



NEWS RELEASE

Editors' note: News release from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

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"Mr. Funky Teacher" Nicholas Kleve Named 2015 Nebraska History Teacher of the Year



New York, NY (August 25, 2015): Nicholas Kleve, a teacher at Lewis and Clark Elementary in South Sioux City, Nebraska, has been named the 2015 Nebraska History Teacher of the Year, an award sponsored by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

Started in 2004, the History Teacher of the Year Award highlights the crucial importance of history education by honoring exceptional American history teachers from elementary school through high school. The award honors one exceptional K-12 teacher from each state, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense schools and US Territories.

Master teacher Nicholas Kleve, nicknamed "Mr. Funky Teacher," believes he can change the world through his innovative and unique approach to teaching as he inspires greatness in young people. He wants young people to grow and believe they can make a difference in the world through their actions and choices. This is why he became a teacher. He uses history as a powerful teaching tool for developing character in his students. Nicholas believes he is

blessed to be trusted in guiding and shaping the future history of our young people in this world.

Nicholas Kleve will receive a \$1,000 honorarium and the Lewis and Clark Elementary library will receive a core archive of history books and educational materials from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Kleve will also receive an invitation to a 2016 Gilder Lehrman Teacher Seminar, a weeklong program which offers teachers daily discussions with eminent historians, visits to historic sites, and hands-on work with primary sources.

Nominations can be made by a student, parent, colleague, supervisor, or other administrator familiar with the teacher's work. To be considered for the 2016 award, teachers must be nominated by February 1, 2016. For more information, visit www.gilderlehrman.org/nhtoy.

About the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is a New York–based national nonprofit devoted to the teaching and learning of American history. Gilder Lehrman draws on top scholars, an unparalleled collection of original historical documents, and a national network of Affiliate Schools to create and

provide a broad range of innovative resources, help new generations of students learn about American history in a way that is engaging and memorable, and promote critical thinking and excellent writing. The Institute's programs have been recognized by awards from the White House, the National Endowment of the Humanities, and the Organization of American Historians.