



Looking Ahead: 2021-2023 **The NH Institute for Civics Education**

As the only organization in the state with civic learning and civic engagement as its sole and specific focus, it is our goal to expand our leadership role and programming to strengthen the civic health and democratic traditions in New Hampshire. We embrace our original vision of an informed, engaged, and civil New Hampshire citizenry, realizing that these difficult times increase our work's urgency. It is imperative that we provide more depth and breadth of opportunities for civic learning and civil discourse in all of our state's communities.

Specifically, in the next three years (2021-2023), we will:

1. Enrich and increase civic learning in communities and classrooms K-12.

- Double to 2000 the number of 5th grade students participating in *NH's Kid Governor* program, reaching every corner of the state.
- More than double to 14 middle schools participating in *NH Civics: Mikva Challenge*, a set of middle school curricula that encourages youth to be informed, participatory citizens in their communities and beyond.
- Grow *Civics 603!*, a court education program that includes mock trials and oral arguments at the NH Supreme Court, to involve more than 500 middle school and high school students.
- Design and pilot a K-3 early civics curriculum that introduces concepts like justice, compromise, community, democratic documents and procedures, leadership, rules/laws, empathy, civic agency, and respect for opinions that differ from one's own.
- Double to 500 the number of educators who participate in our free, stipended professional development opportunities online and in person.

2. Offer a broad range of opportunities for civil, non-partisan public discourse for the general public.

- Increase the number of public events and expand the reach of the William W. Treat Lecture series to engage civic leaders and the public in dialogue state-wide; reach 2000 individuals per year in diverse locations throughout NH via New Hampshire Public Broadcasting Service, online, and in person.
- Increase *Civics Slam!* civics refresher course online to 2-3 times per year.
- Roundtable discussions and panels in each of the *NH Civics: Mikva Challenge* towns.
- *Lights, Camera, Civics!* film series and community discussions.

3. Lead a state policy coalition on civic learning in NH.

- Head a nonpartisan/bipartisan committee of 30-40 NH educational leaders and social studies educators and stakeholders.
- Examine policy options and legislation from other states; establish consensus on policies and timeline to improve and increase civic learning in NH
- Work with legislators to shape policy and create positive, lasting change.