



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
JOEL I. KLEIN, CHANCELLOR  
PRESS OFFICE

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**SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR JOEL I. KLEIN ANNOUNCES \$2 MILLION  
FEDERAL GRANT FOR TEACHING HISTORY OF UNITED STATES AND  
NEW YORK CITY**

*Grant is One of Two Citywide Projects in Entire Nation*

New York City Schools Chancellor Joel I. Klein today announced a \$2 million U.S. Department of Education grant to fund the training of teachers who teach American and New York City history. The New York City Department of Education and the Gotham Center for New York City History of the City University of New York received the Teaching American History Grant as part of \$6 million in federal funding for staff development in the City's public schools. The grant, which is one of only two Citywide projects in the entire nation, will go toward training thousands of teachers in American and New York City history and help instructors teach students history in their classrooms. Mike Wallace, the Director of Gotham Center and co-author of "Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898" joined the Chancellor for the announcement at City Hall Academy.

"I am truly grateful to the U.S. Department of Education for this generous grant that will go a long way in helping our teachers teach our children about the rich and proud history of both our Country and City," Chancellor Klein said. "We have a very successful working relationship with the Gotham Center and this grant will make sure that our students continue to benefit from our affiliation with this group of truly distinguished historians."

"Kids love to learn about the past of their place – especially when it's as fascinating a place as New York City – and we're delighted at this opportunity to help teachers convey Gotham's spectacular history to their students in all its vivid complexity," said Mr. Wallace, whose book on New York City history earned him and co-author Edwin G. Burrows a Pulitzer Prize in 1999.

The Teaching American History Grant will enable the City and the Gotham Center to develop, document, and distribute a program of professional development that will

instruct public school teachers in the basic concepts in American and New York City history. The grant also will provide the City's Department of Education with funding for a follow-up teacher, whose role will be discover and access resources in the local community to study American and City history and to continue studies conducted at City Hall Academy when students return to their school.

The grant program will work with 200 teachers in Summer Institutes and 50 additional teachers in an Advanced Fellows Program, while providing an outreach coordinator to work with City Hall Academy and integrate New York City history into their teaching strategy. The program also will create the first and only History Education network to serve all K-12 classrooms and teachers Citywide, similar to the Department's arts teaching program. In 2005, a Teaching History Conference for 750 K-12 teachers will be held, similar to two related conferences sponsored by the Gotham Center in 2001 and 2003.

The faculty leading the training sessions includes professional historians like Mr. Wallace, Ken Jackson of Columbia University, and Jack Tchen of New York University. Other trainers include Staff Developers Maggie Martinez Deluca of the Bank Street College of Education, as well as prominent historical organizations, such as City Lore, the Historic House Trust, Henry Street Settlement, the Brooklyn Historical Society and the New York Historical Society.

Other federal grant recipients include Region 2, Region 7, and Community School District #23. These professional development programs will be conducted in partnership with such distinguished institutions as the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University, the Horowitz Center for Teacher Development at New York University, the Organization of American Historians, the Gilder Lehrman Collections, and Lehman College.

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