

Questions? Please contact:

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2015-2016 History Fair



District History Fair:

GISD Bridge Street Conference Center
Student Entry Set Up

January 25, 2016: 4:30 – 5:30

January 26, 2016: 7:30 – 8:30

Judging

January 26, 2016: 4:30 - 7:30

Public Viewing

January 28, 2016: 12:00 – 4:00

Awards Ceremony

January 28, 2016: 6:00 – 6:30

Regional history Fair

University of Texas at Arlington
March 5, 2016

State History Fair

Austin, Texas
May 6-7, 2016

National History Fair

University of Maryland
June 16-18, 2016

- **Theme: Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History**

This year's theme is broad. This means you can choose a topic that allows you to explore your own interests, whether it's science, politics, the arts, education—you name it!

Be sure to review the National History Day website with all the information you need to know about the History Fair!! www.nhd.org

- **Why Participate?**

- Earn scholarships!
- Receive a History Fair Graduation Cord for advancing to state in the Senior Level!
- Participate in a challenging, research-based program as part of your College Resume'!
- Participate in a Field Trip!
- Middle School GT Program requirement

- **Divisions:**

- Junior Division: Grades 6, 7 and 8
- Senior Division: Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

- **Contest Categories:**

- Documentary
 - Individual
 - Group
- Exhibit
 - Individual
 - Group
- Paper
 - Individual Only
- Performance
 - Individual
 - Group
- Web Site
 - Individual
 - Group
- Group Size: 2 to 5 people

- **Conducting Research**

- You may have help typing your paper and written materials.
- You may seek guidance from your teachers and parents/guardians as you research, but your conclusions must be your own.
- You may have photographs and slides commercially developed.
- You may have reasonable help cutting out your exhibit backboard or performance props (e.g.; a parent/guardian can use a cutting tool to cut the board that you designed.)
- The work (research, thinking, conclusions, construction, etc.) must be **your own** and not the work of your parents, teachers, friends, etc.

- **Prohibited Materials:**

- Weapons (replicas permissible)
- Firearms (replicas permissible)
- Animals
- Organisms
- Plants

- **Process Paper**

- Title Page, Process Paper (Combined into ONE paper/file!)
- All categories except historical paper must include a process paper of up to 500 words
- **The first section** should explain how you chose your topic.
- **The second section** should explain how you conducted your research.
- **The third section** should explain how you selected your presentation category and created your project.
- **The fourth section** should explain how your project relates to the NHD theme

- **Annotated Bibliography**

- Title Page & Bibliography
- Must contain Primary and Secondary Sources and be separated by each

- **Judging Criteria**

- Historical Quality (60%)
- Relation to Theme (20%)
- Clarity of Presentation (20%)

- **Advancing:**

- **District:** Top four winners per contest category may advance to Regionals at UTA. Regional Information will be given to winners at the district history fair.
- **Regionals (UTA):** Top two winners per contest category advance to State
- **State (Bob Bullock Museum & UT, Austin):** Top two winners per contest category advance to National
- **Kenneth E. Behring National Contest** at University of Maryland

- **Miscellaneous:**

- You are responsible for setting up your own exhibit, equipment or props at the contest (not your parent or teachers)
- You are responsible for supplying all props and equipment
- You should be prepared to answer judges' questions about the content and development of your entry, but you may not give a prepared presentation
- Only those in the performance category may wear costumes

- **More information can be found at:**

- National History Day Contest Website: www.nhd.org
 - 2015 Theme Book with Sample Projects Ideas for Topic
 - Official Contest Rule Book
 - Sample Process Papers
 - NHD Research Central