

For Immediate Release

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Mississippi Teachers Attending George Washington Scholars Institute

Jackson, Miss. – Thirteen Mississippi teachers have traveled to Mount Vernon this week to participate in the 2000 George Washington Scholars Institute. Thanks to a grant provided for the second year from the Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian, teachers selected from across the state will spend an intense week of training and learning June 24 – July 1, during a seminar that will be held to review the life and work of George Washington.

Through study, discussion, tours, and projects, participants gained a new and deeper understanding of the life and character of George Washington and his unique legacy in creating and shaping the principles of America's democracy.

“Thanks to the joint efforts of the Phil Hardin Foundation, Mount Vernon and the Mississippi Department of Education, Mississippi teachers are afforded the opportunity to experience intensive, hands on study and observation of the life and work of George Washington,” said Governor Musgrove. “The students of the participating teachers will benefit from the enhanced study of George Washington because of their teacher's experiences at the Institute.”

The 1999 George Washington Scholars Institute was a pilot project of Mount Vernon. During the pilot program, fifteen teachers from Mississippi participated in the Institute. The Mississippi program has now become a model for other states.

The teachers participating in the 2000 George Washington Scholars Institute are Cindy Young, Oxford Middle School, Oxford; Lucy L. Bartlett, Arlington Heights, Pascagoula; Patricia O. Kirkpatrick, Margaret Green Junior High, Cleveland; Katherine A. Gordon, Stone Elementary, Wiggins; Sandra Mazingo, Horn Lake High School, Walls; Craig S. Davis, Lawrence County High School, Monticello; Patti Edwards, Parkview Elementary School, Meridian; Renee Tullos, Brandon High School, Brandon; Barbara R. Salley, Arlington Elementary School, Pascagoula; Julie Latham, Bettye Mae Jack Upper Elementary School, Lena; Linda B. Everett, Ford Elementary School, New Albany; Catherine E. Roy, Pearl River Central Junior High, Picayune and Theresa Vollar, Warren Junior High School, Vicksburg.

After attending the Institute, the participating teachers conduct an in-service workshop for other teachers in their home school district where they share information and experience they gained at the Institute. The teacher also creates and submits a lesson plan that they have written on a pre-approved topic related to George Washington that can be printed and distributed to teachers nationwide.

Participating teachers are selected by the Mississippi Department of Education through an application process.

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