

History Day Judging Process

Greet

Take time to give a brief explanation of the judging process to the students and set them at ease. Exhibit judges can walk up to the next entry and shake hands with the students. Performance and media judges should call the next presentation up to your table. At this time you should request copies of the Research Description and Bibliography /Process Paper so you can...

Read

You may not have time to completely read the entire Process Paper, especially those with large bibliographies. Focus on the Research Description and survey the sources used. Since you will keep one copy for your judging team, you will be able to refer back to the Process Paper during your discussion session. When your team is done looking at the Process Paper, it is time to...

View

Exhibit judges should read the text of the display. Remember, the students should not give you an oral presentation about their work. Performance and media documentary judges should give the signal to begin and make sure that the students introduce themselves and the title of their presentation. As you view the entries you should make preliminary notes on your judging forms. You will be able to expand on these later. At the end of the presentation it is time to...

Question

Student answers to your questions do not weigh heavily in your overall evaluation of an entry. You should use this opportunity to allow students to share their understanding of their topic and how they presented it. Specific questions will come to mind as you view the entry, but other things to ask about include: How did they pick their topic? What was their most important source or discovery? What role did each group member play in the development of the entry? What was the most important thing they learned during their History Day experience? **Do not offer suggestions for improvement at this time.** You will be able to include these comments once you retire to the judging room and...

Discuss

All History Day results are determined by a consensus reached by each judging team. After you have viewed all of your entries you should return to the judging room to make your decisions. Some judges have a short preliminary discussion right after they view each entry. Each judge will make their own comments. Column ratings do not need to be identical, but should be in the same range. The overall rating must be the same for each judge.