

Celebrating the Achievements of Geographic Education in Arizona Provided by the Arizona Geographic Alliance

Founded in 1992, the Arizona Geographic Alliance (AzGA) is a member of the national network of state geography alliances initiated by the National Geographic Society. Since inception, the Alliance has grown from a handful of dedicated teachers to an active society of over 4,300 members.

Purpose

The advocate for a geographically literate society

Goals

- **We are** a statewide organization dedicated to the development and promotion of geographic awareness.
- **We provide** quality educational resources and relevant professional development opportunities to educators.
- **We encourage** a culture that uniquely brings out the creativity, passion, and excitement in teaching geography.
- **We advance** student achievement in geography through collaborative partnerships.

To Reach These Goals

- **We have developed and promoted geographic awareness** through events and public outreach including State and National Education Conferences, Education Fairs, College Classes, Geography Awareness Week, and NG Live! Presentations.
- **We have created these educational resources:** GeoLiteracy, GeoLiteracy with ELL Adaptations, GeoSTEM, GeoHistory, Virtual Workshops on Teaching Geography to Diverse Learners, Alliance Website Maps, Tools for Interpreting Primary Sources Through a Geographic Lens, a Giant Traveling Map program and the Arizona Atlas.
- **We have provided relevant professional growth opportunities:** GeoConference, Workshops to Promote Geographic Literacy, Institutes and Academies, College Courses.
- **We have encouraged excitement in teaching geography** by providing basic and advanced geography training to educators.
- **We advance student achievement in geography through collaborative partnerships.** Primary partners have been the National Geographic Society Education Foundation, Arizona State University, and Arizona State Department of Education.

Results of the Alliance's Efforts

Since 2003, the Arizona Geographic Alliance has given 520 in-service trainings to about 20,000 Arizona educators who are impacting over 800,000 Arizona schoolchildren.



Honors

Additional Achievements



Awards for Individual Educators

Over 60 Arizona teachers of geography have received the Distinguished Teaching Award from the National Council for Geographic Education.

Over 40 Teacher Consultants or Coordinators of the Alliance have won major awards (Great Moments, Wilbur Murra, or Isidore Starr) from the Arizona Council for the Social Studies.

One Teacher Consultant is the History Teacher of the Year from Arizona. Various Teacher Consultants have won a George F. Cram Company cash award for innovative teaching ideas.

Various Teacher Consultants have been named Teacher of the Year for their schools, districts or cities.

Various Teacher Consultants have been named in Who's Who in American Education.

Travel Abroad

Teacher Consultants participated in competitive educational travel programs in Syria, Ecuador, Turkey, Morocco, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cyprus, Russia, Greece, Egypt, Germany, Korea, India, Czech Republic, and Japan and have participated in teacher exchange programs to Cuba, China, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Japan and Russia.

Teacher Consultants have presented at state and national social studies conferences since 1993 and in international conferences in Scotland and Australia.



Awards for the Arizona Alliance

From the National Council for the Social Studies
2003 Grant for the Enhancement of Geographic Literacy (for our GeoLiteracy Program)
2005 Grant for the Enhancement of Geographic Literacy (for our GeoMath Program)

From the National Council for Geographic Education
2010 Geography Excellence in Media award (for our Virtual Workshops on how to teach geography to Diverse Learners)



Website Resources

<http://geoalliance.asu.edu>

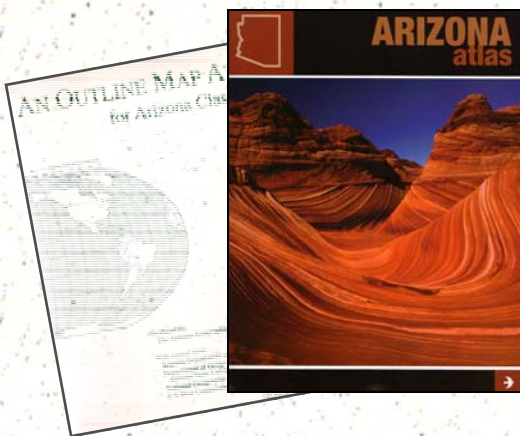
- **GeoSTEM:** Over 140 lessons integrating geography and mathematics or STEM
- **GeoHistory:** Over 150 lessons integrating geography with world or American history or civics
- **GeoLiteracy:** Over 250 lessons integrating geography and language arts (many with ELL Adaptations)
- **Geography and Diverse Learners:** Over 110 lessons with ELL adaptations.
- **Legacy Project:** Over 70 lessons to teach Arizona history and geography
- **Maps:** 100s of maps made especially for classroom use -- topics include world, continents, countries, Arizona, U.S., historical themes and a special section for students grades 1 - 4.
- **Primary Sources** - Tools to interpret primary sources through a Geographic Lens
- **Giant Traveling Map program** - two giant floor maps free for use by teachers
- **Resources:** Links to other geography-based websites
- **Events:** Information on upcoming professional growth opportunities
- **Membership Information** - Free to join
- **Donate** to support geography education outreach



