



Mississippi Public Broadcasting

EDUCATION CONNECTION

EDUCATION SERVICES e-NEWSLETTER *November 2007*

Welcome to **EDUCATION CONNECTION**—Education Services' monthly e-Newsletter designed to help the educational community stay current regarding Mississippi Public Broadcasting's educational services, programming and information!

This newsletter is part of a broader overall education communications plan to increase the exposure and use of Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Education Services Division. We hope you'll find this resource supports your own work to educate students and others in your community. Please feel free to copy or forward to teachers and others in your school or district.

If you would like to join our Education Services' distribution list and receive important updates for Educators, or if you wish to no longer receive these newsletters, please e-mail darrell.lee@mpbonline.org.

Check Out What We're Up To...

MPB's Education Services Division Hosts The NBPC Institute!

Mississippi Public Broadcasting, in a partnership with WGBH, the National Minority Consortia and Jackson State University, will host the National Black Programming Consortium (NBPC) New Media Institute in Jackson this month. The focus on this year's Institute will be on the use of new media in local engagement by leveraging public television and community assets. The training will center on developing new media projects for the Mississippi Blues Commission's *Blues Trail* and the B.B. King Museum as a practical approach to teaching new technical skills.

The training will be a week-long workshop series in Jackson from **November 11-16**. The workshops will be geared towards independent producers looking to transform existing broadcast programs to a multi-media environment and producers looking to

produce original programs for PBS. Through a combination of hands-on workshops, in-the-field experiments and post-production exercises, the teams will cover each phase in the production of a new media project. Twenty-five producers will be selected to participate in the New Media Institute.

The NBPC Institute represents an important effort by the National Minority Consortia to address the current lack of diversity of content producers in a multi-platform public media environment. Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Education Services team will be available to assist the Institute with this very important professional development program.

Professional Development

PBS TeacherLine is the premier resource offering professional development courses online to PreK-12 teachers and school districts. Our specially trained, certified facilitators lead over 100 top-quality, standards-based courses that span the entire curriculum: Mathematics, Reading/Language Arts, Science, Instructional Technology, and Instructional Strategies. Coursework can cover a complete sequence of study or address a specific requirement, depending on a teacher's or district's needs.

PBS TeacherLine's courses are developed in collaboration with the following leading national educational organizations, so every course is standards-based:

- International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)
- The Concord Consortium

MPB is proud to provide this cutting edge, technology-driven offering to Mississippi teachers. Teachers can earn CEU's or graduate credit by completing online courses.

Visit: www.pbs.org/teacherline. Select: 'Course Catalog' - by state, drop down 'Mississippi.' For more information, contact Jill Boteler, jill.boteler@mpbonline.org, or 601-432-6203.

Mississippi e-Learning for Educators uses an online delivery model to provide effective professional development, leading to gains in educators' content knowledge, improvements in teaching practices and increased student achievement. Participants learn and share best practices and instructional resources through interactive communities. It provides:

- Affordable professional development you need, when you need it!
- Courses that fit easily into a busy schedule
- The option to learn at home with no need to travel or purchase and install special software
- A certificate of participation and/or CEU credits issued to eligible participants

- A seven weeks course that emphasizes theory-to-practice applications (Week 1 is an orientation session to familiarize participants with online course delivery.)
- Course work that includes discussions, reflection, readings and projects.

To register, please visit the Mississippi Department of Education 'Hosted Events' link at <http://register.mde.k12.ms.us/>. Click on the 'Sign up for an Event' link. Note: If you have not registered for an account with MDE, you will be asked you to set up an account. A valid e-mail address is required to establish an account. Please write down your user name (e-mail address) and password for future. View Course Listing at <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/olpd/edtech/elearn/course.html>.

Educational Technology

Mississippi Interactive Video Network (MIVN) Schedule for special video-conferencing events

Education Services Foundation Events November 2007

High school 11th and 12th graders are eligible to participate and learn how to make the transition from high school/work to college.

MIVN school sites are encouraged to register early due to limited seating.

You may register for these *important* video conference events on the MPB website at www.mpbonline.org through the MPB Online Registration system (located on the left-hand side of the home page). A valid e-mail account is required.

