

ENTRY CATEGORIES AT A GLANCE

Things to remember when selecting an entry category:

- Students should select an entry category that fits their topic as well as their preference of presentation method.
- Interviews are conducted in *all* entry categories at *all* competition levels, except for final rounds of competition.
- Students entered in Paper, Individual Exhibit, Individual Documentary, Individual Performance, or Individual Web Site *must* be present at the competition.
- Performances are presented and judged live at competitions. All students entered in either Individual or Group Performance must be present at the competition. Substitutions for students unable to attend are not allowed.
- Interviews in Group Exhibit, Group Documentary, and Group Web Site can be conducted even if all of the students in the group are not present at the competition, as long as at least one member of the group is present. *However, competition is the culmination of the National History Day process, so all students should be present except in rare, unavoidable circumstances.*
- Students who want to participate in National History Day and who know they will have a conflict on the scheduled competition day should be part of a Group Exhibit, Group Documentary, or Group Web Site.

Entry Category	What is it?	How is it different from other categories?
PAPER Individual Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional written form of presenting historical research • Various types of creative writing (for example, fictional diaries, poems, etc.) are permitted • Text must be no less than 1500 words and no more than 2500 • Limited use of appropriate appendices is allowed • Citations are required • Must be typed, computer printed or legibly handwritten 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depends almost entirely on words to tell the story • More information can usually be included in a paper than in any other entry category • Doesn't require visual images • Must be turned in three to four weeks prior to the competition to allow judges time to read in advance
EXHIBIT Individual and Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual representation of research and interpretation of a topic's significance in history, much like a small museum exhibit • Size restrictions apply (40 inches wide by 30 inches deep by 6 feet tall) • 500-word limit for student-created text that appears on the exhibit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three dimensional display • Visual images are vital • Uses color, images, documents, objects, graphics, and design, as well as words to tell the story
PERFORMANCE Individual and Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A live, student-created dramatic presentation lasting no more than 10 minutes • Must be a true performance and not an oral report • Must have dramatic appeal, but not at the expense of historical information • Includes student supplied costumes and set • Performance itself must include a thesis statement, supporting statements, a conclusion and evidence of primary research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only category that is presented and judged live, in front of an audience • Memorization and rehearsing are essential • Doesn't require many visual images

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<p>DOCUMENTARY</p> <p>Individual and Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An original, student-created production lasting no more than 10 minutes • Showcases documents, images, photographs, and actual footage of the topic • Students are responsible for operating <i>all</i> equipment, both in the production phase and at competition • TV/DVD provided by the competition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very visual presentation, so requires access to many varied images • Students must have access to equipment and be able to operate it • Entry reflects the students' ability to use audiovisual equipment to communicate the topic's significance
<p>WEB SITE</p> <p>Individual and Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A collection of web pages, interconnected with hyperlinks • Limited to 1200 visible, student-composed words • May use no more that 100MB of file space • Multimedia clips no longer than 45 seconds each are allowed • All multimedia must be stored within the site • Presents primary and secondary sources, interactive multimedia, and historical analysis • Incorporates textual and non-textual descriptions, interpretations and sources • Takes advantage of web site technology rather than being a computer version of an exhibit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most interactive of the entry categories • Viewers have control over what part of the web site they view and in which order • Entry reflects the students' ability to use web site design software and computer technology to communicate the topic's significance in history • Uses color, images, fonts, documents, objects, graphics, design, and words to tell the story • Students must have access to and be able to operate the Internet, appropriate software and equipment • URLs must be turned in three to four weeks prior to the competition, at which time web sites are locked to allow judges time to view them in advance