

ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

Kyle P. Rothemich is a graduate student studying Public History and 19th Century America at West Virginia University. His Honor Thesis entitled, *Evaluating Contested Ground: Civil War Interpretation in the Shenandoah Valley* examines how three sites in the Shenandoah Valley use visitor centers to interpret the American Civil War. It received numerous accolades and was recognized regionally for its originality.

For the last four years he has worked as a Park Ranger at Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park in Middletown, Virginia. During his time he has conducted original research at the park, developed numerous interpretative programs, led battlefield tours throughout the Shenandoah Valley, and was instrumental to the parks success during the sesquicentennial events in October 2014.