

*AMISTAD  
COMMISSION*

# Summer Institute 2025

August 4-7, 2025 | Stockton University

*Ocean Campus, Atlantic City, NJ*

*Moving Forward/  
Preserving our Past:  
Revolution, Reaction  
and Reform*



# Summer Institute 2025

Guided by the annual theme for National History Day, which focuses on revolution, reaction, and reform in history, the 2025 Summer Institute has embraced the theme “Moving Forward/Preserving our Past: Revolution, Reaction, and Reform.” Our sessions and workshops will reflect this theme, offering a rich and engaging experience for all participants.

## About National History Day® (NHD)

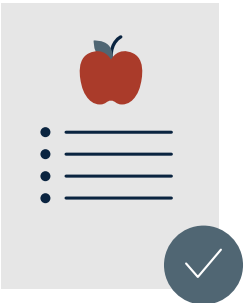
National History Day® (NHD) is a non-profit education organization based in College Park, Maryland. NHD offers year-long academic programs that engage over half a million middle- and high-school students around the world annually in conducting original research on historical topics of interest. Since 1974, NHD has continuously improved history education by providing professional development opportunities and curriculum materials for educators. The largest NHD program is the National History Day Contest, which encourages more than half a million students worldwide to conduct historical research on a topic of their choice. Students enter these projects at the local and affiliate levels, with top students advancing to the National Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park.

## Goals of the 2025 Institute

1. To provide tools, resources, and training for educators to reimagine their purpose and commitment to educating the children of New Jersey.
2. To assist teachers in changing the narrative in social studies/history and other subject areas in classrooms in NJ.
3. To improve NJ teachers’ awareness of the Amistad legislation.
4. To help teachers and district leaders create lesson plans and policies that reflect the mandate of the Amistad Legislation.

We are excited to have you join us for this transformative experience. Together, we will explore the past, understand its impact on the present, and inspire future generations.

| K-5 Toolkit and Resources<br>TRACK 1                                                                                                                        | 6-8 Toolkit and Resources<br>TRACK 2                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 9-12 Toolkit and Resources<br>TRACK 3                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suggested Books and Resources</li><li>• Sample Lesson Plans for K-5</li><li>• Activities for K-5 Students</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suggested Books on African American History and other subject areas</li><li>• Periods in African American History</li><li>• Sample Lesson Plans</li><li>• Activities for Grades 6-8</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suggested Books on African American History and other subject areas</li><li>• Periods in African American History</li><li>• Sample Lesson Plans</li><li>• Activities for Grades 9-12</li></ul> |



## Summer Institute Etiquette

1. Turn off or put cell phones in silent mode.
2. No social media during sessions.
3. Use laptop or other device to only take notes. Stay off your email.
4. Value our time together.
5. Be open to diverse perspectives and ideas.
6. Be an exceptional New Jersey educator.

# Agenda

## Day 1 Monday, August 4

| Time          | Topic                                                        | Facilitator                                                           | Room                    |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00PM-8:00PM | <b>Check-In and Welcome to Teachers Staying in Residence</b> | McKenzie Suber-Robinson and Dr. Patrick J. Lamy, Residence Hall Staff | Kesselman Hall          |
| 8:00PM-9:00PM | <b>Getting to Know You Activity and Dinner</b>               | McKenzie Suber-Robinson and Dr. Patrick J. Lamy                       | Kesselman Hall Room 119 |

## Day 2 Tuesday, August 5

| Time             | Topic                                                                                                    | Facilitator                                       | Room                   |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 7:30AM-8:45AM    | <b>Check-In/Registration</b>                                                                             |                                                   | Scarpa Academic Center |
| 7:45AM-8:45AM    | <b>Breakfast and Morning Conversations</b>                                                               |                                                   | Fannie Lou Hamer       |
| 9:00AM- 9:05AM   | <b>Greetings from the Representatives of Stockton University</b>                                         | Dr. Joe Bertolino                                 | Fannie Lou Hamer       |
| 9:05AM-9:10AM    | <b>Housekeeping Items</b>                                                                                | Trevor K. Melton                                  |                        |
| 9:10AM-9:20AM    | <b>Overview: What is the Amistad Commission</b>                                                          | Dr. John T. Mills                                 |                        |
| 9:20AM-9:30AM    | <b>Opening Remarks from The Amistad Commission's Executive Director and Board Chair</b>                  | Dr. Patrick J. Lamy and Dr. Lillie Edwards, Chair |                        |
| 9:30AM-9:35AM    | <b>State Board of Education remarks</b>                                                                  | Dr. Nedd Johnson, Vice President                  |                        |
| 9:40AM- 10:40AM  | <b>Keynote Remarks</b>                                                                                   | Tim Wise                                          | Fannie Lou Hamer       |
| 10:45AM -11:45AM | <b>Plenary Session: Preserving Strategies to Teach from the Lens of Diversity in a new era of change</b> | Dr. Amber Smith                                   | Fannie Lou Hamer       |

