



# *The Harvey L. Miller* **FOUNDING CIVICS** **INITIATIVE**

ENRICHING CIVIC EDUCATION IN  
CHICAGOLAND HIGH SCHOOLS



*Founding Civics ...  
Founding Principles*



# *The Harvey L. Miller* FOUNDING CIVICS INITIATIVE

---

## HELPING CHICAGO TEACHERS PROVIDE THE BEST CIVIC EDUCATION FOR THEIR STUDENTS

*“Educate and inform  
the whole mass of the  
people ... ”*

THOMAS JEFFERSON



The Harvey L. Miller (“HLM”) Founding Civics Initiative provides Chicago-land high school teachers with access to world-class graduate education, training and resources to help them better educate their students in the history and ideas at the heart of American politics.

Working with Chicago-area institutions of higher learning, the courses and seminars prepare teachers to educate high school students in the ideas in the Declaration of Independence, the core political and economic institutions established by the Constitution, and the intellectual and historical framework of the American founding.

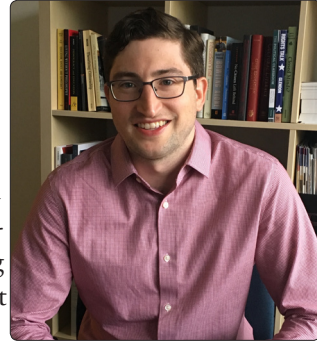
Each program brings leading professors together with high school teachers to develop engaging classes and innovative curricula that connect the ideas and debates of the American founding era to contemporary issues students will study in civics and face as citizens.

The task of a citizen is not only to ask how we should live together, but how we should *best* live together. The goal of HLM Founding Civics is to help teachers enable their students—through rigorous engagement with America’s founding principles and history—to begin asking that question.

*The Harvey L. Miller Founding Civics Initiative is made possible by a generous grant to the Jack Miller Center from The Harvey L. Miller Family Foundation and with additional support from The Crown Family, Northern Trust Charitable Trust and other donors.*

## NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

The perennial task of educating Illinois high school students for participation in American political life has renewed energy in 2016. According to a new Illinois law, entering high school freshman must now take a civics course in order to graduate.



This requirement responds to a growing sense that the move away from civics over the last forty years has not served our country well. But the law raises perhaps as many questions as it answers, and teachers may feel unprepared to lead civics courses that use historical and philosophical sources in ways that both ground and inspire student involvement in politics.

The purpose of the HLM Founding Civics Initiative is to engage teachers and their students in the great debates that have defined American political life since the Founding. Founding Civics programs will enable teachers to help their students question the underlying assumptions in politics today, to think critically about their own deeply held political beliefs, and to draw conclusions that will give clear purpose to their participation.

By providing students the tools to make up their own minds on the most important questions facing Americans, Founding Civics promises to foster greater civic engagement and true self-government.

There is much work to do, and 2016 is the time to begin. I look forward to your participation in our programs, and a new chapter in education for citizenship here in Illinois.

Best wishes,

Tom Kelly

JMC Director of Civic Education Outreach



The Jack Miller Center is a non-partisan, non-profit public charity that works to reinvigorate education in American history and American political thought, an education vital to thoughtful and engaged citizenship. It supports professors and educators through programs, resources, fellowships and more to help them teach our nation's students.







## Summer Professional Development Seminars



### ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY AND THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY SUMMER SEMINAR SERIES

In partnership with Roosevelt University, the Newberry Library in Chicago is hosting a series of week-long summer professional development seminars for teachers. Participants study the roots of the American political system, discuss contemporary issues and build new curricula.

Participation promises invaluable preparation for teaching civics, as well as American history and government classes. Esteemed college faculty from around the nation guide Chicago-area high school teachers in analyzing and interpreting crucial documents of the Founding era.

The 2016 summer seminar focused on the theme “The Drama of the American Political Experience: Historical, Philosophical and Contemporary Perspectives.”

Sessions consisted of lectures, discussions and workshops on topics such as religious freedom, the Second Amendment, property and the pursuit of happiness, race and equality, and America’s place in global politics.

A representative from the National Constitution Center (NCC) in Philadelphia led a workshop on the NCC’s *Interactive Constitution*, an online tool for use in the classroom. The tool contains a wealth of information, allowing students to explore the Constitution’s history and what it means today.



Guided tours of the Newberry Library’s holdings and the Art Institute rounded out the week.

