



JACK MILLER CENTER

For Teaching America's Founding Principles & History

2023
Annual Report

A Time for Choosing

The Watershed Moment for American Civics

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A Time for Choosing

The Watershed Moment for American Civics

2023 Annual Report

American higher education stands at a crossroads. Our colleges and universities set the model for how we teach and discuss America's history and civic values at all levels, in K-12 classrooms, in the media, and around the world. Yet many institutions, once bastions of open inquiry and debate, have become incubators for ideology and intolerance.

Now, we face an important choice. Do we turn a blind eye to the rise of illiberalism in academia? Do we abandon our universities and hope future leaders learn elsewhere? Or do we use this watershed moment to renew the civic mission of our institutions to prepare the rising generation for citizenship?

This is our time for choosing.

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THE WATERSHED MOMENT FOR AMERICAN CIVICS



A Message from Jack Miller Center President, Hans Zeiger

Dear friend,

The loss of civic awareness and purpose is the #1 challenge America faces as we prepare for the 250th birthday of the nation in 2026. The good news is, you need look no further than the pages of this annual report for signs of hope.

This is indeed a watershed moment for American civics. The Jack Miller Center is at the forefront of a bold civic education movement, grounded in the first principles of American constitutionalism, bolstered by dedicated citizens and civics leaders, and focused on creating highly-effective civic educators at all levels.



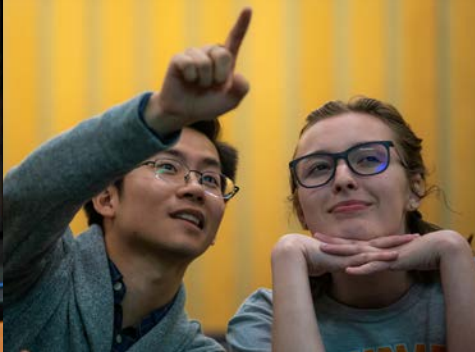
We are nearing the 20th anniversary since our first cohort of rising college professors came together for a two-week immersive fellowship program. Today, these Miller Fellows occupy leadership roles across American academia. And with more than 1,100 scholars who have joined our community over two decades, they form the core of this growing civics movement:

- Miller Fellows are building **game-changing new Schools of Civic Thought at public universities**, solidifying college-level civic education (pg. 9).
- Greater interest in civics is enabling **new programs for community college and law school faculty** (pg. 11-14), and the broader field of American history (pg. 16).
- Miller Fellows are **introducing academic excellence to K-12 teacher preparation**, reinventing professional development and graduate-level programs for high-impact civics teaching (pg. 17).
- Civics leaders, funders, scholars, and teachers are collaborating through the National Summit on Civic Education **to create solutions and build momentum around university and K-12 civic education** (pg. 25).
- **Donors and alumni are underpinning these efforts by leveraging their influence** and investing intentionally in projects that bolster the civic mission of our universities.

No cause is more important for the future of our self-governing society than preparing the rising generation for the privileges and the responsibilities of citizenship. With your friendship and support, the future is bright.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hans". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial 'H'.

Hans Zeiger
hzeiger@gojmc.org



"I have had students on my porch, past midnight, talking about liberty, equality, the United States, and other important ideas... These are the moments of a young college student's life that make a meaningful lifetime impression. These kinds of moments are possible due to the support of JMC."

PROFESSOR BENJAMIN GROSS
JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
MILLER FELLOW SINCE 2016



ABOUT US

OUR MISSION

The Jack Miller Center is a non-partisan educational venture committed to solving the crisis of uninformed citizenship by teaching America's founding principles and history.

OUR VISION

Every American student finishes school prepared for the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship in our free society.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

The American political tradition is bigger than the divisions between Left and Right. True civic education remembers what we hold in common as Americans.

We believe American civic education should be:

- Grounded in our country's founding documents, ideals, and history.
- Free from partisan ideology.
- Respectful of free inquiry and civil discourse.
- A foundational part of education at every level—from elementary school, to college, and beyond.

The Jack Miller Center is a 501(c)(3) public foundation. All donations are tax deductible.

THE FOUR PILLARS OF OUR WORK

AMERICAN POLITICAL TRADITION PROJECT

Driven University Scholars ▪ Schools of Civic Thought on Campuses ▪ Academic Excellence



Building the talent pipeline of college educators to advance American political thought and history at universities, community colleges, law schools, and more.

A MORE INFORMED PUBLIC

Public Media ▪ Civics Tools ▪ Teaching Resources



Galvanizing interest and support for American civics through articles, webinars, and other media, and providing excellent learning tools for anyone to explore our history and central texts.

Our strategic model for advancing civic education grounded in history and first principles.

FOUNDING CIVICS INITIATIVE

Primary Source Texts ▪ Scholar-Led Discussion ▪ K-12 Classroom Application

Transforming education for K-12 civics, history, and social studies teachers by focusing on the deep study of primary texts and innovative application for K-12 classrooms.



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CIVIC EDUCATION

Civics Leaders and Funders ▪ Higher Ed and K-12 Reform ▪ Actionable Steps

Growing a nationwide coalition of civic education leaders and funders to advance solutions that will prepare students for the responsibilities of citizenship.



THE AMERICAN POLITICAL TRADITION PROJECT

We're building a movement to elevate the American Political Tradition within college campuses, academic research, and the public sphere.

The Jack Miller Center was founded to address a critical problem: the disappearance of America's founding principles and history from our nation's classrooms. To solve this problem, we have spent the last 20 years investing in talented, mission-aligned scholars to revive civic education on college campuses, in K-12 classrooms, and beyond.

Through the American Political Tradition Project, we bolster our network of scholars by fostering career advancement, aiding in the creation of new campus programs and events, and offering invaluable research assistance.

Now, Miller Fellows are leading the civic education revival on campus, and are the primary source of talent for teaching positions in American politics, political theory, and history.

1,100 SCHOLARS

332 CAMPUSES

48 STATES

Want to learn more about a specific higher ed initiative?
Contact Thomas Cleveland, Executive Director of the American Political Tradition Project, at tcleveland@gojmc.org.

