



The mission of C-GEO is to improve and sustain geography education in Oregon

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## **C-GEO In The News**

### **GeoFest**

The annual C-GEO GeoFest will be Saturday, March 8, 2024 at Western Oregon University. We will be partnering with the Oregon Council for the Social Studies at the upcoming conference. This year's conference will include a special emphasis on teaching about Climate Change. Additional presentation topics include geo-tech sessions, Tribal History/Shared History, ethnic studies strands, and much more. Pre-registration has closed, but you can still register the day of the conference Five PDU's will be available for those who attend the entire day.

[Download Conference Program](#)

**Teaching with Primary Sources: Tribal Histories/Shared Histories through a Geographic Lens Institute**

The Center for Geography Education in Oregon (C-GEO) and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde will offer a three-day institute on teaching Tribal Histories/Shared Histories through a Geographic Lens. This institute is for current K-12 Oregon educators and will be held at the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde campus June 24-26. The application deadline is February 28, 2025.

[More Information and Apply to Institute](#)

## Professional Development

### Professional Development from Other Organizations

#### **NCGE Summer 2025 Travel Institutes**

NCGE invites education professionals and in-service teachers to join them for summer professional development travel in geography. Each trip provides opportunities to experience diverse landscapes, cultures, and ecosystems. For locations and pricing go to <https://ncge.org/professional-development/ncge-around-the-world/>

#### **NCGE Webinar Series**

Join NCGE and gain access to their webinar series. This live professional development program brings together geography educators from across the nation, offering sessions tailored to a variety of grade levels and subjects. For more information and upcoming webinar events go to <https://ncge.org/professional-development/webinar-program/?nocache=3166705551>

## Community Outreach

#### **C-GEO Steering Committee Meeting**

The steering committee held its most recent steering committee meeting on Feb. 15-16. The next meeting will be May 10th via Zoom.

#### **C-GEO Social Media**

C-GEO is on Facebook and Instagram (cgeo\_oregon). If you have any photos of you and students doing distance learning geography education in the classroom and would be willing to let us post those on Instagram to promote geography education you can email the photos to [caranok@wou.edu](mailto:caranok@wou.edu) with a brief blurb of what should go in the Instagram post description.

## Meet a C-GEO TC

This issue's feature is about **Rebecca Eisenberg**.

**Tell us about yourself.**

This is my 22nd year teaching Social Studies. Currently I am teaching International Baccalaureate Program courses IB History and IB Theory of Knowledge at Lincoln High School in Portland Public Schools. In addition to teaching at LHS, I teach education courses at Oregon State University to pre-service teachers. A side project of mine is thinking about and studying ways to incorporate intercultural and global competences into the curriculum. In addition to teaching, I love travelling with my family, reading books, and being outside as much as possible.



Rebecca Eisenberg

### **What has drawn you to geography education?**

I enjoy learning about and exploring the local manifestations of geography's five themes: location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region. In particular, the movement of people, goods, and ideas is particularly salient to IB History's curriculum. Geography education provides me with the opportunity to help students develop a global awareness of the world around them and foster a deeper understanding of how interconnected we all are.

### **How are you promoting geography in the classroom and beyond?**

While we do have a proper IB Geography class at LHS, geographic themes routinely appear in my classes. For example, IB Theory of Knowledge encourages students to understand how knowledge is acquired and used, as well as explores limits to knowledge. A series of lessons taught early in the class is based on the geographic themes of location and place and asks students to rethink how we literally view the world around us. Based on arguments made in *Portlandness* (Banis & Shobe, 2015), students are tasked with rethinking the map of LHS and capturing the cultural zeitgeist that embodies LHS and its student body. I also create and present professional development for fellow educators based on lessons designed after attending C-GEO workshops. Most recently, I presented on Portland's Black Women's Club Movement during the 1960s, which stemmed from the C-GEO Civil Rights trip to Alabama in 2022.

### **What have you enjoyed about C-GEO?**

C-GEO provides unparalleled learning opportunities for educators. Attending their workshops, conferences, and summer trips has allowed me to create a high quality curriculum for students, as well as incorporate concrete ways to improve their critical thinking skills through teaching geographic themes. Furthermore, in travelling to Alabama and Cuba with C-GEO, I have established a professional network with outstanding teachers from around the state; we have kept in touch and collaborated on lessons for students and professional development for educators.

## **Keep Us Informed!**

Please let the C-GEO Office [geogall@pdx.edu](mailto:geogall@pdx.edu) know of any announcements, awards, special events or projects that may be of interest to TCs. Using the web makes it easy to showcase exemplary student work or students at work. Remember that you will need to have students' permission before posting either student work or their photos in GEOBYTES. Also be sure to inform us of changes in address, school, or email.

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