throughout the rest of 2010 in order to learn how you are using the information you have gathered. The Humanities Center will also be conducting evaluations of the program during the program.

WHAT ARE THE SEMINAR OUTCOMES?

The following teacher outcomes are expected. Teachers will:

- Increase their content knowledge and appreciation for the contributions Minnesota's Iron Range and its people have made to American history;
- Become better prepared to teach the history of Minnesota's Iron Range in American history courses using specific national history standards and national social studies standards

WHO ARE THE PROGRAM'S SCHOLARS?

The project will be co-directed by Dr. David Lanegran, John S. Coll Professor of Geography, Macalester College, and Pamela Brunfelt, Professor of History, Vermilion Community College. Guest lecturers and presenters include independent scholar Dr. Marvin Lamppa, Dr. Richard Ojakangas, Professor Emeritus of Geology, University of Minnesota-Duluth; Dr. Arnold Alanen, Professor of Landscape Architecture, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Dr. Peter Rachleff, Professor of History, Macalester College; and Dr. Marilyn Chiat, Architectural Historian. More information about this program is available at the *Building America* web site www.ironrangeworkshop.org. The *Building America* web site will be updated regularly with new video and content.

LEAD FACULTY (for entire program; both weeks)

Dr. David A. Lanegran received his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota and is currently the John S. Holl Professor of Geography and Department Chair of the Department of Geography at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. Dr. Lanegran will lead the geographic concept portions of these workshops about the Iron Range and his vast knowledge of the geography and history of Minnesota, in addition to his experience working with K-12 educators, makes him a valuable resource for all aspects of the workshops. Dr. Lanegran has served on the National Council for Geographic Education, as the chair of the Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education since 1987, has led more than ten Teacher Institutes with the Humanities Center, and was instrumental in writing the geography portions of the Minnesota Academic Standards. His

recent book *Minnesota on The Map; a historical atlas* was a 2009 Minnesota Book of the Year Award Finalist.

Ms. Pamela Brunfelt received her M.A. in History from Minnesota State University Mankato and is currently a member of the faculty at Vermilion Community College in Ely, Minnesota, where she teaches courses in American History and Political Science. As a life-long Iron Ranger and historian, Ms. Brunfelt has the unique capability to blend her deep regional knowledge with her scholarship in American history. She will present many lectures during the workshops to put the Range in the broader context of American history and will be available to consult with the participants throughout the workshops

VISITING FACULTY (part-time for both weeks)

Dr. Arnold Alanen received his Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Minnesota and is currently Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Alanen will be a guest lecturer during the workshops and will speak about his research on Minnesota steel company towns. He has written extensively about cultural landscapes, especially those that feature rural areas, immigrant settlements, early towns plans, and planned communities. He is co-author of *Main Street Ready-Made: The New Deal Community of Greendale, Wisconsin*, co-editor of *Preserving Cultural Landscapes in America*, and author of *The 2000 Field Guide for the Conference of the Vernacular Architecture Forum* held in Duluth. His book, *The Making of a Model Town: U.S. Steel and Morgan Park, Minnesota*, was published in 2008.

Dr. Marilyn J. Chiat received her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. She has taught at the University of Minnesota and has lectured extensively on religious art and architecture in America and abroad. Her book, *America's Religious Architecture: Sacred Places for Every Community*, was written for the National Trust for Historic Preservation and published in 1997 by John Wiley & Sons, New York. Her latest books, published in 2004 are: *The Spiritual Traveler: Chicago and Illinois*, published by Paulist Press and *North American Churches: Chapels to Cathedrals*, published by Publications International. Dr. Chiat is one of the historians featured in the Emmy winning documentary on the Iron Range produced by MHC. Her essay, "Jewish Homes on the Range; 1890-1960" is included in the book *Highway 61 Revisited: Bob Dylan's Road from Minnesota to the World* published in 2009 by the University of Minnesota Press.

Marvin Lamppa is a leading scholar and author on Minnesota's Iron Range. His books include *Ghost Towns and Locations of the Vermilion and East Mesabi Mining Districts* and *Minnesota's Iron Country*, which has been called a seminal work of detailed regional history and scholarship and which was a PBS series before going to print.

Dr. Richard Ojakangas received his BA at the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), his MA at the University of Missouri-Columbia, and PhD at Stanford University. He was a faculty member at UMD for 38 years and retired in 2002. Teaching and research have taken him to all of the continents. His specialty is the study of sedimentary rocks and the economic deposits they contain, including iron ore. He will provide illustrated lectures on the geology of Minnesota and the Iron Ranges. He has published 85 papers, 75 abstracts, and 8 books, and has coauthored 12 geologic maps. Relevant books that are still available include MINNESOTA'S GEOLOGY, with

Charles Matsch. EARTH SCIENCE, a textbook for middle school students, plus an accompanying teacher guide is part of the Science Literacy Series. ROADSIDE GEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA, written for non-geologists, was published in October, 2009 as part of a nationwide series.