"JMC has quietly and persistently transformed the study of American political thought from a marginal enterprise into one of the most vibrant fields in political science."

PROFESSOR SUSAN MCWILLIAMS BARNDT, POMONA COLLEGE



JMC's 2023 Summer Institute in Philadelphia

The Miller Fellowship Program

The Miller Fellowship begins with the JMC Summer Institute. Now in its 19th year, the rigorous two-week institute is widely recognized as one of the premier programs for identifying, training, and supporting emerging scholars of the American political tradition.

The 2023 Summer Institute in Philadelphia convened 20 young scholars to discuss "The Idea of Founding." These talented scholars join a network of over 600 Summer Institute alumni, providing continuous professional support and networking. The 2023 Summer Institute was made possible through the generous support of the Sarah Scaife Foundation.

JMC Scholars Lead New Schools to Revive Civics and the Liberal Arts

SCHOOLS OF CIVIC THOUGHT AT PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES



JMC Panel with Schools of Civic Thought Directors

New independently-run schools and centers are emerging at public universities across the country to address a gap in the teaching and study of civic thought, the liberal arts, and the Western tradition in higher education.

These Schools of Civic Thought are built to fit the unique needs of their state and home institutions. Now, they are creating faculty positions in previously declining fields, fostering high-level civil discourse on campus, and enhancing K-12 civics education in their states.

For two decades, JMC has been strategically investing in scholars committed to the American political tradition. Many of the faculty and staff at SCTs are alumni of JMC programming, from the prestigious Miller Fellowship to other programs and events.

The Jack Miller Center plays a pivotal role in supporting these schools by recruiting faculty and leadership, developing curricula and programming, and advising on strategic expansion.

"This renewal of serious civic education is greatly indebted to the vision, talent, and strategic support of the Jack Miller Center."

PAUL CARRESE, FOUNDING DIRECTOR,
ASU'S SCHOOL OF CIVIC AND ECONOMIC THOUGHT AND LEADERSHIP

JMC Scholars hold many key leadership and faculty positions within these emerging centers and schools, with nine serving as directors.

CURRENT SCHOOLS OF CIVIC THOUGHT

Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative
Utah Valley University

Declaration of Independence Center for the Study of American Freedom
University of Mississippi

Hamilton Center for Classical and Civic Education
University of Florida

Institute of American Civics
University of Tennessee at Knoxville

School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership
Arizona State University

School of Civic Leadership
University of Texas at Austin

SCHOOLS IN EARLY DEVELOPMENT

Center for Civics, Culture, and Society
Cleveland State University

Center for Civics, Culture, and Society
Miami University

Center for Civics, Culture, and Workforce Development
Wright State University

Institute of American Constitutional Thought and Leadership
University of Toledo

Institute for Governance and Civics
Florida State University

Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society
Ohio State University

School of Civic Life and Leadership
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



2023 JMC Community College Seminar

"Community college educators are largely forgotten when it comes to professional development, even though we teach more than one-third of America's college students."

ROBERT STEVENS
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
TACOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Jack Miller Center Launches New Community College Initiative

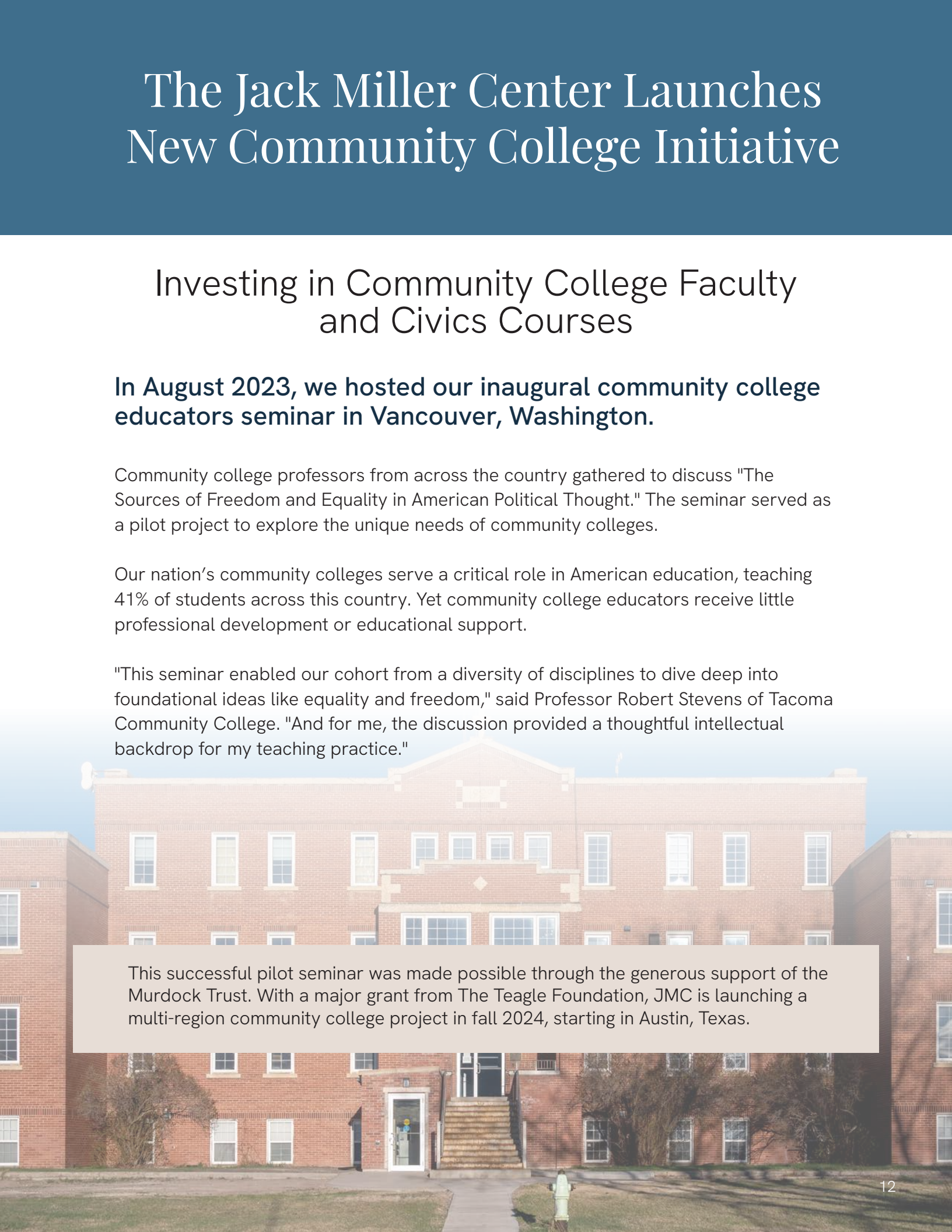
Investing in Community College Faculty and Civics Courses

In August 2023, we hosted our inaugural community college educators seminar in Vancouver, Washington.

