

The Gilder Lehrman Institute Names Wunneanatsu Lamb-Cason as 2024 National History Teacher of the Year

Virginia educator will be awarded a \$10,000 grand prize at a special ceremony held at the Harvard Club in New York City

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Wunneanatsu Lamb-Cason, 2024 National History Teacher of the Year Institute of American History proudly announces
Wunneanatsu Lamb-Cason, an educator at Riverbend High
School in Fredericksburg, Va., as the 2024 National History
Teacher of the Year. Sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman
Institute and Preserve America, the History Teacher of the
Year award program celebrates exceptional elementary,
middle and high school teachers for their outstanding
contributions to American history education.

Lamb-Cason will receive a \$10,000 grand prize at a special ceremony on Oct. 15, 2024, at the Harvard Club of New York City. The award will be presented by Janai Nelson, President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. The ceremony will be recorded and made

available to viewers nationwide.

Since 2004, the Gilder Lehrman Institute, the nation's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to K–12 American history education, annually recognizes one exemplary K–12 teacher from each state, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense schools, and United States Territories as a state winner. From this distinguished group of 53 nominees, the Institute selects one national winner who epitomizes excellence in American history education.

"We are thrilled to honor and celebrate Wunneanatsu Lamb-Cason as the 2024 National History Teacher of the Year," says James G. Basker, President of the Gilder Lehrman Institute. "Her passion for history and unwavering dedication to her students are truly inspiring and will undoubtedly help shape a brighter future."

Lamb-Cason (Schaghticoke/HoChunk) is an accomplished educator, advocate, author and storyteller. For the past decade, she taught history at Riverbend High School in Fredericksburg, Va., where she earned recognition for her innovative lesson plans and leadership in history education at the local, state and national levels. Now serving as the Assistant Director of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative at Brown University, she is dedicated to advancing Indigenous studies, ensuring accurate representation of Indigenous voices, and promoting the respectful inclusion of Indigenous histories in educational resources.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to receive this award, which not only recognizes my years of work and



Wunneanatsu Lamb-Cason receives the esteemed 2024 National History Teacher of the Year award from the Gilder Lehrman Institute.

dedication but also celebrates the educators, administrators, and students who have supported and inspired me," says Lamb-Cason. "Being recognized at this level serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of including diverse perspectives in teaching American history, especially those of traditionally marginalized communities."

For a complete list of the 2024 state winners, please see below or visit https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-teacher-year/state-winners.

Alabama: Mindy Walker, Holt High School

Alaska: Stephanie Meek, West Anchorage High School

Arizona: Ashley Crose, Saguaro High School Arkansas: Jessica Culver, Ozark High School

California: Katherine Orenberg, Pleasanton Middle School

Colorado: Odette Edbrooke, Broomfield High School

Connecticut: Rhonan Mokriski, Salisbury School Delaware: Anthony Swierzbinski, John Dickinson School

District of Columbia: Adrienne Glasgow, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School

DoDEA: Rachel Billups, Robert D. Edgren High School

Florida: Nayyat Bogosyan, Spanish River Community High School

Georgia: Amanda Fanelli, Sol C. Johnson High School

Hawaii: Shiloh Francis, Hawaii Technology Academy - PCS

Idaho: Kelly Richmond, North Junior High School

Illinois: Danielle Hegerty, Grayslake Central High School

Indiana: Jeffrey Swisher, Griffith High School Iowa: Catherine Mein, Ballard High School

Kansas: Kimberly Gilman, Hocker Grove Middle School Kentucky: Kendrick Bryan, Larue County High School

Louisiana: Emmitt Glynn, Baton Rouge Magnet High School

Maine: Jessica Graham, Waterville Senior High School Maryland: Emma Harris, Westminster East Middle School Massachusetts: Darcy Daniels, Nipmuc Regional High School

Michigan: Jessica Wood, Arbor Preparatory High School

Minnesota: Grace Díaz, Valley View Middle School

Mississippi: Michelle Rafach, Pearl River Central High School

Missouri: Jessica Barnes, St. Clair Junior High School

Montana: April Wills, Bainville School

Nebraska: Nathan Kackmeister, Crawford Public Schools Nevada: Amanda Laca, Carson Valley Middle School

New Hampshire: Valerie Wolfson, Oyster River Middle School New Jersey: Jazmin Puicon, Bard Early College High School

New Mexico: Stacy Cooley, La Cueva High School

New York: Elizabeth Haynes, Cleveland Hill Middle School North Carolina: Colin Richardson, Green Hope High School North Dakota: Melissa Evensen, Fargo North High School Ohio: Andy Klinker, Piketon Junior/Senior High School

Oklahoma: Julie Berryhill, Moore High School

Oregon: Alyson Battistel, Milwaukie High School, Academy of the Arts

Pennsylvania: Joseph Daniels II, Westtown School

Rhode Island: Maeve Kennedy, Ponaganset High School South Carolina: Sarah Kelly, Carolina Springs Middle School

South Dakota: Erik Iverson, Stevens High School Tennessee: Alex Oldham, Maryville High School Texas: Lorraine Dumerer, R. L. Turner High School

U.S. Territories: Antonio Prieto Colón, Colegio San Antonio Abad

Utah: Amanda Eskeets, Centennial Middle School Vermont: Ron Eisenman, Rutland High School

Virginia: Wunneanatsu Lamb-Cason, Riverbend High School Washington: Barbara Bromley, Hazelwood Elementary School

West Virginia: Brian Casto, Milton Middle School Wisconsin: Gina Rollins, Cuba City Middle School Wyoming: Paula Volker, Kelly Walsh High School

About The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

Founded in 1994 by Richard Gilder and Lewis E. Lehrman, visionaries and lifelong supporters of American history education, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is the leading nonprofit organization dedicated to K–12 history education while also serving the general public. The Institute's mission is to promote the knowledge and understanding of American history through educational programs and resources.

At the Institute's core is the Gilder Lehrman Collection, one of the great archives in American history. Drawing on the 86,000 documents in the Gilder Lehrman Collection and an extensive network of eminent historians, the Institute provides teachers, students, and the general public with access to unique primary source materials.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is supported through the generosity of individuals, corporations, and foundations. The Institute's programs have been recognized by awards from the White House, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Organization of American Historians, the Council of Independent Colleges, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. Learn more at gilderlehrman.org.

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