

The 400 Years Project

As part of a larger effort to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of enslaved Africans in North America (August 1619 in Virginia), this program will bring together students from Hofstra University as well as the Hempstead Advanced Humanities Middle School students and Art students from the High School. The intention is to research historical aspects of four specific themes that can be demonstrated by the Long Island Studies Institute through original documents.

Long Island Studies Institute will provide 4 different Powerpoints (one on each theme) that can be used as an introduction to the study of each topic. They will contain pertinent original documents as well as content that can be further studied.

The projects will culminate in both a research paper as well as artwork that will be featured in an exhibition at Hofstra University.

Themes:

- 1) Slavery on Long Island
- 2) Civil War on Long Island
- 3) Civil Rights on Long Island
- 4) Black Suburbia – includes the sub-theme of Sports and Entertainment

Timeline:

October 3, 2019

The first meeting will take place at Hofstra University in the morning to introduce the participating teachers and facilitators; students and teachers will see material relative to the topics; original documents will be on display; Long Island Studies Institute will provide lunch and then everyone will go to Lloyd Harbor in the afternoon to see the Lloyd family home and the connection to slavery. Students can see where Jupiter Hammon, the first published African American poet lived and composed his poetry and other writings.

[Check out some photos from the October 3rd kickoff.](#)

First week October 2019

Students should submit their topic to their teachers.

November – December 2019

Drafts of projects produced.

January – February 2020

Writing and revisions.

March 2020

First draft of final paper

Early April 2020

Final copy

May 7, 2020

Exhibit with appropriate celebration!!

The exhibit will feature student artwork, captions written by the students, QR codes that will give more in-depth information, and papers written by the students in the form of handouts or print product. In addition, the website of both Hempstead Schools and the Long Island Studies Institute will feature the artwork and papers. All students will receive a certificate of participation.