Community college professors from across the country gathered to discuss "The Sources of Freedom and Equality in American Political Thought." The seminar served as a pilot project to explore the unique needs of community colleges.

Our nation's community colleges serve a critical role in American education, teaching 41% of students across this country. Yet community college educators receive little professional development or educational support.

"This seminar enabled our cohort from a diversity of disciplines to dive deep into foundational ideas like equality and freedom," said Professor Robert Stevens of Tacoma Community College. "And for me, the discussion provided a thoughtful intellectual backdrop for my teaching practice."



This successful pilot seminar was made possible through the generous support of the Murdock Trust. With a major grant from The Teagle Foundation, JMC is launching a multi-region community college project in fall 2024, starting in Austin, Texas.



SC Supreme Court Holds Court at Coastal Carolina

"No profession is more responsible for the preservation of our Constitution than the law. But our nation's law schools do not always teach the Constitution's underlying philosophical principles. The Jack Miller Center has stepped into this breach and, in doing so, is reminding our nation's law professors why the Constitution is good and worthy of our devotion."

VINCENT PHILLIP MUÑOZ
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND LAW
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Bringing the American Political Tradition Back to Law Schools



2023 JMC Law School Conference

In February 2023, the Jack Miller Center convened law school faculty from across the country to discuss how to integrate the American political tradition into existing courses and opportunities for new course development.

Law schools, in their study of case law and precedent, have unfortunately neglected the foundations of the American legal system found in Enlightenment philosophy. The JMC Law School Initiative aims to increase the emphasis on political theory and America's founding principles and history in law school curriculum.

It's time to help our nation's lawyers—who play a critical role in forming and defining the laws of the land—develop a rich understanding of our founding history, ideas, and traditions.

The Jack Miller Center Law School Initiative was made possible through a generous grant from the Thomas W. Smith Foundation.



Follow us on Instagram at [@jackmillercenter](https://www.instagram.com/jackmillercenter) for fascinating historical facts, American stories, and beautiful artwork.

Restoring American History in American Education

At this time when the serious teaching of American civics and history is so badly needed, the field of American history has fallen noticeably behind. History departments are being slashed, history courses are being removed from curricula, and many of the courses that remain are focused on ideological narratives.

In 2023, the Jack Miller Center launched the History Initiative to revive this vital part of civic education. By 2026, our goals are to:

- Increase the number of professors who teach American history
- Bolster the field of American history by supporting new published scholarship and professional development for historians
- Tell inspiring stories of American history to the public through popular media channels.
- Digitize important primary source documents that tell the American story on ContextUS.org

Meet Elliott Drago, JMC's Resident Historian and Manager of the History Initiative

Elliott promotes the field of American history by recruiting new historians to the JMC network, advancing important scholarship, supporting K-12 teacher programming and content, and telling the great stories of American history to the public.





2023 Civic Spirit Program

"This didn't even feel like professional development. I learned so much – I'm using this with all my classes on Monday!"

TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER

*From the Dallas Independent School District
2023 Districtwide Survey on JMC's Content-Based Programs*

