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## **The Dutch Legacy in American History Featured In Conference in Albany This September**

From the quest for gold and the crisis of slavery, to diplomacy with Native Americans and survival during the new American Republic, the 400-year legacy of the Dutch in America is the focus of the conference ***The Dutch In America Across The Centuries: Connections And Comparisons.*** A talk by noted author Russell Shorto is featured at a dinner Friday evening.

The conference takes place at the Carole F. Huxley Theater at the Cultural Education Center in Albany from Thursday, September 17 through Saturday, September 19. The public is invited.

The conference is sponsored jointly by the New Netherland Institute and the Association for the Advancement of Dutch-American Studies. The conference is among the first to bring together two major scholarly traditions in Dutch American studies—one focusing on 17th-century New Netherland and the other on the 19th- and 20th-century immigration, settlement, and culture in the Midwest and beyond.

The fee for the conference is \$75, \$40 for students. Lunch each day is included in the conference fee. There is a separate fee of \$75 for dinner Friday night and a separate fee of \$70 for a Dutch Heritage tour on Thursday.

For information and to register go to

<http://www.newnetherlandinstitute.org/programs/events/new-netherland-seminar/>. Online registration closes at midnight on September 14. Walk-ins are welcome, and registration is available on the day of the conference.

The conference features six sessions and fifteen speakers. A tour of the Upper Hudson Valley's Dutch heritage sites takes place on Thursday, September 17. Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan will welcome all conference attendees at an opening reception at the Fort Orange Club in Albany on Thursday, September 17. A dinner at Yono's Restaurant following the program on Friday, September 18 features a presentation by noted author Russell Shorto entitled "'Two Dutchmen' in the American Revolution."

The tour of Dutch heritage sites in the northern part of the Hudson Valley will feature the Bronx Museum in Coxsackie, the Stockade District of Kingston, Hurley, and Historic Huguenot Street in New Paltz. The tour will be led by Heleen Westerhuijs, co-author of *Exploring Dutch New York: New York City, Hudson Valley, New Jersey, and Delaware*.

The Conference is part of the New Netherland Seminar series of the New Netherland Institute. The series showcases the most recent research into the history and culture of the Dutch in America. Originally named the Rensselaerswijck Seminar, the program has brought together nationally and internationally recognized scholars for the past 3 decades.

The New Netherland Institute (NNI) is a non-profit, non-State fund raising organization. NNI supports the New Netherland Research Center at the New York State Library; the transcription, translation, and publication of the 17th-century Dutch colonial records held by the New York State Library and State Archives; and the study of America's Dutch heritage. For information go to [www.newnetherlandinstitute.org](http://www.newnetherlandinstitute.org) or e-mail [nyslfn@mail.nyused.gov](mailto:nyslfn@mail.nyused.gov).

The Association for the Advancement of Dutch-American Studies is a non-profit organization that encourages research and nurtures a continuing interest in the history, life, and culture of the Dutch in North America. The AADAS is located at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. For information about the AADAS go to [www.aadas.nl](http://www.aadas.nl) or write to AADAS, c/o The Joint Archives of Holland, Hope College, PO Box 9000, Holland, MI 49422-9000.

The Schedule of presentations follows:

### **Thursday, September 17**

8:30-6:00: Field Trip: Dutch Heritage Sites

5:00: Fort Orange Club tour

6:00-7:30: Opening Reception at the Fort Orange Club (Cash Bar). Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan will greet attendees.

### **Friday, September 18 (Morning)**

8:30: Registration and coffee

9:00-9:30: Welcome and Introductions

9:30-10:30: Session 1: FRONTIERS

Chair: Charles Gehring, Director, New Netherland Research Center

Henk Aay, Van Raalte Institute, Hope College, "Migration of Dutch Americans from the New Netherland Settlement Region as Measured by the Spread of RCA congregations, 1664–1850"

Erin Bonuso Kramer, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Prisoners and Profiteers: The Economics of Imperial Loyalty on the Albany Frontier, 1664-1748."

11:00-12:30: Session 2: ENCOUNTERS

Chair: David Zwart, Grand Valley State University

Iris Plessius, Radboud University, "Imposed Consensus: An Examination of the Relations between Dutch

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Settlers and Native Americans in North America between 1674 and 1783.”

Pieter Hovens, National Museum of World Cultures, Leiden, Netherlands, “In Search of Gold, From New Netherland to the Far West: Dutchmen, Indians, and the Quest for El Dorado.”

Jan J. Boersema and Henk Aay, VU University Amsterdam and Van Raalte Institute, Hope College, “From Wilderness to Cultivated Landscapes; 19th-Century Dutch Immigrants and the Natural World.”

12:30-2:00: Box Lunch Provided

### **Friday, September 18 (Afternoon)**

2:00-3:30: Session 3: KEEPING RECORD

Janny Venema, Associate Director, New Netherland Research Center

Peter D. Van Cleave, Arizona State University, “Saving New Netherland in the Early American Republic: The Importance of Francis Adrian van der Kemp’s Attempt to Translate the Records of New Netherland”

Babs Boter, VU University Amsterdam, “The Bond of Both Worlds: Travel Writers Bridging North America and Holland”

Cornelia Kennedy, Van Raalte Institute, Hope College, “Of Men and Words: An Early Holland Debating Society.”

4:00-5:00: Session 4, SLAVERY

Chair: Andrea Mosterman, University of New Orleans

Bill Kennedy, Van Raalte Institute, Hope College, “The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church and the Slavery Crisis of 1855”

Michael J. Douma, James Madison University, “A Dutch Confederate: Defending Slavery in a Transnational Context.”

6:00: Cocktail Hour at Yono's (Cash Bar)

7:00: Banquet & Awards at Yono’s in the Hampton Inn; Russell Shorto talk entitled “Two ‘Dutchmen’ in the American Revolution.”

### **Saturday, September 19 (Morning)**

8:30: Registration and coffee

9:00-10:30: Session 5: CONNECTIONS

Chair: Henk Aay, Van Raalte Institute, Hope College

Robert P. Swierenga, Van Raalte Institute, Hope College, “Helping Hands: Old Dutch Rescue Young Dutch”

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George Harinck, VU University Amsterdam “The Americanization of Geerhardus Vos: Singularities and Similarities.”

Leon van den Broeke, VU University Amsterdam, “Flexibility or Fixed Idea? Reformed Church Polity in New Netherland and Dutch-American Midwest”

11:00-12:00: Session 6: TRANSNATIONAL

Chair: Dennis Voskuil, Director, Van Raalte Institute, Hope College

Andrew T. Stahlhut, Lehigh University, “Albany’s Commissioners for Indian Affairs in Colonial New York: The Dutch Shaping of Indian Diplomacy in the Larger British Empire, 1691-1755”

Hans Krabbendam, Roosevelt Study Center, “How Transnationalist were the Dutch in America?”

12:00: Box Lunch Provided

Organizational Meeting for Dutch-American Group (DAG).

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