

# History Day!

It's not just a day . . . it's an experience



Backed by popular demand, here is the information you need to get started with your History Day project. This information is specific to IB United States History classes (Bessett, Campbell-Hale, Peoples) and should serve as a guide for assembling the required History Day project.

Fairview has been a major contributor to the annual History Day event, and has regularly sent a number of students to the University of Maryland for national competitions. We want to keep this tradition going! This project is an excellent tool for students to practice and engage in IB learning methodology, where students are expected to employ sound historical research and depth of knowledge in developing an historical record/story.

## THEME: Conflict & Compromise in History

So here is how you get started . . .

1. Go to the [National History Day website](http://www.nationalhistoryday.org) and read about the project and competition. Focus your attention on the CONTEST link.

<http://www.nationalhistoryday.org/>

There is a lot of good information on this page, but not all of it is absolutely necessary. What is necessary to view, however, is the link, **What are the steps to create a project?**



The National History Day page should serve as your main source of information for how to assemble the project, rules, guidance, and ideas.

However, we (your teachers) are most concerned about the **process** you follow while working through the activity (not as much the final product); toward this goal, a timeline for completing certain portions of the assignment has been created. You must meet these deadlines and be diligent throughout the entire progression of the activity. Procrastination will yield inferior work (and by extension, an inferior grade).

2. Follow the guidance and timeline below. But most importantly, choose a topic of study! Remember, history is about people and the human condition.

## Work timelines . . .

**December 21<sup>st</sup>** - topics, preliminary research question, partners (if any), category (exhibit, paper, etc.) due.

**January 9<sup>th</sup>** - back from winter break.

We'll have a little library time, and we want to physically see you researching. Time will be devoted to going over different ways to document your research (journals, note cards, or computer based).

**Friday, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>** - five source, annotated bibliography due (with at least one primary source). Separate the primary and secondary sources (Use the headings: Primary Sources, Secondary Sources) Use Turabian format. See the NHD website for examples.

**Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>** - ten source, annotated bibliography due (with at least two primary sources). Follow the NHD format. You are being graded both on following the format, but also on the quality of your sources. A scholarly book is worth more points than a children's book, for example.

**Week of January 28** - we will conference with every student regarding research. You will prove you've done at least 20 hours of quality research.

**February 4<sup>th</sup>** - rough drafts and/or [process papers](#) due. (all categories)

Here's what this means:

For **papers**, we want to see what you think is your final form. That means your paper is well written, the theme is evident throughout your paper, you have many (at least 20-50 or more) correctly formatted footnotes or endnotes from high quality sources (no "blobs" of notes), and you have completely spell-checked the entire, well written, coherently presented paper. It should be about 10 pages (double-spaced, 12-point font, paginated). Check the NHD site for word limits. You will have a correctly formatted cover sheet and an annotated bibliography, separated into primary and secondary sources (which you should have already completed).

For **exhibits**, we want to know what your board will look like. That includes sample materials, fonts, copies of your visuals, etc. We want a copy of all your major headings and all 500 of your own words. Provide a storyboard of where all your visuals and words will go. We want a copy of your title page and a processed paper (250 words of how you did the research, how your topic relates to the theme, and why your project is historically significant).

For **performances**, we want your script, your title page, your process paper, and your bibliography.

For **documentaries**, we want to see the first five minutes of your presentation. We must be able to see it without any technical glitches. We also want to see your title page, process paper, and bibliography. [Click here for details on how to assemble Bessett's modified process paper.](#)

## Timeline of History Day EVENTS

### **Fairview High School History Day - Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

Set up projects before school starts.

All boards will be judged, but not all participants will be interviewed. More information on this will become available after we know how many entries there are in each category. All documentaries and performances will also be judged and ranked if necessary. The top five from each category will go on to District. That means five individual performances, five group performances, five individual boards, five group boards, five individual documentaries, five group documentaries, and five papers.

Papers will be judged separately. We'll let you know when those need to be turned in after we hear from the District judges when they need the papers. High volume project categories such as documentaries will be presented to judges over a two day period (Feb. 13 & 14; check for a published schedule).

- Results will be posted by the end of school, February 14 -

### **Boulder County Regional Competition: Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

Front Range Community College - Boulder County Campus - Building C, Entrance 4  
2121 Miller Dr.

Longmont, CO 80501

Check in and exhibit set up starts at 7:30, judging starts at 9:00, and the awards ceremony probably will run from about 4:30 or 5:00 until 6:00.

Contact -

Mandy Clancy 303/ 678-3736

[mamanda.clancy@frontrange.edu](mailto:mamanda.clancy@frontrange.edu)

We will provide extra credit for each stage of competition you compete at past the school level.

### **State Competition: Saturday, May 3, 2008**

The top FIVE finishers in every category at the regional level will qualify for the state competition hosted by the History Department at the University of Colorado.

Contact -

State Director: Bill Convery

#### **Address:**

Colorado History Day

King Center 521

University of Colorado, Denver & Health Sciences Center

CB 182, PO Box 173364

Denver, CO 80217-3364

**Phone:** (303) 556-6647 **Fax:** (303) 556-6037 **Email:** [William.Convery@cudenver.edu](mailto:William.Convery@cudenver.edu)

**Website:** [Colorado History Day](http://www.coloradohistoryday.com)

### **National History Day Competition: June 15-19<sup>th</sup>**

University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland <http://www.nationalhistoryday.com/>