Websites and Exhibits: Credits Required for Visual Sources

The National History Day Contest Rule Book REQUIRES credits for visual sources and quotations. Judges will look for credits on both Websites and Exhibits at the Regional, State, and National levels of competition.

Please review this information in advance of any National History Day competitions!

National History Day Contest Rule Book
All quotes and visual sources (e.g., photographs, paintings, charts, graphs) must be credited on the exhibit and cited in the annotated bibliography. (See VI. Individual Category Rules - 6.4 Exhibit, Rule D5, page 31)

Credit
- A credit is much shorter. In general, a credit includes the visual's title, when it was created, and the name of the organization or source where you found it.
- A credit is NOT the full citation from your bibliography. For example, a credit should not include a website URL.
- A brief, factual credit does NOT count towards your student-composed word limit.
- A credit is REQUIRED for each visual source and quote.

Caption
- A caption is usually longer than a credit. Captions include more details than a credit.
- You can use a caption to tell the viewer more about the visual or quote or help the viewer understand how the visual or quote helps to support your argument.
- A student-written caption DOES count toward the student-composed word limit.
- A caption is NOT required for each visual source or quote. It's your choice!

WHERE SHOULD I PUT THE CREDIT?
There are no specific rules about where students should put credits.

Credits must be included in the project itself. Students should try to include credits as near to the visual or quote as possible.

For websites, students should use the image sub-menu to include the caption. For banners on websites, students may need to include the credit in the footer for that page.

WHAT DO I PUT IN MY BIBLIOGRAPHY?
Students must include a full citation in their bibliography for each visual and quote.

History Day requires that you separate your bibliography into primary and secondary sources.

Sample citation:

For complete category rules, download the Contest Rule Book at www.nhd.org