Educators & public invited to celebrate NPS centennial
July workshops, field experiences, tours

Hyde Park, NY – Teachers and the public are invited to discover new and innovative ways to engage children and young people in our region’s significant places at Teaching the Hudson Valley’s annual summer institute. This year’s program, Find Your Park, Museum, Historic Site: Gain a Classroom, celebrates the centennial of the National Park Service and will be held July 26-28 at the Henry A. Wallace Education and Visitors Center on the grounds of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Home and Presidential Library in Hyde Park.

Featured speakers are Andrés Henríquez, vice president, STEM Learning in Communities, New York Hall of Science, and composer/musician T. K. Blue who will discuss and play excerpts from his suite, Follow the North Star, based on the life of Solomon Northup, a free black man from Saratoga Springs who was kidnapped and sold into slavery. Northup told his story in the book 12 Years a Slave, which was filmed in 1984 and 2013.

Communities as Classrooms, a panel discussion on day three of the institute, will include elected officials from around the Valley. Confirmed, with more to come, are Torrance Harvey, Newburgh City Council; Steve Noble, mayor of Kingston; and Chris Pryslopski, Rosendale Town Board.

Sarah Olson, superintendent of the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt-Van Buren National Historic Sites noted that “during this centennial year federal and state agencies have been collaborating to make it easier for children and youth to access parks and historic sites. We created THV and the institute, ” she added, “to introduce adults to places they can share with students and offer then strategies for doing so.”

“While the roots of the Park Service lie in majestic often isolated natural wonders,” Olson said, “our reach today extends to places difficult to imagine 100 years ago -- into urban centers and rural landscapes, deep within oceans, and across night skies. By preparing adults to help children and teens acquire tools for engaging with these places in their communities we hope we’re helping to create life-long stewards for the 21st century as well as providing stimulating experiences today.”
The three-day program includes some 20 workshops, half a dozen field experiences, and several Hyde Park tours. (A list of all presenters by county is attached. THV is happy to arrange interviews and provide photos.) Field experiences include:

**Albany:** *A Day at the Capital* with Partners for Albany Stories, [Albany Institute of History & Art](http://www.albanyinstitute.org), [Schuyler Mansion SHS](http://www.schuylermansion.org), [NYS Capitol](http://www.nyscapitol.com), [Shaker Heritage Society](http://www.shakerheritage.org), [Underground RR History Project](http://www.urbanrail.net/rrhistory/schenectady.htm), plus a walking tour and workshop.

**Columbia:** *Fresh Food Comes from the Farm: Enrichment for science, health, culinary arts, & food literacy*, [Sylvia Center](http://www.sylvia-center.org) at Katchkie Farm, Kinderhook.

**Dutchess & Columbia:** *Paddle on the Estuary*, [Hudson River National Estuarine Reserve](http://www.hrinwr.noaa.gov), canoe and seine at [Tivoli Bays](http://www.tivolibays.org) and [Stockport Flats](http://www.stockportflats.org).

**Putnam:** (1) *A Multidisciplinary Look at the Valley’s Past*, [West Point Foundry Preserve](http://www.hudsonvalleynps.gov) and [Putnam History Museum](http://www.putnamhistory.org), Cold Spring. (2) *Tours and More at Boscobel House and Gardens*, Garrison.

**Ulster:** *Hudson River STEAM: Tideline Program at Esopus Meadows Preserve*.

**Westchester:** *Urban River STEM Experience*, [Center for the Urban River at Beczak](http://www.cfur.org), Groundwork Hudson Valley’s science barge, and the day lighted Sawkill River, Yonkers.

While THV’s institute was developed with educators in mind, anyone interested in the subject matter is welcome. For a detailed schedule and more information, visit THV’s website. To get first choice of field experiences participants are urged to register immediately. Until July 1, registration is $125 for all three days, $85 for two days, and $45 for a single day for those who Declare Interest to Register.

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About THV

Launched in 2003, Teaching the Hudson Valley helps educators discover, appreciate, and share the region's natural, historic, and cultural treasures with children and youth. THV fosters collaboration among schools, museums, parks, historic sites, archives, art galleries, libraries, and other physical resources and promotes the value of place-based learning.

THV's growing collection of free K-12 activities and lesson plans uses significant Valley sites to teach virtually all subjects. Grant programs have enabled thousands of students to visit significant places in our region and make it easier for teachers to get students out of the classroom and into the community. The summer institute and other programs offer rare opportunities for school and non-formal educators to meet, exchange ideas, and collaborate.
Find Your Park, Museum, Historic Site
Gain a Classroom
July 26-28, Hyde Park
Presenters by county

ALBANY
Susan Carver, NYS Office of Parks
Samantha Hall-Saladino, Shaker Heritage Society
Ashley Hopkins-Benton and Kathryn Weller, New York State Museum
Stuart Lehman, NYS Office of General Services
Erika Sanger, Albany Institute of History & Art
Mary Liz Stewart, Underground Railroad History Project

COLUMBIA
Susan Boudreau, Leslie Reed, and Emily Robinson, Clermont SHS
Julie Cerny, Virginia Meza, and Jillian Naveh, Sylvia Center at Katchkie Farm

DUTCHESS
Kayla Altland, Roosevelt & Van Buren NHS
Elaine Hayes, Mount Gulian Historic Site
Tom Lake, SUNY Dutchess & NYS DEC
Tierney Rosenstock and Karissa Stokdal, Winnakee Land Trust
Jeff Urbin, educator, FDR Library/Museum

GREENE
Kathleen Brousseau and Heather Paroubek, Thomas Cole National Historic Site

NEW YORK CITY
T. K. Blue, composer and musician
Judy Giuriceo, Brent Talbott, and Peter Wong, Ellis Island Immigration Museum
Andrés Henríquez, New York Hall of Science
Joy Kelley, actress
Christa Victoria, actress

ORANGE
Torrance Harvey, Newburgh City Council

PUTNAM
Lisa DiMarzo, Boscobel
Mark Forlow and Mindy Krazmien, Putnam History Museum
Dorna Schroeter, Center for Environmental Education, Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES

REGIONAL
Chris Bowser, Giancarlo Coppola, and James Herrington, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Kate Brill, Reed Sparling, and Kristen Sullivan, Scenic Hudson
Kathryn Burke, Historic Bridges of the Hudson Valley
Eli Schloss, Sloop Clearwater
Lorraine Weiss, New York State Parks

RENSSELAER
Heidi Hill, Crailo State Historic Site

ULSTER
Chris Pryslopiski, Rosendale Town Board
Steve Noble, Mayor, City of Kingston

WESTCHESTER
Suzanne Clary, Jay Heritage Center
Vicky Garufi and Ryan Palmer, Sarah Lawrence College’s Center for the Urban River at Beaczak
Dorna Schroeter, Center for Environmental Education, Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES