

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN INDIANA

2009/2010 YOUTH I DIVISION CONTEST RULE BOOK

SEPT. 17, 2009

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National History Day is a structured project-based learning program where Youth I students in grade four learn how to conduct primary and secondary research. Students then practice valuable research, time management, teamwork and critical thinking skills to create exhibits, original performances, media presentations and narratives.

Before beginning a project, Youth I students, their parents and teachers should carefully read this packet. It contains the rules that students must follow to compete in the Youth I Division of National History Day in Indiana.

OVERVIEW PARTICIPATION

Indiana is one of a handful of states to offer a version of National History Day at the fourth and fifth grade levels. While the highlights of National History Day often come from the district, state, and for students in grades six through 12, the national competition, the purpose of the contest is to motivate students to create meaningful history projects. As students prepare for these competitions they will exercise and develop valuable inquiry, critical thinking and writing skills. Participation at the competitions is optional, but students are encouraged to showcase their work at the district competitions where the top finalists advance to the state competition.

CONTEST DIVISIONS

National History Day in Indiana has four contest divisions, based on grade levels:

Youth I Division – grade 4

Youth II Division – grade 5

Junior Division – grades 6, 7 and 8

Senior Division – grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

Only Junior and Senior divisions are recognized by the national office. Youth I and Youth II divisions are not eligible to compete at the national level.

Youth I Division participants may enter one of the following categories:

- Narrative (individual only)
- Individual Exhibit
- Group Exhibit
- Individual Media Presentation
- Group Media Presentation
- Individual Performance
- Group Performance

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Before beginning a project, it is important to read and understand what is expected of all National History Day projects and of each category. Carefully review the terms, guidelines and rules below to determine what project type and topic is best for you.

HISTORY DAY TERMS

Historical Context: The people, places, events, situations and issues taking place at the same time as the topic.

Historical Perspective: How the topic changed over time and why it is important to history.

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Plagiarism: Plagiarism is taking the work of others and presenting it as if it were the work of the student (e.g., copying information word-for-word without using quotations and footnotes, paraphrasing an author's ideas or using visuals or music without giving proper credit).

Primary Sources: A primary source is something that was created during the time period under investigation. Primary sources are materials directly related to a topic by time or participation. These materials include letters, speeches, diaries, newspaper articles, oral history interviews, documents, photographs, artifacts or anything else that provides first-hand accounts about a person or event. This definition also applies to primary sources found on the Internet.

Secondary Sources: Secondary sources are usually published books or articles by authors who were not eyewitnesses or participants in the historical event or period and who base their interpretations on primary sources, research and study. These sources provide context for an historical event.

Refer to the National History Day *Contest Rule Book*, pages 4 and 5, for further explanation of these terms.

THEMES

Each year a broad theme is selected for National History Day. This year's theme is *Innovation in History: Impact and Change*. Within the theme students may select a topic on any aspect of local, regional, national or world history. Regardless of the topic chosen, the presentation and conclusion must clearly relate to the annual theme.

GENERAL RULES

TOPIC SELECTION AND ENTERING PROJECTS

An effective NHD entry limits the topic's scope to make the research and interpretation manageable. Consider these questions: Why is this topic important? How does the topic relate to the theme? What were the causes of the event or motivations of the person(s) that relates to this topic? How did this topic change life, society, history and/or politics?

Contest Participation

Students may participate in the research, preparation and presentation of only one entry each year.

Individual or Group Entries

Individual category entries must be the work of one student. A group category entry must be the work of two to five students. All students in a group entry must be involved in the research and interpretation of the topic.

Development Requirements

Entries submitted for competition must be researched and developed during the current contest year, which begins following the national contest each June.

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GENERAL RULES

Entry Construction

- Students are responsible for the research, design and creation of their entry.
- Students may receive help and advice from teachers and parents only on the mechanical aspects of creating their entry.
- Students may have help typing the process paper and other written materials.
- Students may seek guidance from teachers as they research and analyze materials, but the students' conclusions must be their own.
- Photographs and slides may be commercially developed.
- Students may have reasonable help cutting out their exhibit background or performance props.
- Photos, film footage and music are acceptable. However, hiring a professional to create photographs, film or music for the project is strictly prohibited.

Supplying Equipment

Students must supply their own props and equipment for all contests, including audio/visual equipment for the media category. Note: DVD players and movie screens are provided for the district and state contests; however, students are responsible for ensuring the project's compatibility with standard audio/visual equipment.

Discussion with Judges

Students should be prepared to answer questions from judges about the content and development of their entry. Students may not give a formal, prepared introduction, narration or conclusion.

Prohibited Materials

Items potentially dangerous in any way, such as weapons, firearms, animals, organisms, plants, etc., are strictly prohibited. Such items will be confiscated. Replicas of these items that are obviously not real are permissible. Contact a teacher or the NHD state coordinator before bringing a replica of any weapon to the district or state competitions.

Title

Each entry must have a title that is clearly visible on the front page of all written materials.

Title Page

A title page is required as the first page of written material in every category. The title must include only the entry's title, student name(s), contest division and project category. Refer to the National History Day *Contest Rule Book*, Rule 13, page 9, for further explanation.

Process Paper

A process paper is required for Exhibit, Performance and Media Presentation contest categories in the Youth I Division. Narrative projects should NOT include a process paper.

FOR ADDITIONAL CONTEST INFORMATION:

Consult the National History Day
Contest Rule Book and the
NHDI 2009/2010 Information Booklet.

For copies of these materials,
contact the NHDI staff at
(317) 233-9559 or
nhdi@indianahistory.org

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A process paper for Youth I participants should consist of no more than 400 words explaining how the student conducted research and created and developed the entry. All categories except Narratives must include a process paper with their entry.

