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Harrisburg Academy Teacher Receives Gilder Lehrman Summer Program Fellowship

WORMLEYSBURG, PA – Harrisburg Academy history teacher, Lindsay Bowman, has been accepted to a highly competitive summer program through the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Summer Seminar for Teachers. The program, “Thomas Jefferson and the Enlightenment,” will be hosted at the University of Edinburgh, UK, from June 18-24, 2017. The lead scholar for the week is Frank Cogliano, professor of American history at the University of Edinburgh.

Through this fellowship, Bowman will have the opportunity to examine Jefferson’s life and views to expand her own curriculum on the Enlightenment.

“This program is especially important to me because I have not taught in depth about the Enlightenment,” Bowman said. “Currently, I’m only able to touch on it briefly, and it accounts for just four small paragraphs in our textbook. In teaching about Jefferson, my students are often conflicted between the positive accounts of his many achievements in our textbook versus his slave ownership, for example. Taking the time to study and understand Jefferson better myself will help me make sense of it with and for my students.

I believe I will be able to use what I learn in this seminar in all three of my middle school courses. The current political climate is tense worldwide, and I think an emphasis on improving the world through reason is just what we need; it is what I strive to instill in my students, as I seek to mold them on how to be responsive global citizens. The global approach to this seminar is very appealing. While my course is U.S. History, I am always trying to make connections outside of our borders,” she said.

Founded in 1994 by Richard Gilder and Lewis E. Lehrman '56, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is a nonprofit organization devoted to the improvement of history education. Each summer, the Institute offers limited admission to these highly competitive and academically rigorous seminars for K-12 teachers. The teachers are chosen for their strong interest in American history, a commitment to growth and progress in the teaching profession, and an ability to translate new knowledge and materials into effective classroom teaching.

Established in 1784, Harrisburg Academy is the 17th oldest non-public school in the nation and Harrisburg’s only independent school. Our coed, diverse school community inspires students from age three through 12th grade by providing an academically challenging and globally minded liberal arts education focused on dynamic classroom experiences, strong student outcomes, and a commitment to character development. The Academy proudly stands as the first school in the greater Harrisburg area to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and merit scholarship.

For more information about Harrisburg Academy please visit our website at www.HarrisburgAcademy.org or contact Miranda Connelly at 717-763-7811 or via email at connelly.m@harrisburgacademy.org.

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