Each seminar will have a unique theme and set of discussions. The seminars offer up to 25 professional development hours and graduate credit will be available through Roosevelt University’s Department of History.

Seminars are supported by the Jack Miller Center through the HLM Founding Civics Initiative, and are offered at no cost to teachers.

*For information on the next seminar at the Newberry or other professional development opportunities, please contact Tom Kelly, JMC Director of Civic Education Outreach at (484) 436-0033 or [tkelly@gojmc.org](mailto:tkelly@gojmc.org).*









### LAKE FOREST COLLEGE CIVICS AND THE AMERICAN FOUNDING PROGRAM

Lake Forest College's *Civics and the American Founding Program* is offering a series of blended (online and face-to-face) graduate courses for high school teachers through the Master of Liberal Studies Program. The courses are designed to respond to the new Illinois civics requirement for high school students and are ideal for American history, government or civics teachers.

Led by Lake Forest College faculty, the program brings together small groups of high school teachers in special graduate seminars focused on key issues and documents from our nation's history. Seminars meet on select Saturdays to help accommodate teacher schedules, and the rest of the course is conducted online.

Lake Forest's fall 2016 inaugural course, "The American Founding: Principles, Practices, Controversies," explores selections of key texts and how different generations of Americans have (re)-interpreted the meaning of those texts. Teachers develop new curriculum and learn how to make use of online tools including the National Constitution Center's *Interactive Constitution*.

Teachers may take stand-alone courses or matriculate into the Lake Forest Master of Liberal Studies Program. Each course offers four semester hours of graduate credit.

Full tuition is provided by the Jack Miller Center through the HLM Founding Civics Initiative.



---

### SPRING 2017 GRADUATE COURSE LIBERTY

---

Throughout the history of western ideas, the concept of liberty is a relatively modern one; we can trace its development from the English Enlightenment to the 21st century.

We will explore the idea of liberty as a political, economic, cultural and social standard, including markets, individual rights, conflicts between equality and freedom, international relations, psychological explorations of freedom, conflicts between states, and individual liberties. Throughout the course, we will apply theoretical constructs to real problems, looking at public policy and Supreme Court law.

How can liberty be applied to America's discussions of personal rights? Does freedom require the government to avoid infringing on individual autonomy, or must government actively protect an individual's autonomy? If so, how is the balance between government interference and individual autonomy struck? Does economic freedom require political freedom?

Seven class meetings, with the rest of the course work carried out online. For more information about the program and course of offerings, contact Carol Gayle at (847) 735-5083 or [gayle@lakeforest.edu](mailto:gayle@lakeforest.edu).







The *American Democracy Educators' Forum* (ADEF) is a year-long blended (online and face-to-face) graduate program offered in partnership with University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education. Participants discuss the principles and practice of American democracy with leading scholars and faculty from UW-Madison and around the country.

The Forum offers teachers the opportunity to become part of a professional learning community that will inform and enhance current educational practices. Participants earn two credits from UW-Madison's School of Education.



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

## THE POLITICAL CLASSROOM

Lessons on Ethics in Politics: Education

DAVID E. HESS  
PAUL A. MCNULTY



The political classroom is one that helps students develop their ability to conductively deliberate questions that ask, "How should we live together?"

**Voices from the Political Classroom**

On the individual level, how do we want to live? On the societal level, how do we want to live? On the global level, how do we want to live?



The book is a guide to the study of the political classroom.

**Sum**

Participants

Students (M)

Teachers (M)

Students (M)

In 2016-2017, the ADEF is exploring the Bill of Rights as a way to think about the place of individual liberties in the American political experience.

The course draws upon the National Constitution Center's *Interactive Constitution*, supplementing it with a variety of materials from the history of political thought and political history. The first session, held on the UW-Madison campus, considered arguments about the sources and nature of individual rights, with readings from the social contract and natural law traditions and from the pamphlet literature of the American Revolution.

Throughout the academic year, participants will discuss the provisions of the Bill of Rights in detail, considering both the sources of the first ten amendments to the Constitution and historical and contemporary debates about their meaning. Along the way, the discussions will focus on new ways of engaging students in the study of individual rights and the Constitution.

For more information on the American Democracy Educators' Forum, contact Matthew Freid at [freid@wisc.edu](mailto:freid@wisc.edu) or (716) 553-2654.





