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## 2011 Georgia History Festival Honors Sequoyah, Inventor of the Cherokee Syllabary

2011-01-26 / Community Events



Sequoyah

Each year during the Georgia History Festival (GHF), GHS honors individuals who have significantly influenced Georgia and American history. As the 2011 honoree, Cherokee leader Sequoyah will be featured during the GHF Kickoff lecture on February 3, as the topic for studentmade banners in the annual Georgia Day Parade, and as the subject of educational materials available now through the GHS website, [www.georgiahistory.com](http://www.georgiahistory.com).

This year GHS has compiled resources from its archives and other sources on Sequoyah, the father of written language for the Cherokee Nation.

Sequoyah's syllabary was used to write the first newspaper of the Cherokee Nation, the Cherokee Phoenix, printed in the tribal capital, New Echota, Georgia from 1828 to 1834.

The online curriculum guide consists of historical highlights and features teaching tips, vocabulary lists, media links, and suggestions for classroom activities and further research. As Sequoyah is

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often a featured historical figure in both second and eighth grade Georgia curriculum standards, these materials will be particularly useful for students and teachers at those levels.

“A value Georgia Historical Society brings to the public is making history accessible through online tools and education,” Dr. Todd Groce, President and CEO of Georgia Historical Society, said. “Educators all over the state now have more material at their fingertips to help bring the history of Sequoyah to life in their classrooms.”

2011 curriculum materials will also be available in print to subscribers of Savannah Morning News’ Newspapers in Education during early February. To further the educational experience, GHS also arranges for a professional costumed interpreter depicting Sequoyah to visit area classrooms during the Georgia History Festival.

Formerly known as Georgia Days, the Georgia History Festival is the signature K-12 educational program of the Georgia Historical Society.

Held annually around the anniversary of the founding of the colony of Georgia on February 12, 1733, this commemoration brings history to life for students of all ages through a variety of programs including a series of school events and curriculum, crafts workshops, the two-day Colonial Faire and Muster living-history program held at Wormsloe State Historic Site, and the colorful Georgia Day parade.

By engaging students in interactive learning experiences, Georgia History Festival sparks the imagination, develops critical thinking processes, and opens the exciting world of the past to exploration, study, and understanding.

To learn more about the 2011 Georgia History Festival, visit [www.georgiahistory.com](http://www.georgiahistory.com) and click on the Georgia History Festival button.

