

SUGGESTED CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

*As you and your students prepare to host a
West Virginia Humanities Council History Alive! presentation
we suggest you do the following:*

- Assign reading to your students about the historical character they will be seeing in their school. If you are not familiar with any piece of reading that could be used, ask the scholar who will be presenting the character for help in selecting it.

- Conduct a search on the internet for information about the historical character.

- Ask your students to prepare a question in advance of the historical character's visit. These should be written out. One strategy would be to put all the questions in a container and have a student pull them out one at a time and read them. If time doesn't permit all questions to be asked, your students will understand that it is a random choice and their question may not get picked.

- Plan a follow-up assignment for your students based on the scholar's presentation. Explore the different ways of researching a topic, event, or individual - the different sources available to help research (i.e. libraries, internet, historic sites,), or let students research and portray their favorite historic figures.

- The Council encourages you to make the History Alive! visit a cooperative venture with other teachers. These presentations make good opportunities for interdisciplinary study -- for instance, English classes could do a writing assignment, and history classes could do a research assignment.