



National History Day Students Named for Documentary Showcase

National Museum of African American History and Culture Selected Student Films to be Showcased

June 8, 2023, College Park, Maryland—**National History Day® (NHD)** and the **Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC)** are pleased to announce the world premiere of 17 documentary films selected to be featured in a live showcase at the Oprah Winfrey Theater at the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The films were produced by middle and high school students competing in the 2023 NHD National Contest and were screened and selected by NMAAHC staff. This year's showcase will take place on Wednesday, June 14, 2023.

The NMAAHC has been working with National History Day to produce the Student Documentary since its opening in 2016. From 2016 to 2019, the NMAAHC featured the documentaries in-person in their Oprah Winfrey Theater to the visiting public. The COVID-19 shutdowns presented a unique challenge to continue the showcase. The NMAAHC and National History Day switched to an online format to host the showcase, utilizing the Smithsonian Learning Lab platform, run by the Smithsonian's Office of Educational Technology. This year, we are back in person, hosting the documentaries in the Oprah Winfrey Theater.

NHD students whose films were selected for the showcase grappled with topics consistent with the mission of the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Their documentaries address topics of African or African American history. These ten-minute films also reflect the 2023 NHD theme, *Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas*.

"We are thrilled to have our students return to Washington, D.C. to compete in the 2023 NHD National Contest," shares Executive Director Cathy Gorn. "We are excited for the opportunity to share the work of these young documentary filmmakers at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture to showcase the stellar work of these history students."

The following films have been selected for the showcase:

Title: *Loving V. Virginia: Frontiers in Civil Rights and Social Justice*
Student(s): Ashea Angel, Maya Huang, Aubrey Denise Ventura
Teacher(s): Jaimy Valerio
School: King David Kalakaua Middle School (Honolulu, Hawai'i)
Showtimes: 10:15 a.m., 2:20 p.m.



Title: *The 54th Massachusetts: Pride Over Prejudice and a New Frontier of Freedom*

Student(s): Julia Kilvady

Teacher(s): Ross Farmer

School: Belle Vernon Area Middle School (Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania)

Showtimes: 10:27 a.m., 2:31 p.m.

Title: *The Langston Blues*

Student(s): Camryn Carr

Teacher(s): Amanda Hall

School: Forestbrook Middle School (Myrtle Beach, South Carolina)

Showtimes: 10:39 a.m., 2:42 p.m.

Title: *A Frontier in Litigation: Charles Houston, Thurgood Marshall, Nathan Margold, and the Fight to End Segregation in Education*

Student(s): Keavan Coale, Ian Morgan

Teacher(s): Joel Slingerland

School: Central High School (Springfield, Missouri)

Showtimes: 10:51 a.m., 2:53 p.m.

Title: *John Coltrane: A Pioneer who Crossed Frontiers in Music*

Student(s): Mossi Tull, Jr.

Teacher(s): Alexander Frail, BJ Simmons

School: Stuart Hobson Middle School Capitol Hill Cluster (Washington, D.C.)

Showtimes: 11:03 a.m., 3:04 p.m.

Title: *Kansas City Jazz: A Frontier for Black Success*

Student(s): Mia Rasmussen

Teacher(s): Sonja Czarnecki

School: Bishop Seabury Academy (Lawrence, Kansas)

Showtimes: 11:15 a.m., 3:15 p.m.

Title: *A Swann's Legacy*

Student(s): Oli Roy, Lucy Stadtmauer

Teacher(s): Drew Gordon

School: South Burlington High School (South Burlington, Vermont)

Showtimes: 11:27 a.m., 3:26 p.m.

Title: *The Port Royal Experiment: Crossing the Frontier from Slave to Freedman*

Student(s): Joshua Baird, Thomas Cripe, Anthony Herndon

Teacher(s): Laura Cripe

School: Academic Pathways Homeschool Co-op (Fort Millariz, South Carolina)

Showtimes: 11:39 a.m., 3:37 p.m.



Title: *How Did Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company Help The Future of Mobile, Alabama*

Student(s): Dwayne Lockett-James

Teacher(s): Sarah Woltring

School: Murphy High School (Mobile, Alabama)

Showtimes: 11:51 a.m., 3:48 p.m.

Title: *Ruby Bridges: How One Six-Year-Old Became a Frontier in History*

Student(s): Sara Newitt

Teacher(s): Holly Matzen

School: Memorial Middle School (Sioux Falls, South Dakota)

Showtimes: 12:03 p.m., 4:00 p.m.

Title: *Unbought & Unbossed: Shirley Chisholm, Crossing the Political Frontier*

Student(s): Molly Budhiraja

Teacher(s): Andrew Estes

School: BASIS Peoria (Peoria, Arizona)

Showtimes: 12:15 p.m., 4:11 p.m.

Title: *Masterminds Behind the Movement: How Tougaloo College Advanced Civil Rights in Mississippi*

Student(s): Kiersten Burk, Jermarius Everett, Grace Short

Teacher(s): Alexandria Drake

School: JPS-Tougaloo Early College High School (Jackson, Mississippi)

Showtimes: 12:27 p.m., 4:22 p.m.

Title: *Little Rock: A Frontier of the Global Cold War*

Student(s): Lawson Wright

Teacher(s): Melissa Morales

School: Horace Mann School (Bronx, New York)

Showtimes: 12:39 p.m., 4:33 p.m.

Title: *Idlewild: Black Eden The Town That Segregation Built*

Student(s): Temple Lester

Teacher(s): Sally Stanhope

School: Chamblee Charter High School (Chamblee, Georgia)

Showtimes: 12:51 p.m., 4:44 p.m.

Title: *The Height of the Fight: Bill Russell as a Trailblazer for Activism in the NBA*

Student(s): Samuel Luther, Wyatt Roth, Malachai Shulman, Keyshawn Ragin

Teacher(s): Joseph Konopinski

School: Shaker Heights High School (Shaker Heights, Ohio)

Showtimes: 1:03 p.m., 4:55 p.m.



Title: *Ella Baker: A Pioneer of Grassroots Movements*

Student(s): Sunmit Hallur, Michael Makhoul, Esteban Pierrend

Teacher(s): Andrew Estes

School: BASIS Peoria (Peoria, Arizona)

Showtimes: 1:15 p.m., 5:06 p.m.

Title: *The Frontier of Richmond: Battleground for Segregation*

Student(s): Michael Trowsell

Teacher(s): Danny Wise

School: The New Community School (Richmond, Virginia)

Showtimes: 1:27 p.m., 5:17 p.m.

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.

About the National Museum of African American History and Culture

Since opening Sept. 24, 2016, the National Museum of African American History and Culture has welcomed more than 9 million in-person visitors and millions more through its digital presence. Occupying a prominent location next to the Washington Monument on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., the nearly 400,000-square-foot museum is the nation's largest and most comprehensive cultural destination devoted exclusively to exploring, documenting and showcasing the African American story and its impact on American and world history. For more information about the museum, visit nmaahc.si.edu follow @NMAAHC on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram or call Smithsonian information at (202) 633-1000.

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