

**The First Annual Anne and Ryland Brown Teacher Institute  
at the  
Library of Virginia**

**Union or Secession: Virginians Decide  
July 13–14, 2010**

ITINERARY

Day 1	
8:00–8:30	Welcome
8:30–10:00	<p><b>Secession 1: Southern State, American Place: Antebellum Virginia and the Nation</b></p> <p>Gregg D. Kimball, Library of Virginia</p> <p><i>What made Virginia both distinctively southern and an important symbol of American history and achievement? How did these identities—one looking North and the other looking South—have [or make] an impact on [or determine?] Virginia’s choice to withdraw from the United States? Kimball will outline Virginia’s unique position in 1860, exploring the state’s economy, culture, and society.</i></p>
10:00–10:15	Break
10:15–11:45	<p><b>Secession 2: Did Enslaved People Have Anything to do with the Union or Secession Decisions?</b></p> <p>Philip J. Schwarz, Virginia Commonwealth University, Emeritus</p> <p><i>Did John Brown cause the Civil War? Or, did slavery start the war? Or, did states' rights begin the war? Or, did unionism make the war inevitable? Did one person, one institution, or one ideology start a devastating war? Schwarz will explore these questions through the lens of one family's experience and examine how their—as well as many other families'—experiences, choices, and actions made the war possible.</i></p>
11:45–12:45	<p><b>Session 3 (Lunch Workshop): Review of Educational Content and Resources, Part 1</b></p> <p>Tameka B. Hobbs, Library of Virginia</p> <p>Celia Polin and Nathaniel Morrison, 2009 Brown Teacher Research Fellows</p> <p><i>Educators will explore the primary resources from the Library of Virginia and lesson plans created by the 2009 Brown Teacher Research Fellows to support the themes of the exhibition, along with tips on utilizing them with students.</i></p>

1:00–2:15	<p><b>Session 4: The Ties that Bind: Plantation Women on the Eve of the Civil War</b></p> <p>Lauranett Lee, Virginia Historical Society</p> <p><i>This session will examine the unique tensions of antebellum plantation culture through the experiences of black and white women. Between 1831 and 1860 a rising tide of violence and racism swept the United States. Within the enclosed space of the plantation women were not immune from the spirit of the times. Their relationships, forged in slavery, intersect the gendered roles of family, religion, education, and power.</i></p>
	(Transition to American Civil War Center, 490 Tredegar Street)
2:35–5:00	<p><b>Session 5: Afternoon at the American Civil War Center (Presentation and Tour)</b></p> <p>Mark Howell, Director of Education</p> <p><i>During their visit to the American Civil War Center, teachers will explore the ruins of the Tredegar Iron Works and the exhibition “In the Cause of Liberty.” Tredegar owner Joseph Reid Anderson will be analyzed as a case study of the implications of secession on industry in the commonwealth. Unionist or Secessionist? You be the judge.</i></p>
Day 2	
8:30–10:00	<p><b>Session 6: The Slaveholders' Dilemma: Disunion Rhetoric and the Coming of the Civil War</b></p> <p>Elizabeth Varon, Temple University</p> <p><i>As tensions increased between the North and South over the issue of slavery, how did slaveholders defend their position within the Union? Varon will trace these debates back to their roots in the Founding Era through 1861, and describe the slaveholders' struggle over whether to cast disunion as a terrible cataclysm or a "positive good."</i></p>
10:00–10:15	Break
10:15–11:45	<p><b>Session 7: Showdown in Virginia: The 1861 Convention and the Fate of the Union</b></p> <p>William Freehling, Senior Fellow with the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities</p> <p><i>In February 1861, with seven lower South states having seceded from United States, the Virginia Convention met to debate whether Virginia's best interests could be maintained within or outside of the Union. Freehling recently co-edited the 3,000-page record of the Virginia State Convention,</i></p>

	<p><i>and will explore the facets of the arguments—pro-Union, pro-secession, and otherwise—made during those debates.</i></p>
11:50–12:30	<p><b>Session 8: Review of Educational Content and Resources, Part 2</b></p> <p>Tameka B. Hobbs, Library of Virginia</p> <p>Celia Polin and Nathaniel Morrison, 2009 Brown Teacher Research Fellows</p> <p><i>Educators will explore the primary resources from the Library of Virginia and lesson plans created by the 2009 Brown Teacher Research Fellows to support the themes of the exhibition, along with tips on utilizing them with students.</i></p>
12:40–1:30	<p><b>Session 9 (Lunch Workshop): Review of Exhibition Features and Web Site</b></p>
1:40–3:00	<p><b>Session 10: Richmond on the Brink: Secession in Capitol Square (Tour)</b></p> <p>Mark Greenough, Historian, Virginia State Capitol</p> <p><i>Educators will walk through time and occupy the spaces and places on Virginia’s Capitol Square that were a part of Virginia’s secession crisis. It was the place where Virginians rallied on the grounds, members of the convention voted to leave the Union, and Robert E. Lee came to offer his allegiance to the Confederate cause. This will be an opportunity to preview the tour that school groups will receive in coordination with the Library’s “Union or Secession” exhibition.</i></p>
3:15–4:45	<p><b>Session 11: “Behind the Scenes” Tour of Special Collections</b></p> <p>Tom Camden, Director of Special Collections</p> <p><i>Participants will be treated to a special, “behind-the-scenes” tour of the Library’s Special Collections division, which houses the rarest and most valuable of the Commonwealth’s historical treasures. They will have an opportunity to view Virginia’s Ordinance of Secession, one of the cornerstone documents of the institute’s discussion.</i></p>