

**National History Day  
In Pennsylvania  
Web Site Category  
Category Rules  
2006-2007**

**Web Site Entries and Divisions**

For the contest year 2006-2007 there will be a Junior Division and a Senior Division for the Web Site Category. Either Division may be entered by one individual or a group of up to three persons. Also, because the Web Site Category is not a National Category yet and to give every student a chance to move to Nationals, any person or persons entering the Web Site Category may also, but is not required to, enter another category of their choosing. **This exception is for this contest year only.**

**Judging Web Sites:**

The web sites will be judged in a similar fashion to the National History Day paper category, allowing the judges the opportunity to review the entry prior to the contest day. Judges will individually or in groups evaluate the web sites prior to the contest date. They will interview the students at the contest and look at the web site if technology is available, or use the web site print-out to discuss their evaluation with the students.

**Web Sites:**

A web site should reflect the student(s) ability to use web site design software and computer technology to communicate your topic's significance in history. The historical quality, analysis, and interpretation of your topic must be clear and evident to the viewer. Web sites are the most interactive of all NHD categories. In designing your entry, you should include elements that technologically complex, but they should let the audience participate in exploring the topic, rather than passively viewing information. Your presentation should include primary materials, but must also be an original production. To produce a web site, you must have access to appropriate software and equipment and be able to operate it.

**Rules:**

**Part II, Rules for all Categories, applies to Web Sites**

**Rule 1: Viewing Web Sites**

Judges must view web sites with a recent version of Internet Explorer at a resolution of 800 x 600.

**Rule 2: Size Requirements**

Web site entries may contain no more than 1,200 visible, student-composed words. Citations, code used to build the site, and alternate text tags on images do not count

toward the word limit. The word limit does not include words found in materials used for illustration, such as documents, artifacts or graphs not created by the students, or to quotations from primary sources such as oral history interviews, letters, or diaries, photos of artifacts with writing, or other illustrative materials that are used as an integral part of the web site. Brief citations crediting the sources of illustrations or quotations included on the web sites do count toward the 1,200-word limit. The entire site, including all multimedia, may use up to 50MB of file space.

Interpretation:

- The word limit only applies to student-composed words; that is, it does not apply to documents, oral history quotations, artifacts with writing, or other illustrative materials that are used as an integral part of the web site.
- Brief citations of quotations, visual materials, or multimedia do NOT count toward the word limit.
- Links (e.g. [www.nationalhistoryday.org](http://www.nationalhistoryday.org)) and dates (e.g. January 1, 1960) each count as one word. Words in names are counted separately (e.g. Franklin D. Roosevelt counts as three words).
- If judges suspect a web site exceeds the word limit, they may ask the contest coordinator to have someone count the words.
- If a web site uses only a few words or kilobytes of file space more than the maximum AND the judges believe the extra content provided no qualitative advantage in terms of the amount of interpretation or evidence included, then the judges may choose to note the infraction without reducing the entry's final ranking.
- If a web site exceeds the size limit by more than a few words or kilobytes of file space AND the judges believe the extra content gave the entry an unfair advantage, the judges should reduce the entry's final ranking. At the state level, such an entry should not be a medalist.

**Rule 3: Navigation**

One page of the web site must serve as the "home page." The home page must include the student's name, the title of the entry, the student's age division, and a main menu that directs viewers to the various sections of the site. All pages must be interconnected with hypertext links. Automatic redirects are NOT permitted.

**Rule 4: Multimedia**

A single multimedia clip may not last more than 45 seconds and may not include student-composed narration. (Narration that is NOT student-composed is permitted.) If an entry uses any form of multimedia requiring a plug-in (for example, Flash, QuickTime or Real Player), the student must provide on the same page a link to an Internet site where the plug-in is available as a free, secure, and legal download. Judges will make every effort to view all multimedia content, but files that cannot be viewed cannot be evaluated as part of the entry.

**Rule 5: External Links**

Entries may not link to live or external sites, except to direct viewers to plug-ins.

**Rule 6: Stable Content**

The content and appearance of a page may not change when the page is refreshed in the browser. Random text or image generators are NOT allowed.

**Rule 8: File Safety**

Entries that contain potentially harmful file contamination (e.g. a virus or worm) are subject to disqualification. Files will be scanned with virus detection software before distributing them to judges.

**Rule 9: Entry Production**

All entries must be original productions. Students may use professional photographs, graphics, video, recorded music, etc. within the site. Such items must be integrated into the web site and proper credit must be given within the site as well as in the annotated bibliography. Students must operate all software and equipment in the development of the web site. Students may NOT use objects created by others specifically for use in their entries but using graphics, multimedia clips, etc. that already exist is acceptable.

**Rule 10: Citations**

Citations – footnotes, endnotes or internal documentation – are required. Citations are used to credit the sources of specific ideas as well as direct quotations. Refer to “Rules for All Categories,” Part II, Rule 14, for citations styles.

**Rule 11: Submitting Entry for Judging**

Students will submit their projects on CD-R for advance viewing by judges. CD-Rs must be labeled only with the student’s name, division, and entry title; decorations or illustrations are not appropriate. Four CD-Rs must be accompanied by four hard copies of the student’s process paper, annotated bibliography, and print-outs of the site.

**Costumes**

Students in the web site category are not permitted to wear costumes that are related to their topic during judging.

**Discussion with Judges**

Students should be prepared to answer judges’ questions about the content and development of their entries, but they may not give a formal, prepared introduction, narration, or conclusion.

**Construction of Entry**

Students are responsible for the research, design, and creation of their own entries. They may receive help and advice from teachers and parents on the mechanical aspects of creating their entries: (1) typing the process paper and other written materials; (2) guidance from their teachers as they research and analyze the material, but their

conclusions must be their own; (3) photographs and slides may be commercially processed.

Interpretation:

- Students entering should do all of their research themselves and not share research or bibliographies with other students. In cases where students have shared research with other entrants, it is appropriate for the judges to reduce their final ranking.
- Students may receive reasonable help from adults on the mechanical aspects of creating their entries. Nonetheless, students should do as much of the mechanical work as possible.
- The intellectual aspects of the production, such as the actual composition of text and the web site design, must be the student's own work.
- It is up to the judges to decide, when appraising an entry, if adult assistance has exceeded acceptable levels and given the students an unfair advantage over others.
- Advice and guidance is encouraged and acceptable.