MINNESOTA NATIONAL FINALIST YEARBOOK

THE INDIVIDUAL IN HISTORY

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2009

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The Staff would like to say a big “thank you” to the parents, teachers and students who shared National History Day 2009 with us. We feel honored to have had a 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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The 2009 Junior Division represented the Land of 10,000 Lakes with passion and poise this year at National History Day. Students from Roseville to St. Paul, Wayzata to Rochester made Minnesota proud. They chose topics that were local, like Hubert H. Humphrey and Frances Densmore, and national like Jane Addams' Hull House, and international like Rigoberta Menchu's protest for equality in Guatemala. We were amazed by their research, their depth of knowledge, and their incredible attitude. We are so proud of you.

Kiana Alleman
Daniel Bergerson
Sophie Burton
Laura Cattaneo

Hannah Davis
Francesca Dawis
Carl-Lars Engen
Emma Erler

Aaron Hathaway
Tasha Holtman
Andrea Jorissen
Katie Kostohris
JUNIORS

Haley Larsen
Alayna O'Bryan
Shayne Okerstrom
Elise Olsen

Hutton Phillips
William Naylor
Henry Sanborn
Ana Schaff

Kateri Schmidt
Maggie Schmidt
Anders Strandlund
Nicholas Thyr
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 the Twin Cities, Rochester to Fergus Falls, these upperclassmen set their nose to the grindstone and showed up with the goods. Projects spanned a variety of topics, including: Katharine Graham, Thaddeus Stevens, Xang Vang, and Denis Diderot. We commend the senior scholars for their diligent research, thoughtful analysis, and dynamic portrayal of their individuals in history. And you know, the senior kids are pretty cool too.

Jill Bachelder
Emily Brown
Katie Caron
Hanna Cody

Dena Coffman
Taylor Delaney
Erica Dombro
Andrew Eerdmans

William Eerdmans
Candice Fuller
Ben Gibbs
Max Johnson
SENIORS

Jennifer Lor
Madeleine Marrin
Maria McGlinch
Joshua Pfitzer

Sergio Portesan
Hannah Powers
Robin Purman
DJ Sass

Jack Schnettler
Carrie Schweyen
Charlie Shapiro
Alex Stitt

Ruby Uribe
Megan VanDeVoorde
Alex Westad
Sarah Yang
Where would History Day rock stars be without their adoring posse of fans? They carry the props, run out for copies, liven the crowd, and cheer for the home team. Their connections are biological, academic, or born from sheer adoration and envy, but regardless they are loyal.
Tim "Mr. History" Hoogland
Naomi "The Torch" Peuse
Jessica "Fun Jessica" Ellison

Chris "Mr. 7" Taylor
Ali "Ali Kat" Kappes
Katie "Road Warrior" Craven

Matt "Capitol Hill" Hill
Maren "Like Karen" McMartin
Mandy "CGP" Kritzeck

Michelle "Kwan" Kwan
Dan "Shotgun" Ott
Andy "Tiger" Willhide

Tania "Knelman" Roos
Emily "Sconnie" Sass
Tamra "50 is the new 30" Wallner
Unlike the somewhat more reticent group of essayists, the drama queens and kings of the world never fail to make their presence 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 chemists, revolutionaries, doctors, European expansionists, and journalists 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 thoughts, and tears to our eyes. Such is the quality of this year's drama club that future generations can be certain to see their 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 transportation advancements, environmental movements, protest singers, culinary icons, school builders, revolutionaries, and the enlightened. Liberal use of the Ken Burns effect and smooth photo transitions elevated the A-V club’s movies to a professional standard far beyond the slide-show demonstrations of their 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 progressive doctors, civil rights advocates, post-war recovery, and social workers, 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. Surely these designers will be approached by museum staff to put their cutting abilities 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 progressive politicians, revolutionary doctors, community workers, and labor journalists, emerged to inspire students' creative juices and historical talents. Undaunted by the task of formulating thesis statements and typesetting endnotes, these young writers, emboldened by the power of their pens, transformed the world of dreadful essay-writing to a world of influence and historical expression.
Blazing the trail of a young, exotic History Day category, our Website Squad took Minnesota into a technological frontier with their well-crafted web pages. 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 students, undaunted by the difficulties of html coding and stealthy internet viruses, created interactive wonders on subjects as diverse as righteous gentiles, old-fashioned but new-fashioned doctors, community builders, and food-conscience politicians. These website scholars, through their countless electronic discoveries and quick mastery of this young category, will go down in history as the squad that pushed us further from our technologically inferior stupor and into the 21st century.
NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

Huy Nguyen
Sunrise Park Middle School, White Bear Lake
Teacher of Merit, Finalist

Dena Coffman, Erica Dombro, Hannah Powers
Senior Group Documentary
National Champions, History Channel Award Winners

Katie Caron
Senior Individual Exhibit
2nd Place

Max Johnson
Senior Individual Performance
2nd Place

Jack Schnettler
Senior Paper
2nd Place

Emily Brown
Senior Paper
3rd Place

Sophie Burton, Hutton Phillips
Junior Group Exhibit
3rd Place

Maggie Schmidt, Kateri Schmidt, Katie Kostohris
Junior Group Performance
3rd Place
NATIONAL FINALISTS

Ana Schaff
Junior Paper
4th Place, Outstanding State Entry Winner

Carrie Schweyen, Hanna Cody, Megan VanDeVoorde, Maria McGlinch
Senior Group Performance
5th Place, Outstanding State Entry Winner

Andrew Eerdmans, William Eerdmans
Senior Group Exhibit
5th Place

Josh Pfitzer
Senior Individual Exhibit
5th Place

Alayna O'Bryan
Junior Individual Exhibit
6th Place

Francesca Dawis
Junior Individual Performance
7th Place

Alex Westad
Senior Individual Performance
7th Place

Carl-Lars Engen
Junior Individual Documentary
8th Place

Aaron Hathaway
Junior Website
11th Place

Candice Fuller, DJ Sass, Jennifer Lor, Ruby Uribe
Senior Group Exhibit
11th Place
Best Hair
DJ Sass

Best Smile
Emma Erler

Most Likely to Become a Member of Congress
Carl-Lars Engen

Best Dancer
Candice Fuller

Most Ambitious Room Decorators
Becca Krasky, Hannah Davis, Tasha Holtman

Most History Day Spirit
Billy Eerdmans, Andy Eerdmans

Best Arcade Gamer
Alex Westad

Most Likely to be Seen Using Technology
Matt Hill

Best Bowling-Shirted Dancer
Maren McMartin

Most Likely to Spaz Out
Michelle Kwan

Most Likely to be Working for History Day in their 60s
Mr. History