



[www.nhd.org](http://www.nhd.org)

**ATTENTION TEACHERS, STUDENTS, and PARENTS!**

Email questions about the competition to either of the *Pasco Co.*

*Coordinators:*

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**What is the History Fair?**

National History Day is a year-long education program that engages students in grades 6-12 in the process of discovery and interpretation of historical topics. Students produce dramatic performances, imaginative exhibits, multimedia documentaries, and research papers based on research related to an annual theme. These projects are then evaluated at local, state, and national competitions.

**Contest Rules:**

**Theme** – All project topics must be directly related to the 2019-2020 National History Day's theme of **Breaking Barriers**

**Topics** - Effective National History Day entries not only describe an event or a development, they also analyze it and place it in its historical context. Ask yourself the following questions about your topic:

- How is my topic important?
- How was my topic significant in history in relation to the National History Day theme?
- How did my topic develop over time?
- How did my topic influence history?
- How did the events and atmosphere (social, economic, political, and cultural aspects) of my topic's time period influence my topic in history?

**Divisions** - The National History Day competition has two divisions based on school grade:

*Junior Division* - grades 6, 7, and 8

*Senior Division* - grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

**Contest Categories** You may enter one of the following categories:

- individual exhibit or group exhibit
- individual performance or group performance<sup>[SEP]</sup>
- individual documentary or group documentary
- individual website or group website
- historical paper (note: this is an individual category ONLY)

Each category in each division is judged separately. Groups may include up to three (3) students. You may have five (5) for a presentation

**Individual or Group Entries:** A paper, individual exhibit, individual performance, individual documentary, or individual website must be the work of only one student. A group exhibit, group performance, group documentary, or group website must be the work of all three (3) students. All students in a group entry must be involved in the research and interpretation of the group's topic. Group members CANNOT be added or replaced once the project has entered a contest cycle.

**Reusing Old Projects or Papers:** Entries submitted for competition must be researched and developed during the current contest year that begins following the national contest each June. **Revising or reusing an entry from a previous year--whether your own or another student's--is unacceptable and will result in disqualification.**

### **Who's Allowed to Help You**

You are responsible for the research, design, and creation of your entry. You may receive help and advice from teachers and parents on the mechanical aspects of creating your entry:

1. You may have help typing your paper and other written materials;
2. You may seek guidance from your teachers as you research and analyze your material, but your conclusions must be your own;
3. You may have photographs and slides commercially developed.
4. You may have reasonable help cutting out your exhibit backboard or performance props (e.g. a parent uses a cutting tool to cut the board that you designed).

### **Required Written Materials for All Entries**

**Written Materials** Entries in all categories except historical papers must include **three copies** of the following written materials in the following order:

1. **A Title Page** - the first page of written material in every category. Your title page **must include only** the title of your entry, your name(s), and the contest division, category in which you are entered, and word count for your entry.
2. **A Process Paper** - A "process paper" is a description of no more than 500 words explaining how you conducted your research and created and developed your entry. All categories must include a "process paper" with their entry (except the paper category). The process paper should include the following four sections: (1) explain how you chose your topic, (2) explain how you conducted your research, (3) explain how you selected your presentation category and created your project and (4) explain how your project relates to the NHD theme. Go to [www.nationalhistoryday.org](http://www.nationalhistoryday.org) and in the Contest section click on Creating a Process Paper to view sample process papers.
3. **An Annotated Bibliography** - An annotated bibliography is required for all categories. It should contain all sources that provided usable information or new perspectives in preparing your entry. You will look at many more sources than you actually use. You should list only those sources that contributed to the development of your entry. Sources of visual materials and oral interviews must be included. **The annotations for each source must explain how the source was used and how it helped you understand your topic.**

For example: Bates, Daisy. The Long Shadow of Little Rock. New York: David McKay Co. Inc., 1962.

Daisy Bates was the president of the Arkansas NAACP and the one who met and listened to the students each day. This first hand account was very important to my paper because it made me more aware of the feelings of the people involved.

These materials must be typed on plain white paper and stapled together in the top left corner.

**Do not enclose them in a cover or binder.**

**The Separation of Primary and Secondary Sources:** You are required to separate your bibliography into primary and secondary sources.

**Plagiarism:** You acknowledge in your annotated bibliography all sources used in your entry. Failure to credit sources is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.