## September 2002

## Students in Service to America

As part of his September of Service. President Bush called on America's students to begin a service activity this school year in an effort to encourage them to start a lifelong habit of service to others. To help young people get involved, the President introduced a new guidebook for educators and others who work with young people, Students in Service to America. This guidebook and accompanying materials are being sent to more than 130,000 public and private elementary and secondary schools, homeschools, and after-school programs around the country. The materials were developed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Corporation for National and Community Service, as part of the USA Freedom Corps, in cooperation with the Points of Light Foundation.

We encourage you to review these materials and then share them with your colleagues, those who volunteer with your organization, and the young people in your community. By encouraging young people to serve something greater than themselves, you will help young people learn about their rich democratic traditions as Americans, help meet vital community needs, and become



responsible and engaged citizens.

The "Students in Service to America" guidebook can be found on the USA Freedom Corps website by clicking here.

## **President Bush Announces New Policies and Initiatives to Support the Teaching of American History and Civics**

On September 17, President George W. Bush observed the 215<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution by announcing new policies and initiatives to support the teaching of American History and Civics. The President's new initiatives include:

"We the People": The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) will make support for the teaching of American History and Civics a top priority through a variety of activities, including competitive grant programs and other public programs. For more information, please click on wethepeople.gov

"Our Documents": The National Archives and Records Administration, in collaboration with National History Day, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), and the USA Freedom Corps will give students and teachers across the country access to national treasures of American history. For more information, please click on ourdocuments.gov

"We the People" Forum on

American History, Civics, and Service:
The forum will be held in February
2003 to call attention to the need for
more and better teaching of American
history, civics, and service and to
promote promising practices in
history, civics, and student service.
The forum will be co-sponsored by the
NEH, CNCS, and U.S. Department of
Education.

The mission of the USA Freedom



President Bush announces his history and civic initiatives in the Rose Garden. David McCullough, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for *John Adams*, introduced the President.

We love our country, and we must teach our children to do the same. And when we do, they will carry on our heritage of freedom into the future.

President George W. Bush

Corps is to foster a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility. The President's new policies and programs further the citizenship component of the USA Freedom Corps' mission by supporting the teaching of American History and civic education; providing local access to national historic treasures; and fostering dialogues on freedom and on the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

For more information, please click on the <u>fact sheet detailing the initiatives</u> and the <u>text of the President's remarks</u>.

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