*Founding Civics ...  
Founding Principles*

## **MORE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS**

Working with Lake Forest College, Roosevelt University and University of Chicago along with University of Wisconsin-Madison and the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia—the HLM Founding Civics Initiative will continue to develop new programs and innovative resources for teachers. Upcoming opportunities include:

### **UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

The Graham School at the University of Chicago is holding a symposium October 22, 2016 on selections from the *Federalist Papers*, offering teachers six professional development hours. Led by UChicago faculty, participants will discuss the successes and failures of the framers, admiring their achievements and considering their missteps.

### **SATURDAY SEMINAR SERIES**

The Jack Miller Center is conducting a series of Saturday professional development seminars across greater Chicago. These shorter seminars give teachers the opportunity to focus on a particular text or issue and to get a feel for HLM Founding Civics programs. The first seminar of the series, “Liberty, Equality and Democratic Tyranny in Tocqueville,” will be held November 19, 2016 in Oak Brook, Illinois and will offer three professional development hours through Lake Forest College.

### **FOUNDING CIVICS COLLABORATIVE CURRICULUM**

Lead teachers and professors are working to develop a comprehensive digital educator’s manual that assembles materials and methods for introducing key texts of the Founding era into the high school classroom. It will include carefully-selected texts, questions, discussion prompts and exercises and will help teachers make use of the National Constitution Center’s *Interactive Constitution*. This unique tool will be available for teachers in Chicago and around the nation. Please contact the Jack Miller Center for more information.

*If you have questions about HLM Founding Civics programs and resources or are interested in participating, please contact Tom Kelly, JMC Director of Civic Education Outreach, at (484) 436-0033 or [tkelly@gojmc.org](mailto:tkelly@gojmc.org).*





## LEAD SUPPORTERS

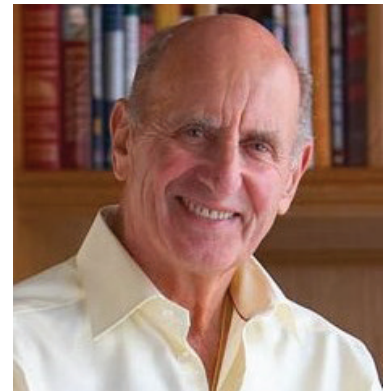
### HARVEY L. MILLER

The Harvey L. Miller Founding Civics Initiative is made possible by a generous lead gift from The Harvey L. Miller Family Foundation, of which Mr. Miller is founder and president. He is a Benida Group partner with his brother Jack and a longtime Chicago philanthropist, supporting a variety of Jewish causes in addition to education, children's services and health research. He serves on the boards of Trustees at the John G. Shedd Aquarium and the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, among others. Mr. Miller was recently awarded the Survivor Legacy Award by the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, their highest honor.



### JACK MILLER

Jack Miller, a Benida Group partner along with his brother Harvey, is a prominent businessman and philanthropist in Chicago. Mr. Miller is founder and chairman of the Jack Miller Center for Teaching America's Founding Principles and History and founder and chairman of the Jack Miller Family Foundation. He supports a number of Jewish and community causes, medical research and educational advocacy initiatives, and causes that advance education in the ideals that are embodied by the United States of America and its founding documents. Mr. Miller was inducted into Philanthropy World magazine's Hall of Fame in 2008 and has received multiple awards including the Joseph H. Kanter Citizen of the Year Award in 2012 at the annual meeting of the National Conference on Citizenship.



## SUPPORT CHICAGO TEACHERS

Help us do more for Chicagoland high school teachers. Each and every donation will be used in support of education programs for teachers so they can strengthen civic education for their students. There is no better way to make a difference in the lives of coming generations than to support the great work of those who are dedicated to teaching them.

If you have any questions about the HLM Founding Civics Initiative or would like to make a donation, please contact Tom Kelly, JMC Director of Civic Education Outreach at (484) 436-0033 or [tkelly@gojmc.org](mailto:tkelly@gojmc.org). We also invite you to visit [jackmillercenter.org](http://jackmillercenter.org). Thank you!





**JACK MILLER CENTER**

*"Partners in Higher Education for Citizenship"*

THREE BALA PLAZA WEST, SUITE 401  
BALA CYNWYD, PA 19004

*We hold these truths to be self-evident...*



---

JACK MILLER CENTER  
WWW.JACKMILLERCENTER.ORG  
484.436.2060

---