Refer to the entry categories described on pages 4 through 6 below for specific instructions on process papers. For further explanation, refer to the National History Day *Contest Rule Book*, Rules 14 and 15, pages 10 and 11.

Annotated Bibliography

An annotated bibliography is required for all categories. The bibliography should contain all sources that provided useful information. Refer to a MLA or Turabian style guide for bibliographical citation structures. An example for citing a book might in MLA would look like:

AuthorLastName, AuthorFirstName. Title. PublisherState:
PublishingCompany, YearPublished.

Boomhower, Ray. One Shot: The World War II Photography of John A. Bushemi. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press, 2004.

The annotations for each source should explain the use of the source and how it helped the student understand their topic in at least two to three sentences. For further explanation, refer to the National History Day *Contest Rule Book*, Rule 15, pages 10 and 11.

While this packet makes several references to the National History Day *Contest Rule Book* for general rules, please note that rules for specific Youth I project categories differ significantly. Students should use the following rules when creating Youth I projects.

YOUTH I CATEGORIES

NARRATIVE

A narrative project challenges students to read, consider and think critically about primary sources related to the topic under investigation. In this category, students mentally place themselves in the time period and write as if they were a part of the event or person being considered.

This narrative can be a letter in response to a primary source the student has studied, a speech regarding a certain event in history, a newspaper article about an historical topic or a diary entry of someone who lived in the past. The main character need not be a real historical person, but he or she must address a real historical topic or issue. Students are encouraged to make direct references to primary and secondary sources and take into consideration historical context for this paper. Remember to cite all sources! Students should not submit a process paper for this category; however, an annotated bibliography is required.

Narrative Rules

- Length Requirements – The text of a narrative must be no fewer than 500 and no more than 1,200 words in length. Each word or number in the text counts as one word. The narrative word limit does not apply to citation notes.
- Citations – Footnotes, endnotes or internal documentation are required.

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Citations are used to credit the sources of specific ideas or direct quotes. Refer to the *National History Day Contest Rule Book*, Rule 17, page 11, for style guide suggestions.

- Presentation – Four copies of the narrative, including a title page, must be submitted with NHD contest registration forms. (For details on the title page, refer to the *National History Day Contest Rule Book*, Rule 13, page 9.)

EXHIBIT

An exhibit is a visual representation of a student's research and an interpretation of the topic. An exhibit consists of visual images, quotes and written labels and captions relating to and illustrating the different aspects of the chosen topic. Like all National History Day projects, exhibits should include a title, thesis statement, introduction and conclusion in some form.

Exhibit Rules

- Size Requirements – The overall size of the exhibit when displayed for judging must be no larger than 40 inches wide, 30 inches deep, and 4 feet high.
- Word Limit – There is a limit of 500 student-created words on the exhibit board. Direct quotes do not count toward the word limit.
- Media devices are prohibited. Any three-dimensional artifacts should be attached to the board or displayed in front of the board within the allotted space requirements.
- Note that the Youth I exhibit rules differ from the exhibit rules in the *National History Day Contest Rule Book*. While other references to the rulebook are made in this packet, Youth I students should adhere to the above rules when creating exhibit projects.

PERFORMANCE

A performance is the student's dramatic portrayal of a topic's significance in history and must be original in production. The student should select a topic related to the NHD annual theme, conduct primary and secondary source research, analyze sources for credibility and usefulness, take good notes, and then create a first-person interpretation related to the topic. In a five-to seven-minute skit, the student(s) should orate and act out the significant events related to the person(s) or situation(s) which she/he is portraying. Students should present in the first person and should dress the part to the best of their ability.

Performance Rules

- Time Requirements – Performances must be no less than five minutes and no more than seven minutes in length. Timing starts at the beginning of the performance, following the announcement of the title and student name(s). Any other introductory remarks will be considered part of the performance and included in the overall time.
- Students will have five minutes before and after the presentation for setup and teardown.
- Performance Introduction – The student should begin their

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- performance by announcing their entry's title and the name(s) of the participant(s) to the start of the performance.
- Media devices are prohibited.
- Script – The script should not be included as part of the written material presented to the judges.
- Note that the Youth I performance rules differ from the performance rules in the National History Day *Contest Rule Book*. While other references to the rulebook are made in this packet, Youth I students should adhere to the above rules when creating performance projects.

MEDIA PRESENTATION

A media presentation should reflect the student's ability to present an historical topic in a digital presentation. After selecting a topic and conducting thorough primary and secondary research, the student should communicate the topic's significance to the NHD annual theme by presenting a captioned slide show using traditional slides or computer software such as PowerPoint or Hyper Studio. Presentations should include audio and visual elements and may include video.

Media Presentation Rules

- Time Requirements – Media presentations should be no less than five minutes and no more than seven minutes in length. Timing starts with the presentation's opening title.
- Introduction – The title must be provided at the beginning of the presentation.
- Student Involvement – All entries must be student produced. Only those students listed as entrants may participate in the production. Students should run all equipment and the presentation should be self-advancing.
- Entry Production – Entries must be original productions. Students must operate all software and equipment used in production of the entry. Using objects created by others specifically for use in the entry is prohibited, but using existing photographs, video footage, etc., is acceptable. Slides may be professionally developed.
- Equipment – If needed, students must provide their own computer and audio/visual equipment. Note: DVD players and movie screens are provided for the district and state contests; however, students are responsible for ensuring the project's compatibility with standard audio/visual equipment.
- Additional materials – Added exhibits of visual or written materials are not allowed.
- Note that the Youth I media presentation rules differ from the documentary rules in the National History Day *Contest Rule Book*. While other references to the rulebook are made in this packet, Youth I students should adhere to the above rules when creating media presentation projects.