A Message From Roger L. Beckett

Ashbrook has achieved great success over the years through our diverse educational programs for students, teachers, and citizens. I am thankful to our very generous supporters for making the work we do at Ashbrook possible. In August 2014, we announced the launch of Ashbrook’s largest undertaking to date, Rediscovering America. Now it is my pleasure to share more information about our expansion of this initiative.

Rediscovering America will expand our teacher education programs nationwide. Our goal is to put an Ashbrook Teacher in every secondary school in America – all 35,000 of them. In the fall of 2014 we began this initiative in three states. Now, we are hosting programs in ten states and will reach 4,000 new Ashbrook Teachers this year.

These Ashbrook Teachers will have the knowledge and tools to teach with primary documents and the confidence to cut the tether to boring, negative textbooks. The students they teach will learn what it means to be an American.

At Ashbrook we believe America’s best days are ahead. Together can preserve American freedom if we can reach the young – through those who teach the young.

Roger Beckett, Executive Director

Teaching Students, Teachers, and Citizens

What It Means to Be an American.

Students:
The Ashbrook Scholar program develops the next generation of principled civic leaders.

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Rediscovering America:
An Ashbrook Teacher in Every School.

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Ashbrook Teachers:
Ashbrook preserves freedom by reaching those who teach our young.

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Citizens:
Ashbrook creates informed patriots.

Page 7

50 Core American Documents
Required Reading for Students, Teachers, and Citizens

This collection serves as an introduction to aspects of American thought and history that are deeply interesting – even surprising – and that will entice readers to want to read and learn more. The documents were selected to reveal both sides of the major issues of American history and government and are meant to provide a kind of American political dialogue to readers, an ongoing conversation about the meaning of freedom and self-government.

Get the Book
Purchase on Amazon or download for free on iTunes.

For more highlights about the 50 Core American Documents, see page 8.
Ashbrook Scholars are undergraduate students who are not subjected to shifting academic trends. Since the Scholar program began in 1983, Ashbrook Scholars have been reading the actual words of the greatest thinkers and discovering the questions human beings have always faced in political life. Scholars learn to read attentively, listen respectfully, and debate tenaciously. They arrive at a clear understanding of the principles underlying America’s constitutional government.

**Ashbrook Supporters Create $100,000 Endowed Scholarship**

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Young of York, Pennsylvania have established the D. Louise and Edward S. Young Endowed Scholarship for an undergraduate student enrolled in the Ashbrook Scholar program or for a teacher enrolled in the Master of Arts in American History and Government degree program. Mr. and Mrs. Young wish to encourage scholarship recipients to acquire the knowledge of American History and U.S. Constitution necessary to become educated citizens and future leaders. A true patriot, Mr. Young offers the following advice to the Young Scholarship recipients: “Keep the faith and stay the course set by the Founders.”

**Ashbrook Academy**

The Ashbrook Academy is a summer program designed for rising high school juniors and seniors who share a deep interest in American history and politics. Unlike other courses or programs that tend to erode young Americans’ proper pride in their country by emphasizing its historical failures, the Academy invites students to consider the American experiment as a historical triumph, a victory for reason and the human spirit that warrants grateful celebration but also demands serious study.

The Academy meets for seven days (June 14-20) at the Ashbrook Center on the campus of Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio, immersing participants in a deep study of the biggest challenges that have faced our Republic. We accomplish this through a careful examination of the Declaration of Independence, the Gettysburg Address, and King’s “I Have a Dream” speech. In a friendly seminar setting we examine the vital principles of the country, whether expressed as a self-evident truth, a proposition, or a creed.

The Ashbrook Academy takes history out of textbooks and into students’ lives. By the end of the program, students will have acquired a deep understanding of the fundamental principles that define and unite us as Americans.

Do you know a student who may be interested in the Ashbrook Academy or the Ashbrook Scholar program? Contact Ben Kunkel at bkunkel@ashbrook.org or at (877) 289-5411.