Dr. Peter Rachleff received his Ph.D. in American history from the University of Pittsburgh and is currently Professor of History at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. He will lead workshop sessions about the labor movement and labor radicalism on the Iron Range. Dr. Rachleff conducts research in and teaches courses about U.S. labor, immigration, and African American history. He has tied much of his teaching and service to interdisciplinary programs, such as Urban Studies, African American Studies, Comparative North American Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies. His publications include *Hard-Pressed in the Heartland: The Hormel Strike and the Future of the Labor Movement*, as well as numerous articles.

WHAT IS THE WORKSHOP SCHEDULE?

The workshop will be conducted during the day with some evening events to further learning. Most days will include tours, discussions, group work, and group meals. Locations will include the Soudan Underground Mine, the above-ground Hill Rust Mahoning Mine, Hibbing High School—hailed as “The richest gem in Minnesota’s Educational Crown, B’nai Abraham Synagogue, and Two Harbors and Duluth-Superior harbors. *This schedule is tentative/subject to change.*

WHAT ARE THE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS?

The workshop will begin in St. Paul, MN at the Minnesota Humanities Center. Bus transportation from the Minnesota Humanities Center to the landmark will be provided.

The workshop home base will be at the Coates Plaza Hotel in Virginia, MN. The chartered bus will take participants from location to location throughout the week and will return participants to their starting point at the Humanities Center in St. Paul, on Friday.

Minnesota Humanities Center staff will secure lodging reservations for all participants at the Coates Plaza Hotel, in Virginia, Sunday through Thursday nights.

We recommend that you fly into (and out of) the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP) on Saturday evening to arrive in time for the Sunday noon check in and 12:30 lunch reception at the Minnesota Humanities Center.

When scheduling your departing flight, we cannot guarantee that you will arrive at the Minneapolis/St. Paul airport on time for your return flight if it departs on Friday night before 6:30 p.m.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Applicants are encouraged to read the NEH information and instructions listed under NEH Guidelines on the web site *before* filling out your application.

There are two ways teachers can apply to attend *Building America*:

- Online at www.ironrangeworkshop.org and
- Through the U.S. mail;

Instructions for submitting application online (preferred method, strongly recommended)

Online applications must be received no later than end-of-business on Monday, March 2, 2010.

1. Complete and submit the **cover sheet at the NEH** website <http://www.neh.gov/online/education/participants/>
2. Visit www.ironrangeworkshop.org for complete instructions

Instructions for submitting application through the U.S. Post Office

Mailed applications must be postmarked no later than Monday, March 2, 2010.

A **completed application** consists of **three copies** of the following items in the order below:

1. Complete, submit, print and enclose the **cover sheet at NEH** (Please fill out online and then print copies), at www.neh.gov/online/education/participants.
2. Print and enclose your **résumé**.
3. Print and enclose your **application essay** (no longer than one double-spaced page). This essay should:
 - Include information about your professional background and interest in the subject of the Workshop.
 - Highlight Special perspectives, skills, or experiences of yours that would contribute to the Workshop.
 - Highlight how the experience would enhance your own--and possibly others'--teaching or school service.
4. **Request a letter of recommendation** from your school principal, department head, or the head of a home schooling association. This letter should attest to your professional skill and describe the positive impact of your participation in this NEH Workshop on the school.
5. Email or send the **contact information** for the individual completing the letter of recommendation (name, affiliation, e-mail, and phone). **Please note this individual will receive**

an automated e-mail that will include detailed information about how to submit a letter on your behalf.

Address your completed application to:

Attn: Building America Workshop
Mallory Wessel
Minnesota Humanities Center
987 Ivy Ave. E.
St. Paul, MN 55106

Successful applicants will be notified of their selection by April 1, 2010.

HOW ARE TEACHERS SELECTED FOR PARTICIPATION?

A selection committee will read the applications to choose 40 teachers for each of the two workshops. Selection will be based on the questions addressed in the essay as well as in the letter of recommendation.

Preference will be given to applicants who have not previously participated in an NEH Landmarks workshop, seminar or institute.

Preference will also be given to those applicants whose participation in the Workshop is likely not only to enhance their classroom teaching, but also to be incorporated into the school's curriculum and thereby benefit more students.

HOW CAN I START TO GET READY FOR THE WORKSHOP?

Participants interested in pre-reading on this topic should read Marvin Lamppa's *Minnesota's Iron Country: Rich Ore, Rich Lives and Ghost Towns and Locations of the Vermilion and the East Mesabi Mining Districts* and *Minnesota's Iron Country*, by Marvin Lamppa. Additional readings are available in a bibliography on the "Building America" website at www.ironrangeworkshop.org. Successful applicants will receive a copy of our Emmy Award winning documentary, "Iron Range, Minnesota Building America." See the Resources page of the website for a teacher's guide, as well as many other available resources.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

Contact Mallory Wessel, mallory@minnesoahumanities.org, ph. 651-772-4252 or toll free 866-268-7293, ext. 252, with any questions you have about the workshop or if you need further assistance.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

Neither NEH nor Minnesota Humanities Center programs discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. For further information, write to: NEH Equal Opportunity Officer, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20506. TDD 202-606-8282.

We look forward to receiving your application materials and are hopeful that you will join us on the Iron Range in 2010.

Warmest regards,

Casey DeMarais
Project Director, *Building America: Minnesota's Iron Range, U.S. Industrialization, and the Creation of a World Power*

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