

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Heather Nice

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Education is Key - Civics Education Oral History project

Interview # ECE-A-L-2020-066

Heather Nice, the Director of Educator Programs at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key – Civic Education* Oral History project.

Interview date & location:

Date: Dec 18, 2020 Location: Telephonic interview during COVID-19 pandemic

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:18 / 1.3

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on December 15, 2021.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

Interview being
processed

© 2020 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abstract

Heather Nice, *Education in IL – Civics*, ECE-A-L-2019-066

She grew up in Weatherford, Texas, near Ft. Worth graduating from Weatherford High School. In 2003 she then earned a BA degree from the University of Texas-Dallas majoring in History and Literature with a minor in Education. In 2009 Heather completed an MS in Information Science at the University of Texas in Austin. Currently she is working on her doctorate at the University of Alaska in Interdisciplinary Studies. Heather's early interest in teaching led her to working at three high schools and one middle school located in Texas: Weatherford, Killeen, Carrollton, and Farmers Branch high schools. Heather then worked in the education department at the Lyndon Johnson Presidential Library in Austin, producing education modules incorporating President Johnson's diaries with original records & documents. Later, Heather worked in the Education Division at the George W. Bush Presidential Library in Dallas, and followed that experiences by going to Alaska, where she worked in the field of instructional design while also working on her Ph.D. After five years in Alaska Heather the educational director at the Lincoln Presidential Library.

During this interview Heather discussed the duties and mission of her current assignment as the Education Director at the Abraham Presidential Library. This includes professional development for educators and programs to encourage the use of primary documents. She also designed programs for students and families. Activities available for social studies teachers were covered, and discussed the challenges presented by the pandemic in 2020, especially due to the need to teach remotely since March 2020. Finally, Heather discussed alternatives that were developed during 2020.

Subject Headings/Key Words:

Duties as Educator Director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Programs designed for use of Primary Documents, Examples of educational programs for students and families (Jr. Historian), Assisting with the new Social Science Standards (2017), Adjustments by the 9 months of being off site (remote) and also open with restrictions for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library (March -Dec. 2020), Providing professional development training for educators, On Line resources and educational partnerships

Notes to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955