

MOUNT VERNON



Teaching American History Grant Programs

George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens is pleased to participate in the Teaching American History Grant program and has designed a range of full and half day program options. The following list includes just a few examples of the scholarly presentations that can be arranged through the Mount Vernon Education Department, in addition to special tours, private evening events, and dinners at the Mount Vernon Inn.

❖ **The Presidency of George Washington**

Presented by Jack Warren, Executive Director, The Society of the Cincinnati

This presentation addresses what Washington accomplished as president, focusing on the establishment of the executive branch, the reorganization of national finance, westward expansion, establishment of the national capital, and the maintenance of peace in a time of international crisis.

❖ **George Washington's Leadership**

Presented by Dr. Peter Henriques, George Mason University Professor and author of *Realistic Visionary*

This presentation discusses the combination of factors and talents that led George Washington to be such a strong leader, making him the inevitable choice as first President.

❖ **Young George Washington**

Presented by Jack Warren, Executive Director, The Society of the Cincinnati

This presentation provides an overview of George Washington's family background, education and early experiences, identifying the people, events and experiences that prepared him for his rise to greatness.

❖ **Revealing Mount Vernon's Past through Archaeology**

Presented by Esther White, Director of Archaeology, Mount Vernon

Learn why archaeological artifacts are the key to life at Mount Vernon in the 18th century, and how the ongoing archaeological projects shape future restorations of Mount Vernon Estate.

❖ **George Washington: Architect**

Presented by Dr. Dennis J. Pogue, Associate Director for Preservation, Mount Vernon

This slide-illustrated lecture will focus on Washington's little-understood architectural accomplishments by tracing the changes Washington made to his home, identifying the many sources that influenced his architectural designs, and relating those changes to Washington's larger vision for a free and united America.

❖ **Getting in Touch with George Washington**

Presented by Laura Simo, Assistant Curator, Mount Vernon

This objects-based exploration of Mount Vernon's Collections lets teachers discover George Washington and the colonial world he lived in through the material culture of Mount Vernon.

❖ **Slave Life at Mount Vernon**

Presented by Dr. Peter Henriques, George Mason University Professor and author of *Realistic Visionary*

This presentation discusses the nuances of George Washington's views on slavery and how the slaves of Mount Vernon lived their daily lives. A tour of the newly restored Slave Cabin can be included.

❖ **History Takes Place**

Presented by Dr. Kathleen Anderson Steeves, Associate Professor, History Education, The George Washington University.

This workshop examines the use of place in the study of historic events and people. It engages the participants in an exploration of the ways that the physical space that is the Mount Vernon estate can deepen our understanding of the life and times of George Washington.

❖ **George Washington's Business Sense**

Presented by Dr. Dennis J. Pogue, Associate Director for Preservation, Mount Vernon
George Washington's exploits as a visionary and highly successful agriculturist and entrepreneur are virtually unknown. At its height, his Mount Vernon plantation was one of the largest in Virginia, with 8,000 acres of land cultivated by more than 300 enslaved laborers. This illustrated lecture will explore Washington's diverse business enterprises and place them within the context of his life and times.

❖ **The Real Martha Washington**

Presented by Dr. Peter Henriques, George Mason University Professor and author of *Realistic Visionary*

While Martha Washington is easily recognized as George Washington's wife, this presentation will explore her role at Mount Vernon, as well as during the Revolutionary War as she camped with the troops, and the importance of her precedence as the "first First Lady."

❖ **The Washington Family: An Elementary Classroom Workshop**

Presented by Dr. Peter Henriques, George Mason University Professor and author of *Realistic Visionary*, and Marlene Henriques

This interactive workshop is aimed at social studies teachers who want to bring the life of George Washington and his family into the classroom in a hands-on way for elementary students.



For further details on scheduling your Teaching American History program, contact the Mount Vernon Education Department at 703-799-5234 or Education@mountvernon.org. If you would like to bring your own speaker to Mount Vernon, please contact us to arrange a space and accompanying activities. Menus for the Mount Vernon Inn are available by email.