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## **Washington Kids Win Gold and Silver at National History Day Competition**

### ***Local kids earn top honors at the National History Day Competition, including cash awards from the History Channel***

Washington State had another shining year at the National History Day competition, winning two gold and two silver medals, as well as having 10 of the 36 projects from Washington make it into the final rounds of competition. The two gold medals were the highest level medals awarded at the national competition, as they each included a \$5,000 cash prize from the History Channel. Washington State also took home the NARA award for Constitutional History, as well as several other awards from 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> place.

Wilbur Purdue, a teacher at Coupeville High School, says of the History Day program, "We love the program and it makes such a difference in the lives of students to go beyond the normal, or even beyond what is considered exceptional. "

### **Official Results**

#### **Gold Medalists**

- Heni Barns from Coupeville High School, "Striking a Turning Point: the 1917 Pacific Northwest Lumber Stroke." Senior Individual Documentary
- Anand Nambakam, Kevin Nakahara, Ethan Perrin from STEM High School in Redmond, "Nikola Tesla: Electrifying a New Era." Senior Group Documentary

#### **Silver Medalists**

- Taylor Walsh from Charles Wright Academy in Tacoma, "Samuel F.B. Morse: Artist to Innovator, A Turning Point in Communication." Senior Individual Website
- Andrew Simon from Kingston Middle School in Poulsbo, "The Trans-Alaska Pipeline: A Struggle for Balance." Junior Paper

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Place**

- Samhita and Adarsh Karnati and Eric Burlingame from Redmond High School, "From Panic to Progress: the Launch of Sputnik." Senior Group Documentary
- Kaylee Kim from Charles Wright Academy, "Roberts Commission." Senior Individual Exhibit

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Place AND the NARA Award for Constitutional History**

- Hannah Foster, Stephanie Massart, Avalon Tarbot-Mendoza, and Nathan Runkle from Pleasant Valley Middle School in Vancouver, "Silencing Celilo Falls: Symbol of a Century of Loss, Turning Point in Native American Activism on the Columbia River." Junior Group Performance

### **6<sup>th</sup> Place**

- Sophia Michaels and Alicia Lee from the International Community School in Kirkland, “The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater 1958: A Turning Point in Racial Integration.” Junior Group Website

### **7<sup>th</sup> Place**

- Serena Caryl from Lewis and Clark High School in Cheney, “The 26<sup>th</sup> Amendment: A Youth Revolution.” Senior Individual Performance

### **9<sup>th</sup> Place**

- Anael Kuperwajs from Timbercrest Junior High in Woodinville, “The Final Solution: the Horrific Turning Point that Prompted the Jewish Holocaust.” Junior Individual Performance

### **About National History Day**

This year-long academic program for students in grades 6-12 centers around historical research, interpretation, and creative expression. For their History Day projects, students become writers, filmmakers, website designers, playwrights, and artists as they create unique contemporary expressions of history. The program culminates in a series of contests at the local and state levels, and with an annual national competition in Washington, D.C. each June.

Mark Vessey of the Washington State Historical Society coordinates Washington State’s state level competition and leads the state winners to the National History Day competition every year. Judges are volunteers who include teachers, professors, historians, and leaders in historical societies and other academic organizations.

### **Washington State History Museum**

The Washington State History Museum is where fascination and FUN come together! People of all ages can explore and be entertained in an environment where characters from Washington's past speak about their lives. Through interactive exhibits, theatrical storytelling, high-tech displays, and dramatic artifacts, learn about our state's unique people and places, as well as their impact on the country and the world.

Currently on display is *Let’s Ride! Motorcycling in the Northwest*, with more than two dozen vintage and historic bikes available to enjoy. Come to one of our Rally Days or join our Poker Run on June 1, benefitting WSHM. Enjoy contemporary Native American art at our In the Spirit exhibit opening June 8, and at our market and festival on August 17. Also in August, the museum premieres the *Cooper* exhibit focusing on the legendary unsolved skyjacking by D.B. Cooper and its effects on aviation security. Admission is always free to members, and is free for active duty military and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2013. Otherwise, admission prices are \$9.50 for general admission, \$7 for students and seniors. Summer hours are Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-5pm. 1-888-BE-THERE or WashingtonHistory.org.

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