



## CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

EDUCATING TOMORROW'S CITIZENS

### L.A. County Teachers Convene to Discuss Democracy

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Contact: Marshall Croddy  
(213) 316-2117  
[marshall@crf-usa.org](mailto:marshall@crf-usa.org)

### Day-long Conference on Civic Education Prepares Teachers for Upcoming Constitution Day Celebration

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7 /PRNewswire/ -- On Saturday, September 9, more than 400 K-12 teachers will gather from across Los Angeles County for the 2nd Annual Constitution Day Conference. The event is sponsored by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (Division of Curriculum and Instructional Services), the Los Angeles Unified School District, and Educating for Democracy: The California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, a statewide initiative of Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) in collaboration with the Center for Civic Education and the Alliance for Representative Democracy.

"The future of democracy in California depends on knowledgeable and engaged citizens. It is the goal of this conference to draw attention to this need and make sure that every student in this county receives a quality civic education so that they understand their constitutional heritage and the rights and responsibilities of effective citizenship," states Michelle Herczog, Ed.D., Consultant, History-Social Science, Los Angeles County Office of Education.

This theme will be repeated throughout the day as teachers hear from a rich and diverse group of speakers who will convene workshops on topics such as "An American Story: The Nisei Veterans and the Constitution," "Discussing Controversial Issues in the Classroom" and "Looking at Issues of Diversity and Equality through a Constitutional Lens." Guest speaker Ricardo Lara, District Director, Office of State Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, will address the issue of "Why it is important for students to understand and embrace the Constitution."

This event will also enable teachers to hear about promising practices, content standards, service learning and other topics that will help them plan activities during the upcoming Constitution Week celebration -- September 17-23.

For more information about Educating for Democracy: California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, please visit our website at [www.cms-ca.org](http://www.cms-ca.org).

**Press Release**

**Source: Los Angeles County Office of Education**