

The Torch

Newsletter of the Nyack Teacher Center

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Call for Proposals

The Center is now accepting applications for the 2003-2004 Standards and Assessments Grants. This grant program is designed to support projects that are larger in scope than those funded through NTC MiniGrants. Awards range from \$500 to \$2500.

Projects should:

- Relate to the NYS Standards and Assessments;
- Include the development of educational resources and the exploration of new instructional techniques; and
- Focus on improved teaching and learning.

This grant program is designed to support collaborative projects, so applications must be submitted by groups of staff members. There must be at least three teachers in the group. Teaching assistants, administrators and other support personnel may also be included.

The deadline for submitting an application is Monday, April 28, 2003. Awards will be announced after the New York State budget is passed.

Ask your Policy Board Rep. for an application, or call the Center at 353-7060. It should also be available on our website shortly.

New Teacher Support Program

This year, for the first time, teachers in their 1st and 2nd year in Nyack are participating in a formal support program which pairs new staff members with more experienced colleagues.

Mentors/Professional Partners provide feedback, guidance and support to new teachers on a variety of issues - curriculum goals, lesson planning, instructional strategies, etc. They do not evaluate, because a support-

ive professional relationship is vital to the success of the partnership.

With so many teachers retiring this year, we anticipate a large number of new staff members again next year. We hope you will consider serving as a mentor or professional partner for one of these new people.

More information and the summer training dates should be available shortly.

Nyack Teacher Center

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Library is on the Web!**

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for more information*

Regents Review Live - Instructors Wanted

The NYS Teacher Center Network is looking for classroom teachers to teach several sessions of the *Regents Review Live* TV series this May.

All of the programs are live, and are broadcast from New York Network's new "State of the Art" studios in Albany.

Instructors will receive a stipend.

Instructors are needed for:

May 12 - Math A

May 13 - Math B

May 17 - Global History and
Geography

May 17 - Chemistry

If you are interested, call the Teacher Center for more information (7060).

LIVING HISTORY: Fort Ticonderoga

Immerse yourself in Colonial and Revolutionary history. Join a group of teachers at Fort Ticonderoga this summer and study the social, military, economic, geographic and cultural factors that shaped the history of the U.S., Canada and New York.

The experience includes an overnight encampment with the conditions and the cuisine of the period

Instructors will use a cross-

curricular approach and incorporate NYS Standards and Character Education recommendations.

Participants are eligible to receive Living History field equipment to use with their students and share with colleagues.

Inservice and graduate credit are available. Room, board and site expenses will be covered by a NYS Grant. Call the Center (7060) for more information.

On the Web . . .

http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/ali/exhibits/1000328/

This site is worth checking out. It contains video segments that show teachers using a variety of instructional strategies. The segments feature National Board Certified Teachers in minimally edited videos of actual lessons in their classrooms. Each video segment and its accompanying text and commentary provide insight into the strategy, and a peek into the classrooms of these accomplished teachers.

National Board Certification is awarded to teachers who submit their practice to peer scrutiny and evaluation. Content knowledge and pedagogical expertise are assessed in a rigorous performance-based portfolio submission and essay test. These are truly master teachers.

Would you be interested in applying for National Board Certification? Contact the Teacher Center for more information.