



Fall, 2018

Welcome to the 2019 National History Day contest! The Grand Valley State University History Department will again sponsor the Region 4 Michigan Day contest, as it has for more than four decades.



### **Congratulations to Students and Teachers!**

- Almost one hundred students from a dozen schools brought sixty-four entries to our 2018 West Michigan regional contest.
- Sixty students in forty-one entries from our district qualified to compete at the state contest. Fourteen entries from our region went to the national contest in College Park, Maryland.
- **Andrew Karafa** of **Forest Hills Eastern Middle School** in Ada, sponsor **Jim Cross**, received the **Junior Division Captain Ken Coskey Naval History Prize** with his individual documentary entry, “Temporary Truces: How America’s Handling of the Barbary Bullies Molded the U.S. Navy.” The award is sponsored by the Naval Historical Foundation.
- **Claire Parish** and **Kyle Korte** of **Forest Hills Eastern High School** in Ada, sponsor **Jim Cross**, received the **Senior Division Global Peace Prize** with their group documentary, “Arthur Vandenberg: Putting America First Through Conflict and Compromise.” The award is sponsored by The United States Institute of Peace.
- **Parish and Korte** were also selected to participate in the “**Day on the Hill**” program, hosted by the **National Endowment for the Humanities** at the U.S. Capitol, on Wednesday, June 13. The students and a chaperone joined students from other affiliates across the country in an opportunity to meet members of Congress, who were eager to hear about their project and research. Approximately 30 students out of the 3,000 who participate in the National Contest are selected to attend this program each year.
- **Lauren Geiger** of **Whitehall High School** in Whitehall, sponsor **Jan Klco**, received the **Senior Division Outstanding Affiliate Award**, designating her as best-in-state, for her individual exhibit entry, “‘Quelle Horreur!’ 1863 Salon des Refuses Refocuses Reality.”

### **2019 Theme: “Triumph and Tragedy in History”**

Students may compete as individuals in the paper category or as individuals or groups in exhibits, documentaries, performances or websites. Students in the Junior category (grades 6-8) compete separately from those in the Senior category (grades 9-12). Students who enter at the Youth level (grades 4-5) may or may not advance to the state competition depending on the number and quality of the entries.

NHD information on the 2019 theme: <https://www.nhd.org/node/14063>

### **The 2019 West Michigan Regional History Day Contest, March 16, 2019**

Kirkhof Center, Grand Valley State University Allendale campus.

- The registration deadline is **February 22**.

- A ten-dollar per student fee must accompany each online registration. Teachers with multiple entries should collect and send the money in a single mailing with a roster of students who paid.
- Papers, Websites, and Documentaries will be submitted electronically, similarly to what we did last year. The deadline for submissions is March 4.
- Websites must be posted on “Weebly” by midnight March 4 when access will be interrupted.

Please respect these deadlines. This is a contest and I would hate to eliminate an entry because of a missed deadline. Thank you in advance.

If you have any questions, please contact Sean O'Neill at the GVSU History Department by calling (616) 331-3298 or e-mailing me at [oneills@gvsu.edu](mailto:oneills@gvsu.edu). I will soon have some copies of the 2019 “*Triumph and Tragedy in History*” curriculum book and the HSM and Student Handbooks.

Websites with History Day Guides and Resources: NHD website, <http://www.nhd.org/>  
Historical Society of Michigan website, <http://www.hsmichigan.org/mhd/>  
GVSU's History Dept. site, <https://www.gvsu.edu/history/history-day-27.htm>

Note from NHD:

The 2019 *Triumph & Tragedy in History* theme webinar will be on September 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. ET. NHD will also live stream the webinar on their Facebook page at [facebook.com/NationalHistoryDay](https://www.facebook.com/NationalHistoryDay).