



THE GILDER LEHRMAN
INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN HISTORY



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**Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg to Honor
Virginia Teacher Stacy Hoeflich, Named
2011 National History Teacher of the Year**

New York, NY (October 18, 2010)—Stacy Hoeflich, a fourth grade teacher at John Adams Elementary School in Alexandria, VA, has been named the 2011 National History Teacher of the Year, announced the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. The award, co-sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, HISTORY® and Preserve America, carries a \$10,000 prize. Hoeflich was honored at a ceremony at the Frederick Douglass Academy, a Gilder Lehrman history flagship school in New York City. The ceremony was attended by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, who made remarks about the vital importance of education in the development of our youth.

Mayor Bloomberg praised Stacy Hoeflich, saying, "We all know that today more than ever, the pathway to a brighter future for our children runs through their classrooms. And on that pathway, great teachers like Stacy are the guides. Congratulations and thank you to her and all of the teachers who are shaping our future."

Ms. Hoeflich was nominated for the award by Dr. Kelly Schrum, Director of Educational Projects at the Center of History and New Media, at George Mason University, who said, "Hoeflich is devoted to the teaching and learning of history. After seeing the students in her classroom excitedly puzzle over a difficult map created four hundred years ago or political cartoons from the last century, I am confident that students leave her classroom with a lifelong interest in understanding the complexities of the past." Focusing on both local and national history, Ms. Hoeflich takes an interdisciplinary approach to her instruction. Using primary sources to help students connect to history on a personal level, she has helped her students engage American history creatively by writing and producing student operas on George Mason, Thomas Jefferson, and Virginia's Indians.

"Students are the heirs to the legacy of this great country, and good teachers are their guide. We aim to seek out the best teachers who integrate American history into their classroom and honor them for their outstanding work," said James Basker, president of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

"HISTORY® is very pleased to join with Gilder Lehrman in honoring outstanding history teachers throughout the nation," said Dr. Libby O'Connell, Chief Historian and SVP, Corporate Outreach. "We

are proud to help acknowledge the exceptional work of National History Teacher of the Year Stacy Hoeflich. Ms. Hoeflich's work in the classroom exemplifies the best in history education and in teaching 21st century skills."

In addition to Ms. Hoeflich's work in her own classroom, she serves as an Educational Consultant to the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, creating and modeling lesson plans and creating and reviewing content for the National History Education Clearinghouse. She has also been an active member and presenter at the national conferences of the Organization of American Historians, the American Historical Association, and the National Council for the Social Studies.

The panel of judges included Elaine Reed, former executive director of the National Council for History Education, Nathan McAllister, the 2010 National History Teacher of the Year, and Catherine Clinton, Professor of United States History, Queen's University, Belfast, and author of many books and publications including *Mrs. Lincoln: A Life*.

"If there's one characteristic shared by these extraordinary teachers, it is that they make history come alive by going beyond textbooks," said Clement A. Price, Ph.D., Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) vice chairman and Gilder Lehrman Advisory Board member. "Preserve America and the ACHP have worked with the National History Teacher of the Year program since its inception. We continue to encourage all teachers to incorporate experience of historic place as well as primary source materials to make academics real, relevant, and personal to their students."

About the National History Teacher of the Year Award

Stacy Hoeflich was chosen as the 2011 National History Teacher of the Year from a pool of winners from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, US Territories, and Department of Defense schools. The National History Teacher of the Year Award recognizes the country's most outstanding history teachers in elementary, middle, and high school classrooms. Each year, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History administers the award by seeking exemplary history educators who demonstrate commitment to teaching American history in the classroom through effective use of documents, artifacts, historic sites, oral histories, and other primary resources to engage students. Each state honoree receives \$1,000 and an archive of books and resources from Gilder Lehrman and HISTORY®—co-sponsor of the award— for his or her school's library.

Nominations are open year round for grades K-12

Nominations can be made by a student, parent, colleague, supervisor, or other education professional who is familiar with the teacher's work. To be considered for the 2012 award, middle and high school teachers must be nominated by February 1, 2012. For more information about the nomination process for 2012, visit www.gilderlehrman.org/nhtoy.

About Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg

Michael R. Bloomberg was elected the 108th Mayor of the City of New York in 2001. He began his career in 1966 at Salomon Brothers, and after being let go in 1981, he began Bloomberg LP, a start-up financial news and information company that now has more than 11,000 employees around the world. As Mayor, Bloomberg has cut crime 35 percent, revitalized the waterfront, implemented ambitious public health strategies, including the successful ban on smoking in restaurants and bars, and expanded support for arts and culture. His education reforms have driven graduation rates up by 40 percent since 2005. The Mayor's economic policies have helped New York City avoid the level of job losses that many other cities experienced. Since October 2009, the nation has gained back only one out of every four jobs that were lost in the national recession. Meanwhile, New York

City has gained back nearly all of its lost jobs. Mayor Bloomberg attended Johns Hopkins University and Harvard Business School, and is the father of two daughters, Emma and Georgina.

About the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

Founded in 1994, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes the study and love of American history, by focusing on document-based history education and working through an array of national programs. The Institute seeks to instill in every individual an understanding of America's past, and its value in today's world and the future. Gilder Lehrman creates and works closely with history-focused schools through its Affiliate School Program; organizes teacher seminars and development programs; produces print and digital publications and traveling exhibitions; hosts lectures by eminent historians; administers a History Teacher of the Year Award in every state and US territory; and offers national book prizes. The Gilder Lehrman website, www.gilderlehrman.org, serves as a gateway to American history online with rich resources for educators designed specifically for K-12 teachers and students.

About HISTORY®

HISTORY® and HISTORY HD® are the leading destinations for revealing, award-winning original non-fiction series and event specials that connect history with viewers in an informative, immersive and entertaining manner across multiple platforms. Programming covers a diverse variety of historical genres ranging from military history to contemporary history, technology to natural history, as well as science, archaeology and pop culture. Among the network's program offerings are hit series such as American Pickers, Ax Men, Brad Meltzer's Decoded, Ice Road Truckers, Top Gear, Pawn Stars and Top Shot, as well as acclaimed specials including America the Story of Us, WWII in HD, 102 Minutes That Changed America, The President's Book of Secrets and Life After People. HISTORY has earned four Peabody Awards, seven Primetime Emmy® Awards, 12 News & Documentary Emmy® Awards and received the prestigious Governor's Award from the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for the network's Save Our History® campaign dedicated to historic preservation and history education. Take a Veteran to School Day is the network's signature initiative connecting America's schools and communities with veterans from all wars. The HISTORY website, located at www.history.com, is the leading online resource for all things history, featuring over 20,000 videos, images, audio clips, articles and interactive features that allow visitors to dig deeper into a broad range of thousands of historical topics.

About Preserve America

Preserve America is a federal partnership program begun in 2003 that encourages and highlights community efforts to preserve and enhance the priceless cultural heritage of the United States as well as associated natural resources. The program's goals include fostering greater public knowledge of, and appreciation for, the nation's past and its cultural traditions; encouraging broader support for saving the special places that help document and tell the story of America; strengthening civic pride and participation in ways that help build and sustain communities by preserving, enhancing, and using cultural heritage; and improving local economic vitality and livability through heritage development and heritage tourism. The Preserve America program is administered by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in cooperation with the White House, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.