



Arkansas Department of Education

Johnny Key, Commissioner

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

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Arkansas Department of Education Announces Fifth Year of Arkansas Declaration of Learning Initiative

Teachers, Librarians Encouraged to Apply to Participate

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for the fifth year of the Arkansas Declaration of Learning initiative.

School librarians, as well as English language arts, fine arts, and social studies teachers, in grades four through 12 are encouraged to apply to participate in the program. Selected teachers will use historical art and objects from state and national partners to create lesson plans that involve civic engagement projects.

Arkansas is the first state selected for the national program and will serve as a model for other states. In addition to coordinating the program, the Arkansas Department of Education partners with the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, the Clinton Foundation, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, the William J. Clinton Presidential Library, and the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Reception Rooms to provide access to historic art and objects teachers can use when developing lesson plans and projects.

"I am extremely proud that Arkansas is leading the nation with the Arkansas Declaration of Learning Initiative," Gov. Asa Hutchinson said. "The unique partnership between the Arkansas Department of Education, U.S. Department of State, and several Arkansas organizations strengthens teacher instruction and student learning. Anytime we can learn from our past and have a positive impact on our community, we are setting the stage for a better tomorrow for all Arkansans."

Teachers and librarians selected for the program will have the possibility of earning 30 professional development hours. Participants will attend a training this summer and will be divided into regional teams led by mentors, previous participants who will provide assistance throughout the year.

"Participating in ADOL allowed me to connect our students with subjects they don't always get to think about in our rural Arkansas community: art, history, and civic involvement," said Tracy Cline, a librarian at Butterfield Trail Middle School in Van Buren and a previous ADOL participant. "ADOL had a profound effect on our students. Being exposed to these ideas and works of art led them to think

about civic engagement, themselves, and the past in an entirely new way.”

Teachers who are interested in applying for the program should submit their application at the following link by 11:59 p.m. February 10, 2019: <https://goo.gl/forms/XsCnsN47I2Xyd7s62>.

To learn more about the Arkansas Declaration of Learning initiative, visit <https://bit.ly/2lg48WQ>. To hear from previous participants, as well as students and administrators, visit <https://bit.ly/2CPswPv>.

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