Ashbrook Scholars attend a colloquium with Professor David Tucker on Espionage and Civil Liberties in the Information Age.
What Our Students Say About the Ashbrook Scholar Program

“Ashbrook and the Scholar program has, quite frankly, become my home. It has surrounded me with friends, fellow students, and professors, who help to educate one another through our discussions about great thinkers. I have received a true liberal arts education in the classical sense that I have learned how to make myself free through my ability to think clearly and deeply about what it means to be a human being and an American citizen.”
– John Case, ’15, Creston, Ohio

“By understanding the principles fundamental to reasonable human beings, we as Ashbrook Scholars are able to analyze political dilemmas in the pursuit of understanding what is truly right. The Ashbrook Scholar program has provided me with a confidence and understanding that carries over into all realms of study and human life.”
– Hayden Eighinger, ’17, Mansfield, Ohio

“The thing I love most about the Ashbrook Scholar program is that I’m completely surrounded by people who share my appreciation for History and Political Science. I’m very eager to continue to read the works of the great thinkers of the world and discuss these voices with other Ashbrook Scholars around me.”
– Madeleine Emholtz, ’18, Gulf Breeze, Florida

“The Ashbrook Scholar program is a truly transformative experience. It has not only made me a better student, but a more thoughtful individual. I have gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be an American and ultimately, what it means to be a human being.”
– September Long ’15, Barberton, Ohio

“The Ashbrook Scholar program taught me the importance of studying the foundation of our nation through primary sources. The professors here at Ashbrook strive for class discussions rather than lecturing, which pushes me to analyze, argue, and always ask ‘why?’ when discussing the difficult topics our Founding Fathers also considered.”
– Stephanie Magliulo, ’17, Sterling Heights, Michigan
Rediscovering America: An Ashbrook Teacher in Every School

Ashbrook is working to improve the way American history and civics are taught in America’s classrooms by putting an Ashbrook Teacher in every secondary school.

What is an Ashbrook Teacher?
An Ashbrook Teacher has the knowledge to cut the tether to boring and biased textbooks and engage students with primary source documents. Studying the words of the past breaks through current conceptions and preoccupations, allowing students to understand the past as those who lived it understood it. Ashbrook Teachers offer their students an indispensable path to understanding and affirming the principles of freedom and equality essential to being an American.

Teachers Praise Ashbrook
“Ashbrook’s seminar helped me to better focus my understanding and appreciation of the Federalist Papers. I am energized by new and different (and much more interesting) ways to use the Federalist Papers in my classroom.”

–Laurie M., Cypress Bay High School, Weston, Florida

“Ashbrook’s program yet again reminded me of how rewarding and exciting it is to delve into original documents with a group of intellectually minded educators.”

–Natalie S., Liberty Common School, Fort Collins, Colorado

What is Ashbrook’s Plan?
Ashbrook’s plan is to transform how American history, government, and civics is taught in classrooms. Ashbrook proposes to educate thousands of teachers to teach using primary source documents. To accomplish this, Ashbrook will offer teachers a set of seven programs that will provide the kind of sustained education necessary to change how American history is taught in classrooms across our country:

• Online Resources on TeachingAmericanHistory.org
• Weekend Colloquia on American History and Government at historic sites
• Seminars on American History and Government in 10 states
• Roundtables on American History and Government in secondary schools across the country
• Webinars on American History and Government that reach teachers in all 50 states
• Master of Arts in American History and Government (hybrid format allows for on-campus and online course completion)
• Master of Arts with a Specialization in Teaching American History and Government.
Ashbrook Teacher Program States

Ashbrook is currently offering teachers in all 50 states with online resources and interactive webinars. Ashbrook is also conducting teacher programs on the ground in the following ten states:

- Arizona
- Colorado
- Florida
- Indiana
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Utah

Rediscovering America: Progress

Since launching our programs in Colorado, Florida, and North Carolina in September, 450 teachers have completed Ashbrook Teacher programs in those states.

Ashbrook Teacher Programs:

Below is a list of some of the course titles for our Ashbrook programs:

- The American Founding
- The Constitution and Limited Government
- Hamilton and Madison: Competing Visions for America
- Civil Rights
- Abraham Lincoln
- The Supreme Court
- Roosevelt, Wilson, and Progressive Reform
- Nationalism and Imperialism in the Gilded Age
Ashbrook Teachers

Most Americans learn what they know about our government and history in high school. Yet most history and civics teachers were credentialed through undergraduate schools of education, learned little about America, and are forced to rely on slanted textbook interpretations. Ashbrook introduces teachers to the speeches, letters, and essays written by statesmen who shaped our country. Ashbrook teachers take these original documents back to their classrooms, where their students gain an unfiltered view of America’s history.

Buchwald Summer Fellowships

Ashbrook is pleased to announce a new summer graduate study program for secondary school social studies teachers. The Buchwald Summer Fellowship in American History and Government will provide teachers the opportunity to study in depth the people, events, and ideas they teach every day.

Who should apply?
The Buchwald Summer Fellowship is open to high school and middle school social studies teachers who want to deepen their content knowledge, be energized by bright colleagues, and be mentored by history and political science faculty distinguished for their teaching and scholarship.

