

NEWSLETTER October 2013

For more details and contact information: www.heritageeducation.nl.

Report International Conference *Tangible Pasts*

Are the uses of heritage as primary instructional resources in education compatible with critical historical thinking? If so, how can we use heritage in history education? More than 100 scholars, heritage professionals and history teachers – from the Netherlands and abroad - discussed these and other questions at the international conference *Tangible Pasts? Questioning Heritage Education*, which was held in Rotterdam last June. The Centre for Historical Culture (CHC) at Erasmus University and the National Institute for Cultural Education and Amateur Art (LKCA) organised this event.

In paper sessions research was discussed on various topics, such as teaching and learning about sensitive heritage, the museum experience and authenticity, colonial heritage, and expressions of the past in public culture. Interactive workshops and panel discussions developed these themes further through concrete examples from practice. In their keynotes, Maria Grever (NL), Peter Seixas (Canada), Peter Aronsson (Sweden), Bruce VanSledright (US), Carla van Boxtel (NL) and Brenda Trofanenko (Canada) provided the framework, reflecting on the theme of the conference from the angle of cultural heritage and history education.

For a full report: "[On the use of heritage in history education](#)"



NWO Programme

Heritage education, plurality of narratives and shared historical knowledge

Final phase NWO research programme

Our NWO research programme *Heritage education, plurality of narratives and shared historical knowledge* is reaching its end. All project members are wrapping up their research and finalising their reports. We hope to present you with the results of the various studies within the foreseeable future. Project 2 by Pieter de Bruijn and project 3 by Geerte Savenije will both result in a dissertation (English). Furthermore, programme- and research leader Maria Grever and research leader Carla van Boxtel are preparing a synthesis (in Dutch) of the entire research programme. In addition, Carla van Boxtel, Stephan Klein and Geerte Savenije are working to publish the results of their studies in international peer-reviewed journals. Last, an edited volume including papers presented by various speakers at the international conference *Tangible pasts* – discussed above - is in preparation.

Recent publications:

- Pieter de Bruijn has reported on the English part of his Holocaust case in the article "The Holocaust and Historical Distance. An Analysis of Heritage Educational Resources", recently published in the volume: [Forschungswerkstatt Geschichtsdidaktik 12. Beiträge zur Tagung «geschichtsdidaktik empirisch 12»](#).
- In the same volume Maria Grever published an article about the experience of proximity and distance in the engagement with the past: M. Grever, 'Paradoxes of proximity and distance', in J. Hodel, M. Waldis, B. Ziegler eds., *Forschungswerkstatt Geschichtsdidaktik 12 Beiträge zur Tagung «geschichtsdidaktik empirisch 12»* (Bern 2013).

Stephan Klein launches website ([Dynamisch Erfgoedonderwijs](#))

Last September Stephan Klein launched the result of his NWO valorisation project 'Dynamisch erfgoedonderwijs in Nederland' (Dynamic heritage education in the Netherlands). On the website – geared to 14-15 year old school pupils – visitors encounter various different perspectives on the history and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade. They are stimulated to think critically about this history and its legacy, for example, about the significance of it for the present.

The website is available in both Dutch and English:

www.atlantischeslavenhandel.nl / www.atlanticslavetrade.eu