| Time             | Topic                                                                                          | Facilitator             | Room             |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 11:50AM -12:50PM | <b>TRACK 1:</b> Teaching K-5 Students from the Lens of Diversity in an Era of Change           | Syreeta Primas          | 210              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 2:</b> Teaching Middle School Students from the Lens of Diversity in an Era of Change | Dr. Donnetrice Allision | 211              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 3:</b> Teaching High School Students from the Lens of Diversity in an Era of Change   | Kory Loyola             | 212              |
| 12:55PM-1:45PM   | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                                   |                         | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 1:55PM-2:55PM    | <b>Plenary Session:</b> Revolution and Resistance – Catalyst for Change                        | Dr. John Johnson        | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 3:00PM-4:00PM    | <b>TRACK 1:</b> Discussing Revolution and Resistance as a Topic in the K-5 Classroom           | Syreeta Primas          | 210              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 2:</b> Discussing Revolution and Resistance as a Topic in Middle Schools              | Stephane Manuel         | 211              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 3:</b> Discussing Revolution and Resistance as a Topic in High Schools                | Abigail Henry           | 212              |
| 4:05PM-4:15PM    | <b>Break:</b> Coffee and Refreshments                                                          |                         |                  |
| 4:20PM-5:20PM    | <b>Plenary Session:</b> History of Social, Economic, and Political Reform in the United States | Dr. Leslie Wilson       | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 5:25PM-6:25PM    | <b>TRACK 1:</b> Teaching About Reform as a Topic in the K-5 Classroom                          | Stephen Dickerson       | 210              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 2:</b> Teaching About Reform as a Topic in Middle Schools                             | Abigail Henry           | 211              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 3:</b> Teaching About Reform as a Topic in High Schools                               | Stephane Manuel         | 212              |
| 6:30PM-8:00PM    | <b>Dinner and Entertainment</b>                                                                | Keith Marks Music       |                  |

## Day 3 Wednesday, August 6

| Time             | Topic                                                                             | Facilitator                                                                                            | Room             |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 8:00AM-9:00AM    | <b>Breakfast and Morning Conversations</b>                                        |                                                                                                        | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 9:00AM-10:00AM   | <b>Plenary Session: A Global History of Resistance and Oppression</b>             | Dr. Linda Epps                                                                                         | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 10:10 AM-11:10AM | <b>TRACK 1: Teaching About Oppression and Resistance in the K-5 Classroom</b>     | Tamar LaSure Owens                                                                                     | 210              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 2: Teaching About Oppression and Resistance in Middle Schools</b>        | Dr. Dan Tulino                                                                                         | 211              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 3: Teaching About Oppression and Resistance in High Schools</b>          | Dr. Robyn Clarke                                                                                       | 212              |
| 11:15AM-11:25AM  | <b>Break: Coffee and Refreshments</b>                                             |                                                                                                        |                  |
| 11:30AM-12:35PM  | <b>Vendor Session</b>                                                             | Diversity Schoolhouse, PBS, Valerie Still, Kim and Donald Byrd, True Fiktion, and Key Arts Productions | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 12:35PM-1:00PM   | <b>Empowering Educators Rowan University</b>                                      | Dr. Chanelle Rose and Dr. Valerie Lee                                                                  | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 1:05PM-1:55PM    | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                      | Dad in Chad                                                                                            |                  |
| 2:00PM-3:00PM    | <b>Plenary Session: History of Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in New Jersey</b> | Ms. Noelle Lorraine Williams                                                                           | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 3:05PM-4:05PM    | <b>TRACK 1: Teaching About NJ African American History in the K-5 Classroom</b>   | Tamar LaSure Owens and Neysha Parker                                                                   | 210              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 2: Teaching About NJ African American History in Middle Schools</b>      | Valerie Still                                                                                          | 211              |
|                  | <b>TRACK 3: Teaching About NJ African American History in High Schools</b>        | Theresa Maughan                                                                                        | 212              |
| 4:05PM-4:15PM    | <b>Break: Coffee and Refreshments</b>                                             |                                                                                                        |                  |

| Time          | Topic                                                                                                                         | Facilitator                                              | Room             |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 4:10PM-5:50PM | <b>*Administrators &amp; School Board Members* District Leaders Roundtable: Infusing the Amistad Curriculum District Wide</b> | Dr. Christine Johnson, Superintendent of Hoboken Schools | 212              |
| 4:15PM-5:30PM | <b>Ghana Virtual Tour</b>                                                                                                     | Eric Jones                                               | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 5:35PM-6:00PM | <b>Amistad Curriculum Website-Lesson Plans</b>                                                                                | A'ndrea Bair and Britt Jordan                            | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 6:00PM-6:15PM | <b>Amistad Commission Teacher Leadership Committee</b>                                                                        | Amistad Teacher Leadership Committee                     | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 6:15PM-7:45PM | <b>Dinner and Entertainment</b>                                                                                               | Key Arts Productions                                     |                  |