How many Buchwald Fellowships are available?
We are seeking to identify and support up to 100 teachers, including one from every state, nationwide who are committed to teaching American history and government through the use of primary source documents.

What do Buchwald Fellows receive upon completing the program?
Fellows who choose to take a course for graduate credit and who successfully complete all course requirements will earn two graduate credit hours from Ashland University. Fellows who choose to audit the course will receive a letter of attendance documenting their participation in 24 contact hours of instruction.

How can teachers apply?
To apply, simply complete our online application at teachingamericanhistory.org/fellows/application.

Master of Arts in American History and Government Degree Program

Hundreds of high school and middle school teachers from across the country are enrolling in Ashbrook’s Master of Arts in American History and Government degree program. Graduate classes begin March 7th for the spring semester. Summer courses begin June 1st. Courses taught by top scholars focus on a wide range of topics including “The American Founding,” “20th Century American Political Economy,” and “Executive Power and the Constitution.”

If you are a teacher or know of a teacher who may be interested in our Master of Arts in American History and Government degree program, please contact Chris Pascarella at cpascarella@ashbrook.org or by phone at (877) 289-5411.

Gordon Lloyd joining Ashbrook as Senior Fellow

Gordon Lloyd will join Ashbrook as a Senior Fellow on July 1. Professor Lloyd will develop online educational resources on the American Founding for Ashbrook’s TeachingAmericanHistory.org website. He will also conduct seminars with hundreds of teachers annually, helping them to increase their knowledge of our American history and constitutional government.
Educated Citizens

Residents from Madison to Reagan have reminded us that educated citizens are essential to maintaining our freedom. Ashbrook is fulfilling that national requirement. Ashbrook Scholar undergraduate education is an investment in principled future leaders. Our teacher program helps teachers better understand the principles on which our nation was founded. These teachers pass their understanding of our constitutional republic to hundreds of students, producing a great return on donations to Ashbrook.

Ashbrook Hires Bring Experience and Passion

"Ashbrook has an enduring legacy of educating the current and future generations of Americans. The opportunity to help this legacy grow and support a mission that I am passionate about is a noble endeavor that I am thankful to be a part of."
– Wendell Clark, Major Gifts Officer

"After having taught for 11 years it’s gratifying to be a part of bringing programs and resources to the teachers whose work will shape students’ views of what America is, what it stands for, and how each of us can contribute to its future. I know that I was hungry for good, content-focused support when I was in the classroom, and that’s exactly what we bring to teachers."
– Jeremy Gypton, Teacher Program Manager

"I am thrilled to join Ashbrook and work with such a fabulous group of people who seek to promote the founding of this great nation and inspire civic virtue and responsibility."
– Michelle Hubenschmidt, Teacher Program Manager

"I feel at home at the Ashbrook Center, where deepening the knowledge of American history and constitutional principles is taken so seriously. The work we do to develop knowledgeable informed citizens is important to the future of our nation. I am thankful to be a part of an organization whose values match my own. Also, I am excited to support the growth of our community of teachers and students."
– Michelle Murray, Programs & Development Coordinator

Planned Giving

Consider making a Planned Gift to the Ashbrook Center. Become a member of the Benjamin Franklin Legacy Society and leave a legacy that will endure beyond your lifetime. To learn more about charitable gift options, please contact Sally Rhoades at 419-289-5411 or srhoades@ashbrook.org.

Events at Ashbrook

March 18
Major Issues Lecture Series

Ashbrook.org/events
For more information or reservations, please contact Lisa Ormiston at 877-289-5411 or lormiston@ashbrook.org.

February 27: The Villages, Florida
Peter W. Schramm: “Benjamin Franklin, First American"

April 24: Ashbrook Colloquium
Lucas Morel: “Lincoln and Liberty: Wisdom for the Ages"
50 Core American Documents: 25,000 and counting!

Thanks to generous support, Ashbrook was able to advertise the 50 Core American Documents in several print and online publications in November and December. Our ads (see left) were featured in National Review, The Weekly Standard, Philanthropy magazine, and The Wall Street Journal. We will also be featured in the upcoming issue of Claremont Review of Books.

In 2014, Ashbrook distributed over 25,000 copies of 50 Core American Documents, in both print and e-book version. This includes a copy to over 6,200 American history, government, and civics teachers in the three pilot states of Ashbrook’s Rediscovering America Initiative. Ashbrook’s success in 2014 has put us in position to have an even greater impact in 2015 and beyond. Ashbrook is grateful to our supporters for making it possible to put this important book in the hands of students, teachers, and citizens.