THE FOUNDING CIVICS INITIATIVE

TRANSFORMING K-12 CIVICS TEACHER EDUCATION

2,100

teachers

11

states

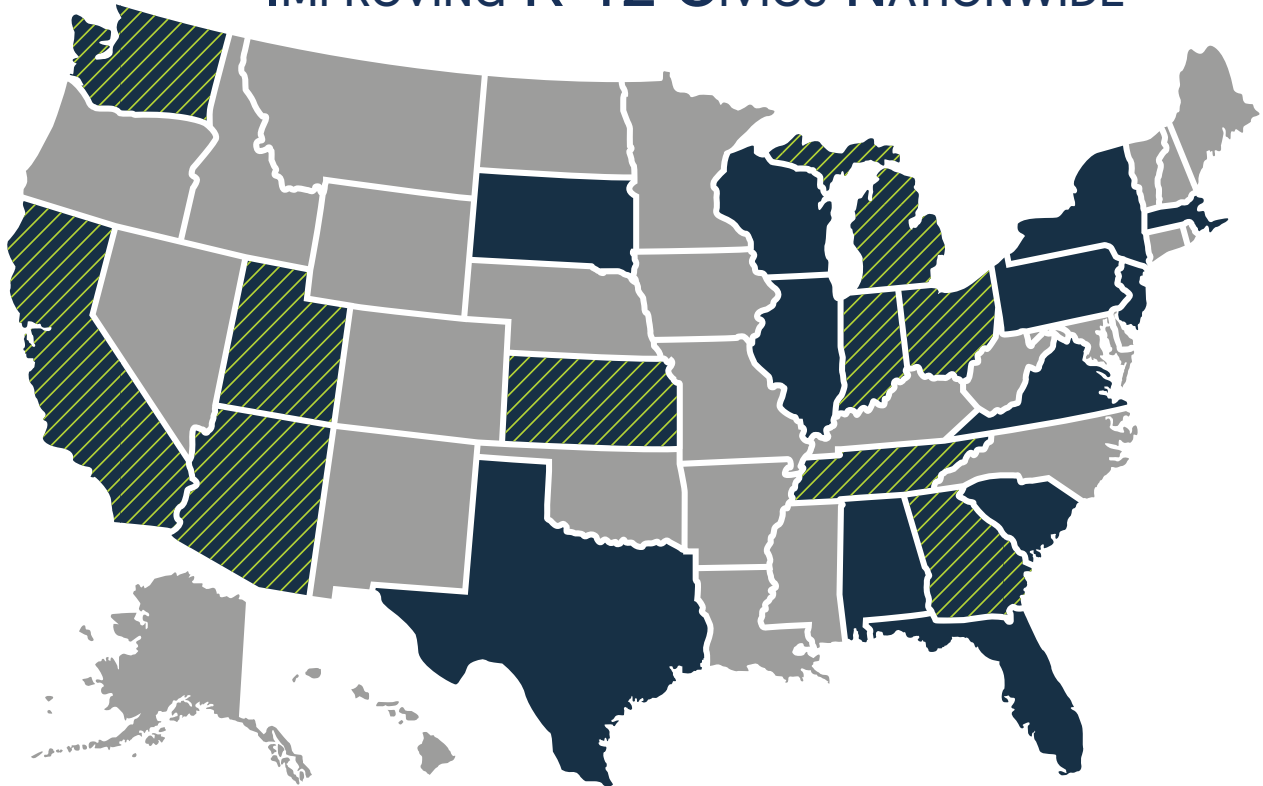
5,980

professional development
hours

Our goal is to help K-12 history and civics teachers develop a mastery of the American political tradition. Since 2016, our Founding Civics professional development seminars have connected 2,100+ K-12 teachers with over 100 scholars from across the country to engage in the deep study of our country's founding ideas, documents, and history.

The demand for our innovative programs is clear. We reached a record number of teachers this year across 11 states, and we are expanding to 22 states by 2026.

IMPROVING K-12 CIVICS NATIONWIDE



States with JMC K-12 Programs

States without JMC K-12 programs

JMC K-12 Programming in Development Through 2026

The American Political Tradition Institute & Fellowship for K-12 Teachers



2023 American Political Tradition Fellowship



Meet Benjamin Boyce, JMC's Teacher Programs Manager

Ben Boyce joined the Jack Miller Center in June 2022 as our Teacher Programs Manager for the Southeast. Ben plays an instrumental role in conducting K-12 teacher programs, building lesson plans, helping teachers integrate primary sources in the classroom, and building relationships on the ground with schools, teachers, and other stakeholders in southern states.

"The APT Institute was a revelation. I walked away with a newfound confidence and enthusiasm for incorporating primary sources into my lessons."

MARY ANN NICKLE, FLORIDA MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER



Elite Yearlong Training Fellowship for Dedicated K-12 Civics Teachers

The Jack Miller Center concluded its second year of the premier American Political Tradition (APT) Fellowship, identifying top middle and high school teachers from around the country for participation.

The fellowship began with a weeklong institute at Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg, Florida, gathering 15 dedicated civics and history teachers to dive deep into primary source texts with leading scholars. Throughout the academic year, the fellowship continued with virtual sessions for the cohort of teachers to solidify their learning and discuss applications to their curriculum.

"The APT Teacher Fellowship is an unparalleled opportunity," notes JMC Vice President of Civics Initiatives, Thomas Kelly. "The yearlong format gives civics and history teachers the chance to develop a real mastery of founding documents and ideas and form lasting relationships with JMC scholars and fellow teachers."

To learn more about our teacher education programs, please contact Lauren Altobelli, Director of the Founding Civics Initiative, at laltobelli@gojmc.org.

The In-Depth Professional Development Teachers Want



My name is Molly Smith; I teach United States History, Government, and Psychology in a small, independent school located in St. Petersburg, Florida. As a child, I used to be surprised to see my teachers outside of school, as if I expected them to “power down” at night and exist only in the paradigm of school. However, I will let you in on a secret: teachers really do love learning – *all the time*. We are constantly looking to learn new things and share what we have learned with others.

What do teachers want? Professional development that is accessible and affordable! How do we want it? Online, in-person, however we can get it!

That’s where the Jack Miller Center comes in. I was first introduced to JMC during the pandemic via online virtual offerings focused on topics such as Civil Liberties, Federalist versus Anti-Federalist debates, and the American Founding. Not only were we regularly given a set of readings to review ahead of time, but we engaged in discussion with experts in the field. And, we were provided with guidance on how to apply these lessons in the classroom.

Since then, I’ve participated in several more programs with JMC. The beauty of all JMC programs (virtual or in-person) is this: they meet you where you are.

There are many types of teachers at diverse schools—public, private, parochial, large and small—that serve students of differing ages and abilities. And Jack Miller Center programs are adaptable and usable to *each and every one of us*. I have collaborated with teachers from schools

A Word from Molly Smith, High School History and Government Teacher

vastly different from my own, and we have all been able to adapt these lessons to meet the needs of our students.

There is no better professional development, no better scholarship, and no finer organization than the Jack Miller Center to provide this kind of professional support so needed by educators. I am in the trenches with students and can attest to this fact.

Furthermore, the Jack Miller Center staff is responsive, engaged, and extremely helpful in providing opportunities for teachers everywhere to work with a team of diverse professors who are experts in their fields. The topics covered are timeless—they inform us of the foundation for this great nation, but also provide a springboard for understanding the challenges of today.

Thank you for making this all possible—the Jack Miller Center has enriched my professional life and that of so many other educators.

**"There is no better professional development,
no better scholarship, and no finer
organization than the JMC to provide this kind
of professional support. I am in the trenches
with students and can attest to this fact."**

Celebrating Exceptional Civics Educators



ALAN LEVINE
SENIOR SCHOLAR WINNER

Alan Levine is an Associate Professor of Government and the founder and director of the Political Theory Institute at American University. For nearly 30 years, he has been helping skeptical students see the promise and goodness of America and its founding principles. As one former student put it, “by showing me how to engage in thoughtful inquiry about my assumptions, Professor Levine changed my perspective on America, and my intellectual trajectory.”