## Day 4 Thursday, August 7

| Time             | Topic                                    |                                        | Facilitator                            | Room             |
|------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| 8:00AM-8:50AM    | Breakfast and Morning Conversations      |                                        |                                        |                  |
| 8:55AM-10:00AM   | Generative AI to Support Lesson Planning |                                        | Arielle Davis-Featherstone             | Fannie Lou Hamer |
|                  | Elementary                               | Middle                                 | High                                   |                  |
| 10:05AM-10:35AM  | Peter Mott House 212                     | Atlantic County Historical Society 210 | Underground Railroad Museum 211        | Classrooms       |
| 10:40AM-11:10AM  | Underground Railroad Museum 211          | Peter Mott House 212                   | Atlantic County Historical Society 210 | Classrooms       |
| 11:15AM-11:45AM  | Atlantic County Historical Society 210   | Buffalo Soldiers Fannie Lou Hamer      | Buffalo Soldiers Fannie Lou Hamer      | Classrooms       |
| 11:45AM-11:55AM  | Break: Coffee and Refreshments           |                                        |                                        |                  |
| 12:00PM –12:30PM | National History Day Contest: Overview   |                                        | Michelle Moon                          | Fannie Lou Hamer |

| Time           | Topic                                                                              | Facilitator                                                                                      | Room             |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 12:30PM-1:00PM | <b>Track 1: Start Your NJ African American History Day</b>                         | Neysha Parker                                                                                    | 210              |
|                | <b>Track 2 &amp; 3: Start Your NJ National History Day 6-12</b>                    | Theresa Maughan                                                                                  | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 1:00PM-1:55PM  | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                       |                                                                                                  |                  |
| 2:00PM-2:45PM  | <b>Panel: NJ Commissions</b>                                                       | Department of Education<br>Commissions: Amistad, Holocaust Education, Italian Heritage, LGBTQIA+ | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 2:50PM-3:50PM  | <b>Panel: Student Stories of Engagement</b>                                        | NAACP-Atlantic City Youth Council                                                                | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 3:55PM-4:15PM  | <b>NJEA</b>                                                                        | Dr. Kim Pinckney                                                                                 | Fannie Lou Hamer |
| 4:15PM-4:25PM  | <b>Break: Coffee and Refreshments</b>                                              |                                                                                                  |                  |
| 4:30PM-5:30PM  | <b>Elementary</b><br>NJ Cultural Commissions in Elementary Curriculum              | Tamar LaSure-Owens                                                                               | 210              |
|                | <b>Middle School</b><br>Ruby Bridges Resistance Narratives                         | Dr. Meg White                                                                                    | 211              |
|                | <b>High School</b><br>African American Political Struggles Reconstruction to Today | Dr. John T. Mills                                                                                | 212              |
| 6:00PM-8:00PM  | <b>Closing Awards Ceremony Dinner</b>                                              |                                                                                                  |                  |
|                | <b>Amistad Commission Award Ceremony</b>                                           | Assemblyman Antwan McClellan<br>Executive Director Dr. Patrick Lamy                              | Fannie Lou Hamer |

# Our Mission, Vision, and Values

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Amistad Commission is to provide New Jersey's K-12 educators with professional training and resources to accurately teach content that is inclusive of the contributions of Africans, African Americans, and the African diaspora in all subject areas.

## Vision Statement

Our vision is to position New Jersey as the national leader in developing and implementing K-12 curriculum that reflects the diversity of our nation.

## Core Values Statement

Established by legislation passed unanimously by the New Jersey Senate and Assembly in 2002 and revised in 2022, the Amistad Commission is the first commission in the nation established for the purpose of assuring that the American story includes the contributions of Africans, African Americans, and the African diaspora in building and defining our country. The Commission prepares New Jersey's teachers, district leaders, and students with high level, customized educational opportunities, and an innovative array of support services to meet the mandate of the Amistad legislation.

The Commission's core values affirm: a) A commitment to excellence in teaching and student learning; b) The diversity embedded in the nation's history, culture, and institutions; c) The connections between U.S. history and global history; d) A commitment to engage community stakeholders in our work.

These statements have redefined the purpose of the Commission and established new pathways to move the work of the Commission forward over the next five years. Our Mission and Vision are bold, purposeful and intentional. Our core values truly represent our genuine intention in our approach to best serve our students and educators in New Jersey.

The Amistad Commission logo is a red square with the words "AMISTAD" and "COMMISSION" in white, serif, all-caps font. "AMISTAD" is on the top line and "COMMISSION" is on the bottom line, both centered.

AMISTAD  
COMMISSION

“We must never forget that Black history is American History. The achievements of African Americans have contributed to our nation's greatness.”

YVETTE CLARKE

## Save the dates

Professional  
Development Series  
for Academic Year  
2025- 2026

Summer Institute 2026  
August 3-6  
Kean University  
Union, New Jersey

Summer Institute 2027  
August 2-5