"Financial Aid" November 13, 2007 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

- * Definitions of types of financial aid, including grants, loans, scholarships, and employment opportunities
- * Determining financial need and understanding how to increase your family's eligibility for need-based aid
- * Cost of attendance and budgeting college expenses
- * Understanding the federal financial aid programs, including the Pell Grant, Stafford and PLUS loan programs
- * Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), including line-by-line explanation of confusing portions of the forms
- * Institutional aid applications including PROFILE
- * Financial aid programs for Mississippi residents, including MTAG, MESH, HELP and teacher education incentive programs
- * Merit-based aid and scholarships – their sources, how to identify scholarships appropriate for your student's profile, and the process of applying

IMPORTANT: This year the Financial Aid workshop is available for an open-house event for parent participation during 6:30 p.m. This is a tremendous opportunity to share this invaluable resource with your community. If you are interested in participating in the evening event, please check with your school site facilitator to ensure that the IVN classroom is available before you sign-up for this event.

"Taking ACTION on the ACT" November 27, 2007

- * Understanding what the ACT is and why it is important to take
- * Performance expectations for the four content areas – English, math, reading, and science reasoning
- * Strategies for each content area
- * Examples of various question formats from actual ACTs
- * How the ACT is scored and how to achieve your target score
- * Timeline for test preparation – planning how you should study
- * Test-taking tips and strategies for multiple choice exams

IMPORTANT: Each MIVN site should assign a lead contact person to create a user account for their school site on the MPB online registration system to register for MIVN special events.

MPB Continues to Provide Free Digital Library to Mississippi Schools Through Discovery Education™ *streaming*!

Discovery Education and Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) have joined forces to energize education in Mississippi classrooms. The award-winning Discovery Education™ *streaming* service is the new powerhouse for MPB's online digital resource library available free to K-12 schools.

By licensing Discovery Education™ *streaming* for K-12, Private and Parochial Schools, Home Schools and some GED programs in the state, MPB is providing educators with a customized digital video package that is specifically correlated to Mississippi's educational standards. Educators have access to more than 20,000 digital images, a quiz, assignment and writing prompt builder, an interactive video Atlas, teachers' guides, Blackline Masters, the Discovery Educator Network (DEN) and other supplemental materials. Each video is chaptered into content-specific video clips that can be streamed through the Internet, or through locally hosted video servers. Content from Discovery Education™ *streaming* can also be downloaded to a DVD, "thumb" drive or embedded into a PowerPoint presentation.

To obtain your school's passcode to start using this dynamic multi-media resource, please contact Education Services at 1-800-922-9698. Visit Discovery Education™ *streaming* at www.unitedstreaming.com and start exploring today!

Adult Education

MPB's Adult Education programs now being streamed

Did you miss the episode on Ratios and Proportions? Do you want to brush up on your skills before that big job interview? No longer do you have to wait weeks before a particular episode broadcasts again. Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Adult Education programs *GED Connection*, *Workplace Essential Skills* and *TV411* are now being streamed on the MPB web site. Visit www.mpbonline.org and click on 'Education Services' in the navigation bar. Scroll down to 'Adult Education' to view the videos for the week.

Alexander N. Charters Adult Education Research Grants-in-Aid Program

The Special Collections Research Center at Syracuse University Library is pleased to announce the Alexander N. Charters Adult Education Research Grants-in-Aid Program for students and faculty interested in the history and practice of adult education. Up to \$4,000 worth of grants-in-aid will be awarded each year. The actual amount of each award will depend upon the scope of the research outlined in the applicant's proposal. In order to apply, please submit a letter of intent outlining the proposed research topic, including the term of stay, a current résumé, and one professional reference to, Mary Beth Hinton, mbhinton@syr.edu

Helpful Links and Resources

The following websites are available for additional teaching tips, professional development, activities and information:

PBS.org

[*Discovery Education streaming*](#)

[PBS Teachers](#)

[Mississippi Department of Education](#)

[PBS TeacherLine](#)

[State Board for Community Colleges](#)

[PBS Kids](#)

[Test Prep Review](#)

[PBS Kids Go!](#)

[Mississippi Institutions for Higher Learning](#)

[PBS Parents](#)

www.gedonline.org

www.TV411.org

www.NetSmartz.org

[PBS Literacylink](#)

How Can We Help – What Do You Want to See?

We want to hear from you, and learn what kinds of content you would like to see in the monthly MPB Education Services e-Newsletter. Was the information in this issue helpful? What more would you like to see? We are also seeking questions and comments about the format of this newsletter.

Finally, we want to use this newsletter to answer your questions about Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Education Services. Please email all comments and questions to darrell.lee@mpbonline.org, or you can call us at (800) 922-9698.

For more information about our services and programming, visit our website at www.mpbonline.org.

Our mailing address is:

Mississippi Public Broadcasting
Education Services Division
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211

Educating Entertaining Enlightening