PAUL WILFORD
JUNIOR SCHOLAR WINNER

Paul Wilford is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Boston College. He has been adept at turning his students into generous interlocutors who are able to engage productively across differences. Through teaching texts such as Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address, he has shown students how to engage with America’s ills without losing sight of its great promise.



JMC recognizes talented professors and teachers with the 2023 Excellence in Civic Education Award.



JESSE PEREZ **K-12 WINNER**

Jesse Perez teaches social studies at Shorewood High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In his nine years of teaching, Jesse has noticed a sharp decline in interest in America's history and founding principles and has worked tirelessly to overcome this apathy. Jesse has been so successful in waking students up to the importance of America's civic history that he has inspired some to become teachers themselves.

STEPHANIE KAUFMAN **K-12 HONORABLE MENTION**

Stephanie Kaufman teaches high school government in Sturgis, South Dakota. Stephanie's students report how she makes civic education compelling by helping them engage directly with the primary source documents of our founding. Stephanie finds special meaning in bringing civic education back to American high school education, where it has increasingly been pushed out in favor of an exclusive emphasis on language arts and mathematics.



THE SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CIVIC EDUCATION

CIVICS LEADERS AND FUNDERS ADVANCE SOLUTIONS TO THE CIVICS CRISIS

The Jack Miller Center and The Union League Legacy Foundation convened 200 civic education leaders at the National Summit on Civic Education on November 9-10, 2023 at the historic Union League of Philadelphia.

Founding principles-based civics organizations, leaders, scholars, and funders need a way to gather regularly, discuss emerging ideas and opportunities, and promote field-wide investments. The Summit was formed in 2022 to answer that call.

The 2023 conference focused on advancing a holistic approach to civics reform. Too often efforts to strengthen civics in the K-12 system are pursued independently of civics reform in higher education.

Sessions highlighted new, innovative projects and provided a forum for discussion on controversial issues. New partnerships, actionable ideas, and a much-needed dialogue were created between funders and practitioners for long term solutions.

Our work is just getting started.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

Leadership Sponsor (\$50,000)

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Mondrian Investment Partners

Robert R. McCormick Foundation

Liberty Sponsors (\$25,000)

The Marcus Foundation, Inc.

Warner Foundation

Philadelphia Sponsors (\$5,000)

Considine Family Foundation

Mike and Pam Piotrowicz

Independence Sponsors (\$10,000)

Alvarez & Marsal

American Council of Trustees and Alumni

Connelly Foundation

The D.M. DiLella Family Foundation

Pete and Cherie Gutekunst

Partners (\$2,500)

Civic Spirit

Ronald Woodmansee

Supporter (\$1,000)

Bold Gold Broadcast & Media Foundation



2023 National Summit on Civic Education

Scan the QR code to watch a short recap of the National Summit and learn more:

The third annual National Summit on Civic Education will be held November 14-15, 2024 in Philadelphia. If you are interested in attending this invitation-only conference, please reach out to Thomas Kelly, Vice President of Civics Initiatives, at tkelly@gojmc.org.



Expanded Advisory Councils Propel the Jack Miller Center's National Impact



"I am grateful for the opportunity to work with a group of scholars who are dedicated to promoting civic education among America's youth. JMC's mission is crucial at this point in our nation's history and I am glad to be a part of the work being done."

JONATHAN WHITE, CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER



NATIONAL CIVICS COUNCIL

Distinguished civics leaders who advise JMC on strategy, messaging, policy, and the national and state-level civic education landscapes.

Alaine K. Arnott Ph.D., *National Liberty Museum*

Cynthia Bader, *CEB Teaching & Learning*

Herbert M. Berg, *The Society of the Cincinnati/The American Revolution Institute*

Thalia Considine, *Considine Family Foundation*

James C. Creigh, *Kutak Rock LLP*

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Carrie Filipetti, *The Vandenberg Coalition*

Capt. Edward W. Gantt, *Military Order of the World Wars*

Cathy Gillespie, *Constituting America/U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission*

Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg, *U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit/Civics Fundamentals*

Jeffrey Gray, *Union League Club of Chicago*

Alexandra O. Hudson, *Civic Renaissance*

Benjamin F. Jones, *South Dakota State Historical Society*

Sylvie Légère, *The Policy Circle*

David Mathus, *McDermott, Will & Emery/Union League Club of New York*

John Meko, *Founding Forward*

Daniel Stid, *Lyceum Labs*

Sarah Suggs, *The Sandra Day O'Connor Institute for American Democracy*

Thomas Susman, *American Bar Association*

Susan Warner, *Warner Foundation*

ACADEMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

Accomplished university scholars who guide JMC on pressing issues in higher education and expanding our professor network, and who garner public interest through speeches, media, and articles.

Elizabeth Kaufer Busch, Council Chair, *William Inboden, University of Florida*
Christopher Newport University

Benjamin Kleinerman, Council Vice Chair, *University of Florida*
Baylor University

John Agresto, *St. John's College*

Richard Avramenko, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Jeremy Bailey, *University of Oklahoma*

Susan McWilliams Barndt, *Pomona College*

Matthew Brogdon, *Utah Valley University*

Paul Carrese, *Arizona State University*

James Ceaser, *University of Virginia*

Daniel Cullen, *Rhodes College*

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Joshua Dunn, *University of Tennessee at Knoxville*

Justin Dyer, *University of Texas at Austin*

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Robert Ingram, *University of Florida*

Rita Koganzon, *University of Houston*

Jon Lauck, *University of South Dakota*

Harvey Mansfield, *Harvard University*

Wilfred M. McClay, *Hillsdale College*

Roosevelt Montás, *Columbia University*

Lucas Morel, *Washington and Lee University*

Vincent Phillip Muñoz, *University of Notre Dame*

Peter Onuf, *University of Virginia*

Lorraine Pangle, *University of Texas at Austin*

Thomas Pangle, *University of Texas at Austin*

Diana Schaub, *Loyola University Maryland*

Colleen Sheehan, *Arizona State University*

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Barry Strauss, *Cornell University*

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Gregory Weiner, *Assumption University*

Jonathan W. White, *Christopher Newport University*

Gordon Wood, *Brown University*

Jean Yarbrough, *Bowdoin College*

Michael Zuckert, *University of Notre Dame*

A MORE INFORMED PUBLIC

We believe most Americans are tired of the media promoting the problems in our society and are ready for the return of civil debate, inspiring American stories, and real solutions.


