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# NATIONAL HISTORY DAY - Introduction

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**What is National History Day?** It's a program for students in grades 6 through 12. The students choose a history topic related to the annual contest theme, conduct extensive research over the course of the school year, and create performances, documentaries, websites, papers, or exhibits. This year's theme has tentatively been announced as "Communications in History." Participants compete at the regional, state and national level. Peters Township students have participated in History Day since 1980. You may work independently or in a group with five or fewer students.

**When do we meet?** We will set up weekly individual meeting times. You will need to spend a lot of time outside of school and outside of our weekly meetings working on this project. The best work schedule begins the last week in June; this provides the best opportunities for site visits, for interviews, and for getting resource on inter-library loan.

**What are the keys to success?** Participants need to select a topic related to the annual theme, conduct extensive historical research, and create an entry that tells a compelling story. In addition to your project, you will be also turn in an annotated bibliography and a short process paper discussing how you found your information and created your project.

## **When are the competitions?**

- Regional Competition (NHD-Pitt): March  
Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh – may be virtual
- Pennsylvania State Competition: , May  
Central Pennsylvania, location TBD – may be virtual
- U.S. Competition: June  
University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland – may be virtual

## **Where can I find more information about National History Day?**

- Consult the program website at **NHD.org**.
- Or contact the advisor, Mrs. Bowman, at [rbowmanesq@aol.com](mailto:rbowmanesq@aol.com)