2008 Minnesota History Day
National Finalist Yearbook

conflict & compromise
in history
The Staff would like to say a big thank you to the parents, teachers and students who all shared National History Day 2008 with us. We feel honored to have had the chance to get to know you. We have such a great group of talented kids and we would like to congratulate all of you. You are all winners to us!

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MEMORIES
The 2008 Junior Division represented the land of 10,000 lakes with passion and poise this year at National History Day. Students from Minneapolis to White Bear Lake, Fergus Falls to Rochester made Minnesota proud. They chose topics that were local, like the Minnesota v. Hershberger and the Minnesota tobacco settlement, to national, like the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Oregon Territory, and international like the Spanish Conquest of Mexico. We were amazed by their research, their depth of knowledge, and their amazing attitude. We are so proud of you all!

Lea Bart
Hanna Cody
Andy Eerdmans
Billy Eerdmans
Andrew Engel
Jovan Gorman-Carter
Maia Gummit
Bailey Hilgren
Nora Laskowski
Elyse Lennington-Chaffee
Becca Mattson
Alexandria McConkey
Juniors

Maria McGlinch
Monica Nelson
Paige Norman
Emma Peacha Singer

Kathryn Ross
Sophie Schmidt
Carrie Schweyen
Marie Sheehan

Jane Storey
Nicholas Thyr
Megan VanDeVoorde
Hugh van Heesewijk

Emily Weber
Bif Wesely
The Minnesota Senior Division was not to be outdone. They too brought their cards to the table, making some outstanding HD projects with their Minnesota flair. From St. Louis Park to Minneapolis and St. Paul to Chatfield, these upperclassmen set their nose to the grindstone and showed up to Nationals with the goods. Projects also spanned a variety of topics, including, but not limited to: the Minneapolis Truckers’ Strike, the French Impressionist Movement, Charles Darwin and Patrice Lumumba. We commend the senior scholars for their diligent research, thoughtful analysis and dynamic portrayal of their projects. And you know, the senior kids are pretty cute too.

Matti Boice
Camara Butler
Cambria Camillo
Jessica Christy
William Cramer
Evan Devine
Clara Engen
Katie Faulkner
Audrey Greene
Atigula Gul
Nick Harrison-Strot
Erik Hilgren
SENIORS

Lizzie Houns
Max Johnson
Ruth Kostohris
Katie McElrath

Sade Ogundiran
Victoria Oyewole
Marisha Randle
Mackenzie Schuett

Katie Thiel
Rochelle Tschida
Gary Waelhof
Jane Wageman
Unlike the somewhat more reticent group of essayists, the drama queens and kings of the world never fail to make their presences known, to extend their dramatics beyond the borders of their performances, and generally increase the volume of any gathering. This year's drama club portrayed artists, riveters, stolen children, the Amish, abolitionists, scientists, and pioneers with the dramatic flair that often characterizes the Minnesota delegation. Each of the thespians, whether tackling a monologue or a dialogue, performed with a certain aplomb that brought chills to our spines, laughter to our throats and tears to our eyes. Such is the quality of this year's drama club that future generations can be certain to see these performances over and over again at a variety of workshops, receptions, rallies and educational meetings.
Although long relegated to a stereotypical status as the über-nerds of any educational institution, the Minnesota A-V Club has quashed that stereotype with not only their lack of pocket protectors but also their stunning advancements in the world of movie-making. They have made life in the audio-visual world fun again, and in true Minnesota style have accurately informed audiences of Mennonites, gangsters, WPA art, music, football, teachers, the Amish, and taconite tailings. Liberal use of the Ken Burns effect and smooth photo transitions elevated the A-V club’s movies to a professional status, far beyond the slide-show years of their A-V club predecessors of a decade before. These movies, clearly destined for future slots on the History Channel, demonstrate the great power that comes with a mouse and a microphone.
Far from the traditional creations of shelves and magazine racks, the handiwork of the shop class stretched the boundaries of the power-tool universe. Foam board, cloth and wood frames formed the foundation for each student’s exhibit magnum opus, embellished by high-quality adhesive products. Shop class innovations explained the nuances of Oregon, tobacco, Homestead, Jay Near, strikes, Fannie Lou Hamer, U of M, and Wounded Knee, always carefully intertwining information with exhibition. The projects of the shop class were well-cut, well-glued and well-organized, demonstrating the class’s unique ability to rise above the allure of rubber cement and into the space-age world of positional mounting adhesive (PMA). Surely these designers will be approached by museum staff to put their cutting qualities to work, making the museums of the world more cohesive, adhesive places.
Realizing early the strength of the written word, students channeled the spirits of Frederick Jackson Turner and David McCullough in historical research papers, ten pages in length and many months in the making. Students burrowed in the dark corners of public libraries and university stacks, and fashioned, out of information scribbled on note cards and notebook pages, literary masterpieces. A variety of topics, such as mental hospitals, Near vs. Minnesota, habeas corpus, and capitoll punishment, emerged to inspire students’ creative juices and historical talents. Undaunted by the task of formulating thesis statements and topic sentences, these young writers, emboldened by the power of their pens, transform the world of dreadful essay-writing to a world of influence and historical expression.
Blazing the trail of a new, uncharted History Day category, our website students took Minnesota into a technological frontier with their well-crafted webpages. No early 1990s models were sufficient for these champions of cyberspace; instead, the future Google CEOs looked to the up-to-the-minute web designs and built sites that were not only pretty, but intelligent and useful. These website students, undaunted by the difficulties of html coding and the staff’s utter lack of knowledge on the subject, created interactive wonders on subjects as diverse as Patrice Lumumba, the Montgomery bus boycott, Oliver Cromwell and the Minneapolis Spokesman. The first graduating class of website students will go down in Minnesota History Day history as pioneers, whose quick mastery of the category may result in a tutorial for the rest of us who are stuck in the days when Mapquest was a journey on a Star Trek episode.
NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

National Champion
Sade Ogundiran, Senior Individual Exhibit

2nd Place
Jessica Christy, Senior Paper

2nd Place
Cambria Camillo, Senior Individual Performance

Outstanding State Entries
Billy and Andy Eerdmans, Junior Group Exhibit
Ruth Kostohris, Senior Paper