In 2023, we ramped up our efforts to elevate the conversation in the media by giving historical context to current issues, providing perspectives and reports on the civics landscape, and promoting excellent scholarship.

264 PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA APPEARANCES

107 MEDIA OUTLETS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

60 PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENTS

1.2 MILLION WEBSITE VIEWS



In May 2023, the Jack Miller Center and Hudson Institute Political Studies hosted a panel discussion in Washington, D.C. on the Torah and the American Founding featuring respected scholars Meir Soloveichik, Michael Doran, Robert P. George, and Justin Dyer, moderated by JMC fellow Samuel Goldman.

Helping America Rediscover Her Civic Purpose

CONTEXTUS: MAKING PRIMARY SOURCES ACCESSIBLE AND ENGAGING



The Jack Miller Center is building ContextUS.org to help students, teachers, and the public engage with the nation's rich textual tradition online. The site will allow users to explore over 600 core texts on one user-friendly platform.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Considine Family Foundation, we are adding hundreds of new texts to the online library and expanding our educational content for teachers.

Stay tuned for updates as we develop this innovative new learning tool.

JMC SCHOLARS INSPIRE MILLIONS THROUGH *OUR AMERICAN STORIES*



In 2023, we partnered with popular podcast and radio show *Our American Stories* to tell inspiring stories from American history.

iHeartRadio's fastest-growing podcast, *Our American Stories* airs on 400+ stations across the country and had over 8 million downloads last year. Episodes have featured our resident historian, Elliott Drago, board member and celebrated historian Wilfred McClay, and other scholars from the Jack Miller Center network.

To listen to the episodes, visit jackmillercenter.org/ouramericanstories.

ONWARD

THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

As of my 95th birthday on March 19th, 2024, I've retired as Chairman of the Board at the Jack Miller Center, making this my last official "Chairman's Message."

I am stepping down with great confidence JMC is becoming a powerful force in the nationwide movement for teaching American civics and history and will be long into the future. I have so many of you to thank for that—the dedicated educators and our forward-thinking donors—for believing in our mission and our country.

I started the Center because I wanted to make sure the American Dream, which I have lived and benefit greatly from, would be available to future generations. For our freedom to survive, the founders knew that every generation would need a basis of knowledge about our country and its founding ideals. So that is what we set out to do: put our founding principles and history at the forefront of education.

As JMC enters its 20th year, I am proud of what we have accomplished. We've provided training and leadership support to more than 1,100 scholars, who've taught 36,000+ undergraduate courses on 330+ campuses in 48 states. We've developed rigorous scholar-led content training programs completed by more than 2,000 K-12 teachers. Collectively, these teachers and scholars have taught over two million middle school, high school, and college students about our country.

We are now expanding our work to community college and law school faculty, building a consortium civics graduate program for K-12 teachers, and taking a leadership role in a blockbuster new higher ed movement: schools of civic thought at public universities (page 9).

All in all, we are making sure the nationwide civics movement grows and succeeds at all levels—and we are not alone. Some 200 civics leaders joined us for our 2023 National Summit on Civic Education to solve challenges and to collaborate. I can't wait to see what the 2024 Summit has in store.

I plan to continue in an active role on the Board as Chairman Emeritus, and I leave the chair in good hands with Michael Weiser, who formerly served as chair of the National Conference on Citizenship, chair of the HistoryMiami Museum, and as treasurer of the Jack Miller Center Board. He is a proven leader and passionate about our mission.

Thank you for investing in American civic education and for protecting the American dream.

"I am stepping down with great confidence JMC is becoming a powerful force in the nationwide movement for teaching American civics and history and will be long into the future."

IS THE JACK MILLER CENTER PARTISAN? NO. AND YES!

In my final chairman's message, I wanted to address a question we get a lot: Is the Jack Miller Center partisan?

Our usual answer to that question is "No. We are non-partisan." But after saying that for many years, I decided to look up the definition of partisan: "a strong supporter of a party, cause, or person."

With that in mind, yes, we are non-partisan when it comes to a "party" or "person." But when it comes to a "cause," we are very partisan, a "strong supporter of a cause." We believe strongly in the teaching of our founding principles and history. We believe that every generation should learn about the journey America has made in trying to achieve that vision in our Declaration of Independence that, "all men are created equal" and are endowed "with certain unalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

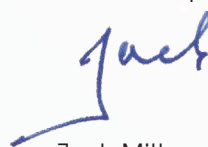
That is the vision our founders gave us, a vision of individual freedom. By saying that "all men are created equal," they set a goal that America needed to work to achieve.

Today, a loud minority is trying to destroy that vision, what binds us together, what makes us *e pluribus unum*, "out of many, one." It is our shared history, our commitment to freedom, equality, and the rule of law, and our founding principles, enshrined in the Declaration and Constitution, that unite us, across differences, as Americans.

