



PAMPLIN HISTORICAL PARK

& THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIER

6125 Boydton Plank Road, Petersburg, VA 23803 • 1-877-PAMPLIN/804-861-2408 • www.pamplinpark.org

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Pamplin Historical Park and Richard Bland College Host 2006 Teacher Institute

Park Receives Grant from Virginia Foundation for the Humanities to Cover Registration Costs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Petersburg, VA – Pamplin Historical Park & The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier and Richard Bland College of the College of William and Mary welcome teachers from across Virginia for their inaugural Teacher Institute. The Institute highlights innovative techniques for teaching fourth, fifth and sixth grade students about slavery, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. The 2006 Teacher Institute sessions will be held on the 422-acre Pamplin Historical Park campus August 7-11, 2006, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Institute includes a bus tour of ten major battle sites of the Petersburg Campaign.

A grant from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities allows teachers participating in the 2006 Teacher Institute to experience the program free of charge for recertification units, or for \$114 and three academic credits through Richard Bland College. It also covers Pamplin Historical Park's costs for holding the Institute. All of the topics addressed at the Institute adhere to Virginia Standards of Learning requirements in History, Social Science, English and Science.

“Pamplin Historical Park is proud to partner with Richard Bland College for this educational mission,” said A. Wilson Greene, executive director of Pamplin Historical Park. “This grant from VHF will allow us to help teachers involve students more deeply in the study of the Civil War era.”

Educators from Pamplin Historical Park, faculty from Richard Bland College, and a Teacher Advisory Committee comprised of teachers from Bensley Elementary School have created a partnership to connect schools with museums to enhance each teacher's content knowledge of the period from 1830 to 1880. Those fifty years included the buildup of the abolitionist movement, westward expansion, slavery, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. The Institute presents a thorough consideration of each topic, drawing on such academic disciplines as history, sociology, government, economics, science, geography and literature.

The Institute is designed to give teachers a deeper understanding of antebellum America, social, economic and political differences between the North and the South, the Civil War, soldier life, weapons technology, and Reconstruction, and to provide teachers with hands-on student activities. The Teacher Institute instruction helps teachers to differentiate fact from fiction, to sort out perspectives about the war, its causes and its meaning, and to present the many lessons this period offers to contemporary Americans. Educators will expose teachers to soldiers and civilians from that era who have made an impact on American life today.



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“The slice of history studied during the 2006 Teacher Institute is extremely relevant to our country because of the diverse society we live in and our need for acceptance of individual and cultural differences,” said Al Neale, Project Leader and Pamplin Historical Park Chief of Education and Visitor Services. “All of these topics are highly interrelated and as we continue to diversify, the story of slavery, the Civil War, and Reconstruction becomes even more relevant.”

The total instruction time is approximately 22 hours and each topic is divided into three segments: content, classroom applications, and teacher idea sharing. Teachers will participate in engaging activities and explore conceptual frameworks that will help them comprehend complex information and teach it on the fourth, fifth and sixth grade levels. The Institute offers an opportunity for teachers from across Virginia to exchange instructional ideas. Along with a certificate of completion, teachers receive a notebook of materials and course outlines to reference after the Teacher Institute.

The Institute can accommodate 25 teachers, and spaces are still available. “We have received nothing but positive feedback from teachers and anticipate the open positions are going fill up very quickly,” Neale said. Interested teachers are encouraged to register and pay online for the 2006 Teacher Institute at the Pamplin Historical Park website, www.pamplinpark.org/institute.html.

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One of “Virginia’s Best Places to Visit” according to the Travel Channel, and recently designated as a National Historic Landmark, Pamplin Historical Park & The Museum of the Civil War Soldier is a 422-acre Civil War campus located in Dinwiddie County, Virginia offering a combination of high-tech museums and hands-on experiences. The Park has four world-class museums, three antebellum homes and costumed living history every day. The Park is also the site of the Breakthrough Battlefield of April 2, 1865 and America’s newest participatory experience, Civil War Adventure Camp. For more information, please call 804-861-2408 or visit www.pamplinpark.org.

The 2006 Teacher Institute is a partnership between



This program is made possible by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.