National History Day in Missouri Gets Underway with Contest Theme Debate and Diplomacy in History

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA, Mo., April 19, 2022 – Judging for the National History Day contest in Missouri is underway as just under 500 students in grades 6 to 12, across the state, are competing in this year’s virtual contest. The theme for this year’s contest is Debate & Diplomacy in History. The awards ceremony will be held online April 30 at 3 p.m. State winners will compete at the national contest in June, which will also be held online this year due to health concerns from the COVID-19 pandemic. National History Day in Missouri is sponsored and organized by the State Historical Society of Missouri, in partnership with Missouri Humanities and additional sponsors.

From April 11-27, volunteer judges in Missouri and elsewhere are reviewing student projects that advanced from regional competitions to the state contest. The students compete in five project categories, including documentary, exhibit, performance, paper and website. Any public, private, or home school students who meet the grade criteria can enter the annual contest if sponsored by a teacher, guardian or mentor.

A recent $10,000 grant was awarded to the NHD program by Missouri Humanities to support teacher workshops, defray the costs of contest materials and other needs to enhance next year’s contest. This year, 84 teachers in Missouri worked with students who are competing in the contest. Columbia Public School District Secondary Gifted Programs coordinator and teacher Beth Winton, Ph.D., says the NHD program prepares her students for higher academic research and provides critical thinking skills that are transferable to many fields of study.

“All students who take a rigorous course schedule need to know how to conduct research, interview experts and write an annotated bibliography, just to name a few of the discrete skills gained from entering the NHD contest,” said Winton. “Students learn to ask probing questions, evaluate sources and manage a long-term project.”

Winners at the state level will be posted on the National History Day in Missouri website in May: NHDMO.org. Information to get started in next year’s program is available on the NHD website.

About National History Day in Missouri
Launched in 1980, National History Day in Missouri is the state affiliate of the National History Day educational program, which has half a million participants annually. National History Day in Missouri is sponsored by the State Historical Society of Missouri, in partnership with the Missouri Humanities. Visit: nhdmo.org

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Below: Logos available in high res if needed.