



EDUCATORS NOMINATED FOR

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY® TEACHER OF THE YEAR

April 11, 2023, College Park, MD—Teachers from 47 NHD Affiliate programs have been nominated for the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year award. The award is sponsored by Patricia Behring in recognition of the pivotal role teachers play in the lives of students.

Each National History Day affiliate may nominate one high school and one middle school teacher for this award. Every nominee for the \$10,000 award is a teacher who demonstrates a commitment to engaging students in historical learning through the innovative use of primary sources, implementation of active learning strategies to foster historical thinking skills, and participation in the National History Day Contest. All nominees will receive \$500.

“This award recognizes the very best educators from across the nation and beyond,” said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. “These educators are leaders and innovators in the teaching of history. They engage their students with hands-on, inquiry-based learning with primary sources. I congratulate them on their well-deserved nominations.”

The national winner will be selected by a committee of experienced teachers and historians and announced on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at the National History Day National Contest Awards Ceremony in College Park, Maryland. Nominees’ work must clearly illustrate the development and use of creative teaching methods that engage students in history and help them make exciting discoveries about the past.

The 2023 nominees are:

Affiliate	Junior Division	Senior Division
Alabama	Mrs. Sharon Livingston Westminster Christian Academy Huntsville	
American Samoa	Mrs. Cathlyn Elaine Custodio Su’a Pavaiai Elementary School Pago Pago	Mr. Konelio Alofaituli Manu'a High School Pago Pago
Arizona	Ms. Shandel Roberts Willis Junior High School Chandler	Mrs. Laura Shafer Northland Preparatory Academy Flagstaff



Affiliate	Junior Division	Senior Division
Arkansas	Ms. Leah Graveley Lake Hamilton Middle School Pearcy Mrs. Michele “Chele” Sterrett Fulbright Junior High School Bentonville	
California	Mr. Hector Gamboa Venado Middle School Irvine	Mr. Michael Chatfield McKinleyville High School McKinleyville
Colorado	Mrs. Kris Casey Barone Middle School Meeker	Ms. Raluca Liles Caprock Academy High School Grand Junction
Connecticut	Mr. Edward Dorgan Har-Bur Middle School Burlington	Dr. Matt Cieslowski & Mr. Ian Webster Manchester High School Manchester
Delaware		Mrs. Erin Sullivan Cab Calloway School of the Arts Wilmington
Florida	Mrs. Jesi Lehman Celebration K-8 School Celebration	Mrs. Melanie Hendrix Booker T. Washington High School Pensacola
Georgia	Mrs. Colleen Surette Georgia Cyber Academy Atlanta	Mr. Dave Mayer Ola High School McDonough
Guam	Mr. Rodney Pama Luis P. Untalan Middle School Barrigada	Mr. Brian Paul Galang Father Duenas Memorial School Chalan Pago, Ordot
Hawai’i	Mr. Patrick Gegen Island School Lihue	Mrs. Sarah Razee Kamehameha Schools Kapālama Honolulu
Idaho	Mrs. Lori Mason Foothills School of the Arts and Sciences Boise	Ms. Michelle Balliett Compass Public Charter School Meridian
Illinois	Dr. Todd Johnson Hiawatha Junior High School Kirkland	Mr. Michael Biondo Maine South High School Park Ridge



Affiliate	Junior Division	Senior Division
Indiana	Mr. James Howard Discovery Middle School Granger	Mr. Jason ElRite Carmel High School Carmel
Iowa	Ms. Steph Schares Ames Middle School Ames	Mrs. Deb Masker Abraham Lincoln High School Council Bluffs
Kansas	Mr. Jeffrey Schuh Seaman Middle School Topeka	
Kentucky	Mr. William Spalding Francis Parker School of Louisville Goshen	Mrs. Jill Lewis Corbin High School Corbin
NHD Korea		Mr. Dylan Thomas Löser North London Collegiate School Mr. Russ Williams Korea International School
Louisiana	Mrs. Marilyn Tabora Islamic School of Greater New Orleans Kenner	Mrs. Alicia Hampton Patrick F. Taylor Science & Technology Academy Avondale
Maine	Ms. Christa Boeykens-Bui Noble Middle School Berwick	
Maryland	Mrs. Denise Kresslein North Carroll Middle School Hampstead	Mr. Thomas Stavelly Parkdale High School Riverdale
Massachusetts	Mrs. Barbara Sturtevant Marshall Simonds Middle School Burlington	Mrs. Gail Buckley Willow Hill School Sudbury
Michigan	Mrs. Sharon Sullivan Stevenson Middle School Westland	Ms. Jennifer Saaranen Lake Linden - Hubbell High School Lake Linden
Minnesota	Ms. Allissa Bagley Woodbury Middle School Woodbury	Mr. Doug Hoverson Saint Thomas Academy Mendota Heights
Mississippi	Mr. Royce Smith Whitten Middle School Jackson	Mrs. Margaret Hicks Hernando High School Hernando
Missouri	Dr. Beth Winton John Warner Middle School Columbia	Mr. Phillip Reed Northwest High School Cedar Hill