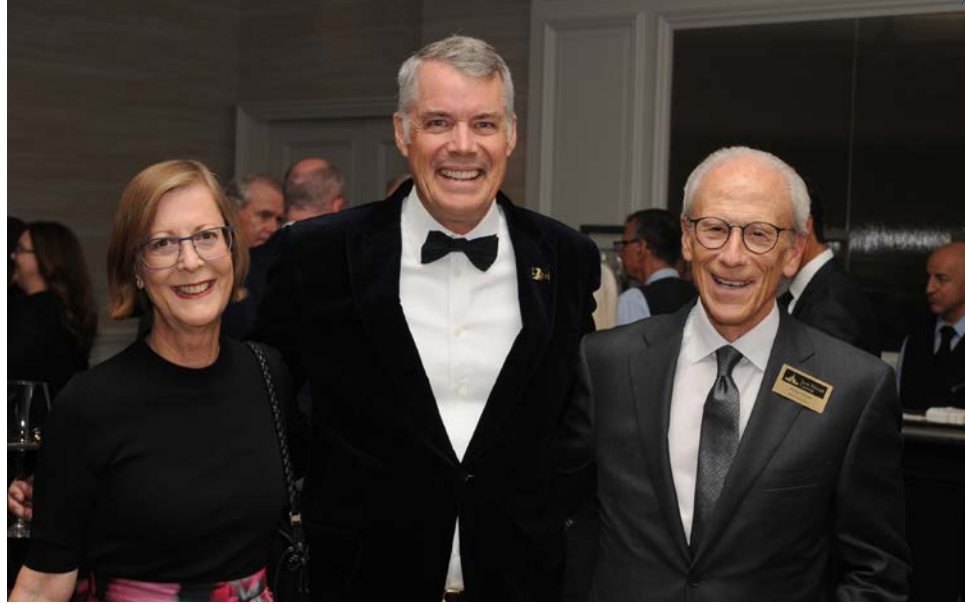
All of this has made us even more committed to the cause of getting the teaching of our founding principles and history back into our classrooms. It's a cause that rises above what the word partisan has come to mean—political identity and policy preference—and one that we believe all Americans should embrace.

So yes, we are non-partisan. And yes, we are proudly partisan for the American cause.

Onward and Upward!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Jack Miller
Founder and Chairman Emeritus





Teach for Freedom

A Gala Honoring Jack Miller

On September 7, 2023, Harvey L. Miller, Richard Uihlein, and the Jack Miller Center co-presented the Teach for Freedom Gala in honor of serial entrepreneur, visionary philanthropic leader, great American success story, and JMC founder, Jack Miller.

Longtime Miller Fellow, Stuart Warner of Roosevelt University, presented the inaugural Jack Miller Award for Patriotic Philanthropy to none other than Jack himself.

Jack Miller's life, leadership, and extraordinary vision have been the driving force for the Jack Miller Center's efforts to bring the American story of freedom back to college campuses and K-12 classrooms across the country.

All proceeds from the Gala are advancing American civic education grounded in our founding principles and history.

We extend a profound thank you to our Teach for Freedom sponsors, the Miller family and friends, and to Jack Miller himself for making this nationwide project possible.





Thank You

In 2023, we launched game-changing new initiatives to bring civic education back to the forefront of higher education, from community colleges to public universities. We taught a record number of civics and history teachers across 11 states and laid the groundwork for bringing the K-12 Founding Civics Initiative to 22 states by 2026.

To expand our national impact, we doubled the number of civics leaders joining our National Summit on Civic Education. We made the case for first-principles civics in 264 media appearances. And we welcomed six new staff members and over 100 new donors to the cause.

None of this would be possible without your steadfast support. Thank you.

\$100,000+

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*** indicates a Teach for
 Freedom Gala sponsor**

TEACH FOR FREEDOM



How your investment will achieve

HIGHER EDUCATION

- **Train more professors of American politics and history** to teach the American political tradition across the country.
- **Support Schools of Civic Thought** to provide a stable home on campuses for the American political tradition and help universities fulfill their civic missions.
- **Bolster American civic education in community colleges and law schools** through faculty training, curricular development, and investment.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

- **Elevate the national dialogue** on American politics, history, and education through a widespread public relations campaign.
- **Provide free access to primary sources and learning tools** to foster greater interest and engagement with key documents.
- **Tell inspiring stories of American history** through faculty professional development and investment.

A \$40 Million Campaign to Transform Civic Education



Constitution Day at Bethel University

nationwide impact by America's 250th

K-12 EDUCATION

- **Enhance K-12 teacher training nationwide** by equipping educators with knowledge beyond textbooks to teach core texts and ideas from the American political tradition effectively.
- **Build a university consortium graduate program in civics for K-12 teachers**, aligning professional development with career advancement incentives.
- **Reform colleges of education to prioritize subject mastery** of American civics and history alongside pedagogical training for teachers.

COALITION BUILDING

- **Convene the National Summit on Civic Education** with hundreds of like-minded organizations and donors to further innovative projects and ideas.
- **Build a support network for civic education funders** to connect directly with scholars and practitioners to fund transformational projects.
- **Develop a national strategy for America250** across organizations to emphasize our national history, documents, and ideas.

2023 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

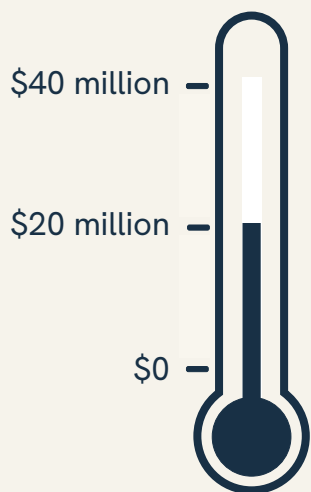
Revenues	
Public Support	11,414,590
<i>2023 Cash Received</i>	5,424,181
<i>Pledges Receivable (Pledges received in 2023 to be paid in future years)</i>	5,990,409
Dividends and Interest	141,836
Realized and Unrealized Gain	528,952
Total Revenue and Support	\$12,085,378
Expenses	
Program Services	3,882,827
<i>American Political Tradition Project</i>	1,362,156
<i>K-12 Founding Civics Initiative</i>	1,314,302
<i>National Summit on Civic Education, Public Outreach, Other</i>	1,206,369
Fundraising	1,130,122
Management and General	355,019
Total Expenses	\$5,367,968
2023 Net Assets	
Change in Net Assets	6,717,410
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	8,586,335
Net Assets, End of Year	\$15,303,745

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets		2023 FUNDS RECEIVED
Current Assets	11,300,877	\$5,424,181
Property and Equipment	45,189	
Pledges and Deposits	4,612,774	
Total Assets	\$15,958,840	2023 EXPENDITURES
		\$5,367,968
Liabilities and Net Assets		2023 NET ASSETS
Total Liabilities	655,095	\$15,303,745
Total Net Assets	15,303,745	
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$15,958,840	

Our financial statements are audited annually by an independent firm, ensuring GAAP compliance. Audited statements available upon request.