Publications

- Interpreting Primary Sources with a Geographic Lens (2015) (on AzGA website)
- GeoSTEM (2013) (on AzGA website)
- Arizona Atlas (2010)
- Curriculum for OnebookAZ for Kids
- GeoHistory (2012) (on AzGA website)
- GeoLiteracy with ELL Adaptations (2008) (now on AzGA website)
- GeoMath CD ROM (2004) (now on AzGA website)
- GeoLiteracy CD ROM (2002) (now on AzGA website)
- AtoZ Newsletter (since 1993) (now via e-mail)
- TC Communiqué (since 1994) (now via e-mail)
- 30 Geography Based Lesson Plans for K-12 Classrooms (1997)
- Outline Map Atlas for Arizona Classrooms (1996)

Lessons and maps on the AzGA website are updated regularly to reflect changes in standards, data, etc. New lessons are added regularly.



Resources

Other Public Outreach

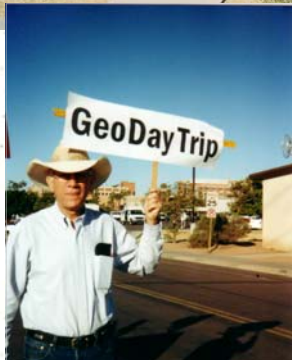
GeoDayTrips

- Cemeteries
- Superstition Mountains
- Russia and Ukraine
- Urban Geography
- Tempe Town Lake
- Rock Art Center
- Copper Mining in Arizona
- Verde Valley
- Japanese Internment Camp
- Desert Grasslands
- Arab World
- Valley Buddhist Temples
- Oatman Massacre
- Latin America
- Water
- Europe
- Africa
- Asia
- Oceania
- GeoSpatial Technologies
- Innovations in Agriculture
- Day at the Capitol
- Natural Disasters: Surviving the Waffle House Index



Advanced Alliance Summer Geography Institutes:

- Technology
- Europe
- Borderlands
- Physical Geography
- GeoHistory
- Route 66 in Arizona
- 4 Corners

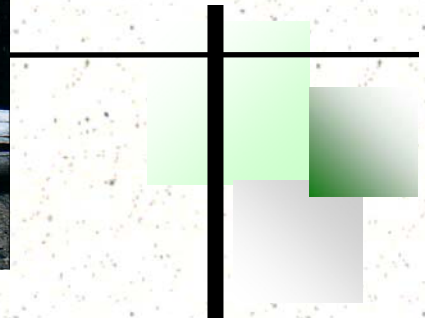


Field Experiences

Field Experiences



Pictured here and on page 4
Patagonia Grasslands
Planning for Natural Disasters
Arizona Falls
Chircahuahua Hoo Doos
Grand Canyon - Shoshone Point
Fort Bowie
Queen Mine, Bisbee
Inner Basin, Flagstaff



Partnerships

A Sample of Alliance Partnerships

- Arizona Centennial Commission (Legacy Projects)
- Arizona Council of the Social Studies (ACSS)
- Arizona Council on Economic Education (ACEE)
- Arizona Council on History Education (ACHE)
- Arizona Historical Society
- Arizona ProjectWET
- Arizona Science Center
- Arizona Science Teachers Association (ASTA)
- Mesa Community College
- National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE)
- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)
- National Geographic Bee
- Northern Arizona University - Esri State-wide License
- OneBookAZ for Kids
- Salt River Project



- ASU School of Transborder Studies
- Advanced Placement Geography Training
- Study K-12 Canada
- American Association of Geographers
- City of Phoenix
- Arizona Department of Education
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
- Library of Congress - Teaching With Primary Sources Western Region



Workshops

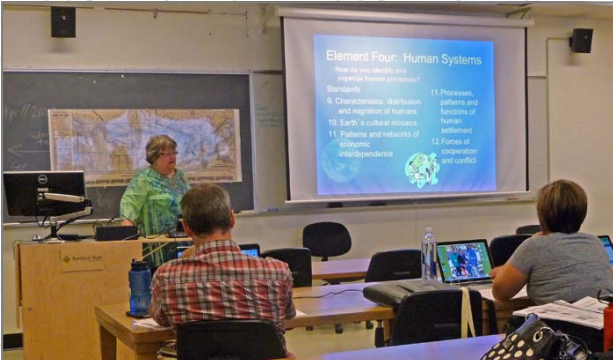
National Geographic Society Programs

Geography Awareness Week (GAW)
NG Live! Student Matinees
NG Giant Traveling Maps
National Geographic Bee



