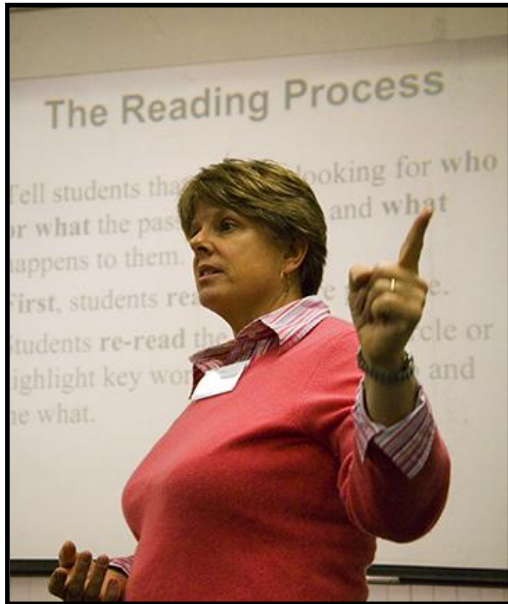


Jennifer Brouhard - The 2009 *Preserve America* Elementary History Teacher of the Year Award California Winner

Jennifer Brouhard, a fifth grade teacher at Glenview Elementary School in the Oakland Unified School District, is the 2009 *Preserve America* Elementary History Teacher of the Year Award California winner.



Jennifer is committed to improving the history-social science knowledge and literacy skills of her own students, and all students in California. As such, she has contributed to the History-Social Science Framework Revision for the California Department of Education and has been a presenter and representative of elementary history teachers at many state conferences. Nancy McTygue, Director of the California History-Social Science Project, says that Jennifer “has demonstrated an in-depth understanding of the discipline of history, the literacy challenges posed by historical texts, and a substantial commitment to the needs of children and the teachers charged with their instruction.” Since 2004, Jennifer has also been a teacher leader for the University of California, Berkeley History-Social Science Project whose mission is to provide standards-based

professional development to K-12 teachers, so that they may more effectively teach history-social science and improve their students’ literacy skills. The Project emphasizes the need for rigorous history-social science education in an effort to develop the critical thinking skills that educated citizens must possess.

Jennifer teaches her students the building blocks of historical thinking. She challenges them, not only to think historically, but also to develop other skills such as academic reading, writing, and speaking. Her students get excited about asking and answering historical questions and analyzing primary documents, art, and artifacts as historical sources. Their historical thinking and academic literacy skills support their learning in all disciplines. Donna Leary, director of the History-Social Science Project, who nominated Jennifer for this award, says, “Her work in a large, urban district is testimony that all students, including English learners and low literacy students, can think and learn about history. These skills will ultimately help students mature into informed citizens and leaders prepared to participate fully in our democratic process.”

The *Preserve America* Elementary History Teacher of the Year Award is sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. *Preserve America* is a White House initiative that supports communities and their efforts to preserve America’s national heritage. Jennifer is a finalist for the National *Preserve America* Elementary History Teacher of the Year Award.