



THE NEW NATION: 1800–1860 • IN-PERSON WORKSHOP

Austin • February 24, 2026

HUMANITIES TEXAS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Joe C. Thompson Conference Center • Austin, Texas

7:30–8:15 a.m.	Check-in and Breakfast
8:15–8:30 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks
8:30–9:15 a.m.	The Two-Party System: A Revolution in American Politics, 1820–1840 <i>Charles Flanagan, Educational Consultant</i>
9:20–10:05 a.m.	The Age of Jackson <i>Richard Bell, University of Maryland</i>
10:05–10:25 a.m.	Break and Group Photo
10:25–10:35 a.m.	Humanities Texas Educational Resources
10:35–11:20 a.m.	Westward Expansion, Manifest Destiny, and the U.S.–Mexican War <i>Michelle Kuhl, University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh</i>
11:25–12:10 p.m.	The Road to the Civil War <i>Signe Peterson Fourmy, The University of Texas at Austin</i>
12:10–1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00–3:15 p.m.	Afternoon Seminars
3:15–3:30 p.m.	Final Announcements

Image: Robert S. Duncanson, *Landscape with Rainbow*, 1859, oil on canvas, 30 x 52 1/4 in. (76.3 x 132.7 cm.),
Smithsonian American Art Museum, Gift of Leonard and Paula Granoff, 1983.95.160

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Humanities Texas

FACULTY

RICHARD BELL is professor of history at the University of Maryland and author of the book *Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery and their Astonishing Odyssey Home*, which was a finalist for the George Washington Prize and the Harriet Tubman Prize. He has held major research fellowships at Yale, Cambridge, and the Library of Congress and is the recipient of the National Endowment of the Humanities Public Scholar award and the 2021 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. He serves as a trustee of the Maryland Center for History and Culture and as a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. His most recent book, *The American Revolution and the Fate of the World*, published in 2025, is the first book to examine America's founding fight through a global lens.

CHARLES FLANAGAN is an educational consultant based in Annapolis, Maryland. He recently retired from the position of the outreach supervisor at the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC. During his fifteen years of service at the Center for Legislative Archives, he led the development of online lesson plans, eBooks, and a digital app that promote hands-on learning using primary sources in civics and history classes. He also presented over 150 professional development workshops for educators across the United States. Prior to his service at the Center for Legislative Archives, he was a high school teacher for thirty years. During his last two decades in the classroom, Flanagan was the Humanities Department Chair and a history teacher at the Key School in Annapolis. While at Key, he led the development of an interdisciplinary literature and history curriculum that featured hands-on learning with classic literature and primary sources in history. Flanagan has a BA from Assumption College, an MA from St. John's College, and a PhD in American studies from the University of Maryland.

SIGNE PETERSON FOURMY earned her JD from the University of Houston Law Center in 2001. She taught social studies for eleven years at South Houston Intermediate in Pasadena ISD. She earned her PhD in history at The University of Texas at Austin in 2020. Currently, she serves as the director of research and analysis at Villanova University for the digital humanities project, Last Seen: Finding Family After Slavery, and is assistant professor of instruction in the department of history at UT Austin. She has published a book chapter "A Mixture of Love and Pain': Teaching Enslaved Women's Labor, Motherhood, and Reproductive Resistance" in *Engaging the African Diaspora in K-12 Education*, edited by Kia L. Caldwell and Emily Chavez. She is the author of two articles, "She Had Smothered Her Baby on Purpose': Enslaved Women and Maternal Resistance" in *Age of Revolutions* (July 2022) and, co-authored with Daina Ramey Berry, "Improper Intimacy: Slavery & Infidelity in Montgomery County, Texas" in *Journal of the Texas Supreme Court Historical Society* (Summer 2021).

MICHELLE KUHL is a professor in the history department at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. She was the chief reader of the Advanced Placement United States History exam from 2017–2023. Her research interests are social movements of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. She teaches courses on U.S. history, African American history, women's history, and the history of pirates.