



Four MISD schools (MANSFIELD HS, ROGENE WORLEY MS, MARY LILLARD INT, ROBERTA TIPPS ES) are proud recipients of 2009-2010 National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) new **Picturing America** initiative. **Picturing America** provides an innovative way for citizens of all ages to explore the history and character of America through some of our nation's great works of art.

As one of the over 56,000 schools and public libraries nationwide to receive the program, the selected MISD schools will now have access to this high quality, free resource that will be used to engage our students with discussions of our nation's art, history, civics, literature, and more! **MISD librarians from each school will spearhead the program's implementation.**

Picturing America helps teach American history and culture by bringing some of the country's great art directly to classrooms and libraries. The Award consists of 40 large, high-quality reproductions of great American art and a comprehensive teachers resource book to facilitate the use of the works of art in core subjects. The resources are designed to allow each work of art to enhance the study of American history, social studies, language arts, literature, and civics. The material will be shipped out on a rolling basis beginning Spring 2009. For more info see <http://picturingamerica.neh.gov/>

NEH will provide further programming opportunities for Picturing America recipients by offering professional development workshops in summer 2009 hosted by institutions such as museums and historical societies. This grant opportunity is designed to help teachers and librarians form connections with Picturing America artworks and courses in the core curriculum. Interested educators will be able to apply in spring 2009.

2009 MISD RECIPIENTS OF PICTURING AMERICA:

Mansfield Mansfield High School (2009)
Mansfield Mary Lillard Intermediate School (2009)
Mansfield Roberta Tipps Elementary (2009)
Mansfield Rogene Worley Middle School (2009)

2008 MISD RECIPIENTS OF PICTURING AMERICA:

Danny Jones Middle School (2008)

The images of people, places, and events illustrating American history give our students patrons a chance to better understand our country's past and its ideals. What better way to see the courage of a great leader than through Emanuel Leutze's *Washington Crossing the Delaware*? How better to appreciate the power of American democracy than through Norman Rockwell's *Freedom of Speech*? These masterpieces are opening our students'/community members' eyes to America's rich history and culture while also providing an introduction to the broader world of the humanities.

For more information on the program, you can visit the Picturing America Web site at: www.PicturingAmerica.neh.gov. Feel free to peruse the site, and check out the images and the great links included. Sit down with your kids and start conversations about the beautiful masterpieces!

Picturing America is distributed by the NEH in cooperation with the American Library Association (ALA).

Prepared by Suzanne Moncuse, MLIS, Librarian for Mansfield High School from the NEH Picturing America program public relations documents, <http://picturingamerica.neh.gov/> accessed 4 March 2009.