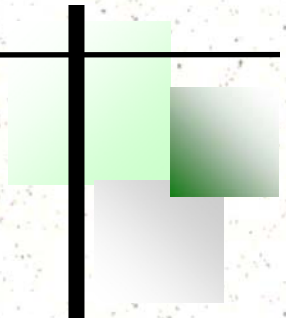
Partners

Partnerships with Other Alliances



Canada
California
Colorado
Nevada
Tennessee
Michigan
Oklahoma
Oregon

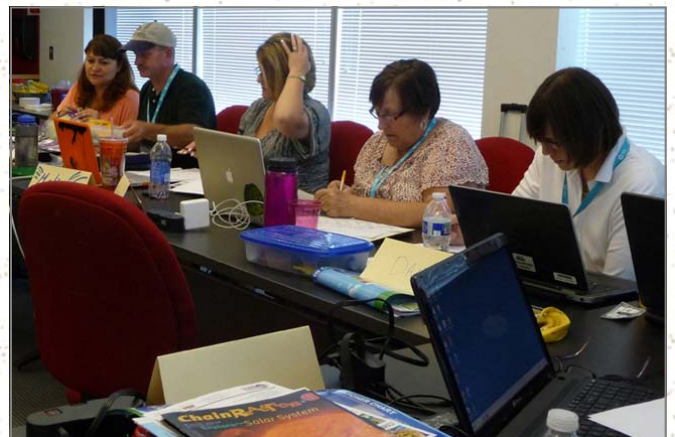
Indiana
New Mexico
North Dakota
North Carolina
Wyoming
Utah



Grants



Arizona Public Service STEMSS (2016) - (\$69,280)
Teaching with Primary Sources (partner ACSS) - (2015) Library of Congress TPS Western Division (\$9,725)
Teaching with Primary Sources - National Geographic Education Foundation 2014-2015 (\$8,900)
Teachers of Language Learners Learning Community (2014) Mesa Community College USDOEd grant partner (\$60,500)
Teachers of Language Learners Learning Community (2014) Mesa Community College USDOEd grant partner (\$72,500)
Teachers of Language Learners Learning Community (2013) Mesa Community College USDOEd grant partner (\$70,000)
Teaching Arizona History with an Arizona Atlas (2012) Arizona Historical Advisory Commission (AHAC) (\$1300)
Social Studies (2012) Teaching Foundations Project, ASU Mary Lou Fulton Teaching College (MLFTC) (\$32,000)
Teaching Arizona History with a Geographic Perspective: Lessons for K-12 Classrooms (2011) Arizona Historical Advisory Commission (AHAC) (\$1300)
Changing Face of the Arizona Border (2011) Arizona Humanities Council (\$1,000)
Teaching with Primary Sources Workshop for Educators. (2009) Library of Congress (\$5,000)
Model Grant Program GeoLiteracy for English Language Learners (2006-2008) National Geographic Society Education Foundation (NGSEF) (\$250,000)
Grant for the Enhancement of Geographic Literacy from the George F. Cram Co and the National Council for the Social Studies for GeoMath Project (2005) (\$2,500)
Grosvenor Grant entitled The Efficacy of GeoLiteracy on Student Achievement in Elementary and Middle School Reading and Geography Instruction (NGSEF) (2003-2004) (\$173,378)
Grosvenor Grant project to provide 10 GeoLiteracy workshops in Arizona's under-served schools and school districts (2003 to 2005) (NGSEF) (\$92,000)
Grant for the Enhancement of Geographic Literacy from the George F. Cram Co and the National Council for the Social Studies for GeoLiteracy Project (2003) (\$2,500)
Grosvenor Grant GeoMath Project (2002-2004)(NGSEF) (\$250,000)
Grosvenor Grant GeoLiteracy Project (2001-2002) (NGSEF) (\$44,000)
Outline Map Atlas for Arizona Teachers (1996)(U S West Communications)(\$5,000)
National Geographic Education Foundation - founding grant and maintenance grants thereafter





Impact on the Future

Arizona Geographic Alliance
Arizona State University
School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning
PO Box 875302
Tempe, AZ 85287-5302
Phone 480-965-5361 * Fax 480-965-8313
azga@asu.edu
Alliance Website <http://geoalliance.asu.edu>

