

Judging & Competitions 2023-2024

Dear Parent or Guardian –

History Day students have the option to enter their project into competitions. There are different levels of competition from school to national. Competitions are a way for students to share their projects with judges, peers, and community.

Parents and families are strongly encouraged to attend!

There are four levels of competition. Talk to your teacher for more information.

- **School** – Teachers choose school event dates
- **Regional** – 12 Regional events take place in March. Talk to your teacher about the date.
- **State** – May 4, 2024, at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
- **National** - June 2024, at College Park, Maryland

Judges interview students, provide written feedback, and select entries to advance. Judges are volunteers. They come from the community, higher education, and corporations in Minnesota. Judges will ask questions about their research and project. Questions will vary, but may include:

- *How did you pick your topic?*
- *What source was the most helpful and why?*
- *What role did each group member play in the development of the entry?*
- *What was the most important thing you learned during History Day?*
- *What did each group member do to help create the project?*

Judges use the same criteria at Regional, State, and National levels:

- Historical Quality (80%)
- Clarity of Presentation (20%)
- Rules Compliance

Judges select projects to advance to the next level at each competition. The number of projects that advance depends on how many students compete. In general, *at least* three projects per category/division are eligible to advance.

How can you help?

- **Talk** about the importance of what they have learned, not just winning a medal.
- **Comfort** your student. You are their best support to calm their nerves.
- **Ask** teachers about event details.
- **Complete** parent surveys at the competitions. Your feedback helps us improve the program for other students.

Thank you for supporting your student through History Day! You can learn more about History Day competitions by visiting our website, www.mnhs.org/historyday/contests-and-judging.



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