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Nebraska	Ms. Janet L. Jeffries Crete Public School Crete	Mr. Nathan Kackmeister Crawford Public Schools Crawford
Nevada	Ms. Carol McGrew Wilbur and Theresa Faiss Middle School Las Vegas	Mrs. Amber Newman Leadership Academy of Nevada Las Vegas
New Hampshire	Mrs. Paige Benotti & Ms. Mikaela Gauvain David R. Cawley Middle School Hooksett	Ms. Meredith Brown & Mr. Ron Kaiser Moultonborough Academy Moultonborough
New Jersey	Ms. Maggie Manning Henry B. Whitehorne Middle School Verona	Ms. Stefanie San Filippo Montville Township High School Montville
New Mexico	Mrs. Rachel Johnson Hope Christian School Albuquerque	Mr. Claudie Thompson Silver Consolidated Schools Silver City
New York	Mrs. Michelle Hitchcock Cooperstown Junior/Senior High School Cooperstown	Ms. DanaAnn Landesman Bronxville High School Bronxville
North Carolina	Mrs. Ashley Coons Davidson County Schools Lexington	Ms. Erica Imbimbo The Oakwood School Greenville
Ohio	Ms. Deanna McDaniel Genoa Middle School Westerville	Mr. Andrew Brandt Toledo Technology Academy of Engineering Toledo
Oklahoma	Mrs. Gina Golshani St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School Edmond	Mr. Stephen Frazier Dove Science Academy, Tulsa High School Tulsa
Oregon	Dr. Megan Kruer Seven Peaks School Bend	
Rhode Island	Mrs. Julie R. Connors-Costello Winman Middle School Warwick	Mr. Michael McNamara Ponaganset High School Glocester



Affiliate	Junior Division	Senior Division
South Carolina	Ms. Emily Rose Lyons Bluffton Middle School Bluffton	Mrs. Laura Cripe Academic Pathways Homeschool Co-op Fort Mill
Tennessee	Ms. Aimee Hoffman Kirkwood Middle School Clarksville	Mr. Derek Griffin L&N STEM Academy Knoxville
Texas	Ms. Becky Lutzke William Adams Middle School Alice	Dr. Maxey Hooks Ford High School Quinlan
Utah	Mrs. Darlene Tanner Diamond Valley Elementary School St. George	Mrs. Melinda Reay Skyline High School Salt Lake City
Vermont	Mr. Daniel Maguire Main Street Middle School Montpelier	Ms. Kara Rosenberg U-32 Middle / High School Montpelier
Virginia	Ms. Rachel Moore James Blair Middle School Williamsburg	Ms. Nicole Winter Cosby High School Midlothian
Washington	Mr. Alan Plummer Northshore Middle School Bothell	Mr. Scott Barber Liberty Bell High School Winthrop
Wisconsin	Mr. Terry Kaldhusdal Kettle Moraine Middle School Dousman	Ms. Erin Jensen Rock University High School Janesville

About National History Day® (NHD):

NHD is a non-profit organization based in College Park, Maryland, that seeks to improve the teaching and learning of history. The National History Day Contest was established in 1974 and currently engages more than half a million students every year in conducting original research on historical topics of interest. Students present their research as a documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website. Projects compete first at the local and affiliate levels, where the top entries are invited to the National Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park. NHD is sponsored in part by HISTORY®, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Park Service, The Better Angels Society, and the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation. For more information, visit nhd.org.

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