Applications are now open for year four of the prestigious Arkansas Declaration of Learning program. This program is an innovative public - private partnership in which 7th - 12th grade Arkansas art, English language arts, social studies teachers and school librarians use object-based learning to develop curriculum that brings history to life and shares the importance of stewardship and civic engagement with students.

Teachers and school librarians selected to participate will commit to a year-long initiative that begins with a training program in Little Rock, Arkansas from June 25 - 29, 2018. During the program, educators will learn about the partner's historic objects, works of art, and oral histories, and how to use them in their classrooms and school libraries (see partner list below).

Using these resources, educators will develop innovative units and civic engagement projects. The units will be refined and tested during the 2018 - 2019 school year and shared with educators throughout the nation.

Program applications will open on December 15, 2017, and close at 11:59 p.m. on February 16, 2018.

For additional program guidelines and requirements for the 2018 Arkansas Declaration of Learning program, please visit the Arkansas Department of Education website: www.arkansased.gov.

The program application is available at: http://bit.ly/2AopCBK

The Arkansas Department of Education is proud to work with the following Arkansas Declaration of Learning partners.
The ADOL program and its goals have completely changed the way I teach art in the classroom. Rather than moving from one skill to the next or one concept to the next, my students now analyze not only the artwork, but the artwork’s connection to our environment, culture, and personal beliefs.”

Meagan McGuire
7th Grade Art Teacher
Benton Middle School
Benton, Arkansas

“Bringing objects into the classroom as primary sources has truly engaged my students. Through ADOL, we are learning that history is far more than words on a page. It is a living, breathing, and ever-changing discipline. When we use objects and teach students how to analyze them, we are empowering them to become active historians rather than passive students behind a desk.”

Lisa Lacefield
8th Grade History Teacher
Valley View Junior High
Jonesboro, Arkansas

“As educators, we are always trying to perfect our craft. To find professional development that can actually affect our teaching is not the easiest thing to do. But they (the Arkansas Declaration of Learning program) took a fresh approach. The program really values teachers and our point of view.”

Amanda Grace
10th - 12th Grade English Language Arts Teacher
Bergman High School
Bergman, Arkansas

“Participating in ADOL allowed me to connect our students with subjects they don’t always get to think about in our rural Arkansas community: art, history and civic involvement. ADOL had a profound effect on our students. Being exposed to these ideas and works of art led them to think about civic engagement, themselves, and the past in an entirely new way.”

Tracy Cline
7th - 8th Grade School Librarian
Butterfield Trail Middle School
Van Buren, Arkansas