In just two years, we've reached the halfway point to our \$40 million Teach for Freedom Campaign goal.



The next two years are the most critical as we seek a united path forward for America by her 250th anniversary. We are advancing a major strategic growth plan to turn this watershed moment into a lasting nationwide movement to teach every student about our country.

Help us reach our campaign goal and transform civic education from kindergarten to college.

Visit jackmillercenter.org/supportus and give today.



REMEMBERING JOHN LILLARD BOARD DIRECTOR

John joined our Board of Directors in 2010, and for more than a decade, brought his keen intellect and knack for understanding to just about any issue to drive significant advancements in civic education. His commitment and business acumen were invaluable during pivotal periods of growth for the Jack Miller Center.

Throughout his tenure, John and his wife Paula made meaningful investments in education, supporting a variety of initiatives to foster the study and teaching of America's founding principles. Notably, they played a key role in establishing centers at the University of Virginia, John's alma mater, and at Lake Forest College near Chicago.

In recognition of their generosity and steadfast dedication to our mission, the Jack Miller Center proudly commissioned a plaque for our headquarters in 2023, naming our central meeting space the "John and Paula Lillard Conference Room."

We are profoundly grateful for John's leadership, which elevated the Jack Miller Center to national prominence in civic education.

"John was a tremendous asset to JMC – a man of vision, generosity, optimism, and remarkable kindness."

WILFRED MCCLAY
LONGTIME FELLOW BOARD MEMBER

JACK MILLER CENTER TEAM



Hans Zeiger
President



Lauren Altobelli
Director of the
Founding Civics
Initiative



Benjamin Boyce
Teacher Programs
Manager



Paul Carrese, Ph.D.
Senior Fellow for Civic
Thought & Leadership



Kacie Cassar
Academic Programs &
Events Coordinator



Thomas Cleveland, Ph.D.
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the American Political
Tradition Project



Lauren Curtolo, CMP
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& Events



Elliott Drago, Ph.D.
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Manager of the History
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Andrew Fisher
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Associate



Jonathan Gondelman, Ph.D.
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Jacob Schueller
Teacher Education
Fellow



Ciara Shannon
Digital Marketing
Specialist



Deidre Trolley
Office Manager



Patrick Troy
Development
Operations Officer



Anna Zemaitaitis
Communications
& Design Officer

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF LAURA GRAHAM

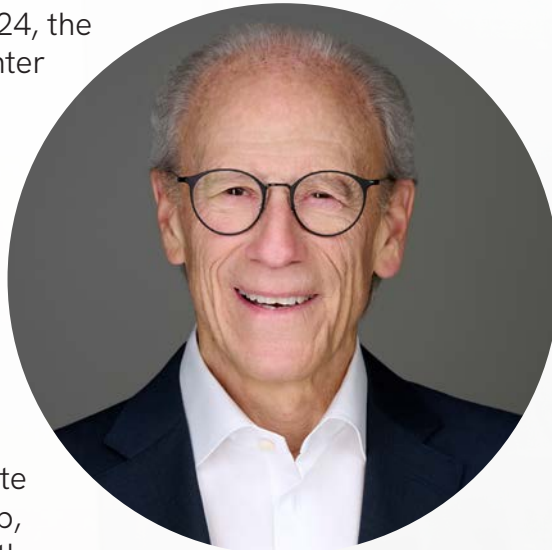
Laura Graham, an extraordinary member of the Jack Miller Center staff, passed away unexpectedly in December. Laura was a remarkable person who joined JMC as Manager of Meetings and Events in March 2022 and later served as our Manager of Stewardship and Engagement. She touched all of our staff, and countless scholars, teachers, and friends with her kindness, generosity, and enthusiasm for people, her deep passion for history, and her spirited love for country. Laura was a blessing to all of us at the Jack Miller Center.



JMC WELCOMES MICHAEL WEISER AS NEW CHAIR OF THE BOARD IN 2024

On March 19, 2024, the Jack Miller Center welcomed Michael Weiser as the new Chair of the Board of Directors.

Michael, who has served on JMC's board since 2013, is currently a general partner of Lowell Associates, LP, a private investment partnership, and chair emeritus of the National Conference on Citizenship, the board of which he led from 2008 to 2016.



He is an experienced philanthropic leader, a fervent advocate for American civic education, and a cherished friend of the Millers.

In the words of JMC president, Hans Zeiger, "The civics movement as we know it is a reality because of Jack Miller's vision, tenacity, philanthropic leadership, and business acumen. Now, at this critical time in our country's history, Michael Weiser is exactly the person we need to serve as the next chair. He understands where we need to go as an organization and how we can do our part in this growing movement."

Jack Miller Center 20

It's been 20 years since our project began.

It all started when Jack Miller convened a meeting of 50 top professors of political science and history from across the country to discuss the dire state of higher education and what needed to be done to fix it.

The consensus was clear: invest in the teaching of America's founding principles and history.

Since that meeting in 2004, 1,100 JMC scholars on over 330 college campuses are leading a civic education revival. Now, American Political Thought is one of the most thriving fields in political science.

We have built a coalition of organizations across the country who are leading a transformational movement for a more educated citizenry.

Join us to celebrate the thousands of educators and students we've helped along the way, and all of the exciting milestones ahead.

jackmillercenter.org/JMC20

JACK MILLER CENTER

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484 436 2060

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2024 KEY EVENTS

Law School Conference

February 8-9, 2024 (San Diego, CA)

2024 Summer Institute

July 16-26, 2024 (Philadelphia, PA)

Bradley & Miller Fellows Conference

April 12-14, 2024 (Philadelphia, PA)

20th Anniversary Scholars Reunion

September 6, 2024 (Philadelphia, PA)

University Historian Roundtable

June 28-29, 2024 (New York, NY)

Community Colleges Conference

October 16-19, 2024 (Austin, TX)

American Political Tradition Fellowship for K-12 Teachers

July 8-12, 2024 (Philadelphia, PA)

National Summit on Civic Education

November 14-15, 2024 (Philadelphia, PA)