



Bruce Freeberg

## **CROSSROADS ACADEMY FIFTH GRADE TEACHER SELECTED AS THE 2011 NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### CONTACT:

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**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE HONORS BRUCE FREEBERG FOR HIS  
USE OF PRIMARY DOCUMENTS IN THE CLASSROOM, INSPIRING HIS  
STUDENTS, AND CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS IN EDUCATION.**

**Lyme, NH** - Each year, the Gilder Institute of American History honors state and national "Teachers of the Year." These awards are given specifically to elementary-level teachers of American history.

During the past few years, Bruce Freeberg developed and taught three outstanding units in American history: Westward Expansion, slavery, and the Civil War. Integrated with his language arts program and enhanced by music, Bruce brought both historical periods to life for his students. Based on this work, Head of School Jean Behnke nominated him. After the nomination, Bruce was asked to submit a statement on teaching, lesson plans, and samples of student work. These were evaluated by a panel of teachers, administrators, and academics from the State of New Hampshire.

Bruce was notified on May 26, 2011 that he was selected as the 2011 New Hampshire History Teacher of the Year. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (The History Channel) and the Preserve America Foundation applaud Bruce's outstanding work. The Institute noted that Bruce was chosen for his use of primary documents in the classroom, for the level of inspiration he provides for his students, and for his career achievements in education.

As New Hampshire History Teacher of the Year, Bruce will receive a \$1,000 award, and Crossroads Academy will receive an archive of books in his honor. He will also receive an invitation to attend a week-long summer seminar on a history topic of his choice. While there, Bruce will undoubtedly inspire other educators and bring new ideas back to Crossroads that will benefit the entire community. Bruce is also a finalist for the National History Teacher of the Year award. This selection will take place next fall.

Crossroads Academy will be now named a Gilder Lehrman Affiliate School. As such, its faculty will receive invitations to regional forums with noted historians and will have access to special online resources.

### **About Crossroads Academy:**

Founded in 1991 by Mary Beth Klee, Crossroads Academy is an independent, coeducational day school for students in grades kindergarten through eight. Crossroads sequential, classic curriculum is based on the Core Knowledge philosophy as developed by E.D. Hirsch, and the Core Virtues Program, a character education program created by our founding head. Head of School, Jean Behnke, says, "Our practices and our campus support our engaging and experienced faculty in delivering these two programs to our student body. Upon graduation, our students attend the finest public and private high schools in New England."

In 2004, Crossroads was accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), whose visiting committee noted, "Students at Crossroads Academy appear happy to be there...(they are) actively engaged in their work with a sense of fun, respect, curiosity and enthusiasm."

Crossroads enrolls over 140 students from a fifty-mile radius of Upper Valley communities including Lyme, Hanover, Orford, Lebanon, New London, Piermont, Haverhill, Grantham, Pike, Newport, Enfield, Orange, and Canaan in New Hampshire, and Norwich, Thetford, Randolph, Quechee, Corinth, Tunbridge, Windsor, Fairlee, Waterford, Woodstock, and South Pomfret in Vermont.

For more information about Crossroads Academy, please visit [www.crossroadsacademy.org](http://www.crossroadsacademy.org)

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