



MAKING THE GOOD READER AND CITIZEN: THE HISTORY OF LITERATURE INSTRUCTION IN AMERICAN SCHOOLS • WEBINAR SERIES

July 10 and 11, 2024

HUMANITIES TEXAS TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINAR SERIES

*All times are listed in Central Time.*

July 10–11, 2024 ----- Making the Good Reader and Citizen:  
 10:00 am–12:00 pm            The History of Literature Instruction in American Schools

This webinar is made possible with support from the State of Texas and the National Endowment for the Humanities.



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## FACULTY

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**AUDREY BRIMBERRY** participated as a fellow in the National Endowment for the Humanities 2023 professional development institute “Making the Good Reader and Citizen: The History of Literature Instruction in American Schools”. She teaches English at La Vega High School, where she currently serves as a multi-classroom leader and the department head for the language arts team, but has had the privilege of teaching literature and argument to students in both Waco, Texas, and Anchorage, Alaska. She relishes conversations with fellow educators committed to their craft, finds that curiosity is essential to sound pedagogy, and firmly believes that literature holds the key to a more empathetic and complex understanding of the world.

**JONNA PERRILLO** is an education historian and professor of English at the University of Texas at El Paso. Her scholarship centers on the history of K–12 humanities education, social citizenship, and school equity. Since 2021, she has co-directed (with Andrew Newman) a National Endowment for the Humanities program for K-12 teachers titled “Making the Good Reader and Citizen: The History of Literature Instruction in American Schools.” She is the author of two books, *Uncivil Rights: Teachers, Unions, and the Battle for School Equity* (2012) and *Educating the Enemy: Teaching Nazis and Mexicans in the Cold War Borderlands* (2022). She is currently completing a book on how teachers and school librarians negotiate censorship that will be published with Harvard Education Press in 2025. Her writing has also appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Boston Review*, *TIME*, and in local and regional news venues.

**VANESSA SANDERS** is an English teacher and Academic Decathlon coach at Montwood High School in El Paso. She has primarily taught English I and practical writing courses and will be teaching English III and AP Language and Composition for the upcoming school year. She received her MAT in teaching English from The University of Texas at El Paso in 2021. In July of 2023 she was a participant in the National Endowment for the Humanities summer institute, “Making the Good Reader and Citizen: The History of Literature Instruction in American Schools.” She co-authored an op-ed with Jonna Perrillo and Rebecca Guerrero titled “We Can’t Teach Democracy by Sidelineing Literature in School” that was published locally in El Paso.