Cambria County Heritage Day

Handbook

Introduction

ABOUT THE CAMBRIA COUNTY HERITAGE DAY PROJECT

To participate in the Cambria County Heritage Day Project (CCHDP), you will research a topic related to some aspect of Cambria County history, then present your work in one of the categories defined herein.

CONTEST DIVISIONS

There will be two divisions based on your grade level.

Junior Division – grades 6, 7, 8
Senior Division – grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

CONTEST CATEGORIES

There are three categories in each division. Each division offers both individual and group participation options. Groups may be two to five students. Group members do not have to be in the same grade, but they must be in the same Division. The group project will be entered in the Division of the oldest group member.

CATEGORY	INDIVIDUAL	GROUP
Documentary	X	X
Exhibit	X	X
Website	X	X

Entries in each division and category will be judged separately at all levels of the competition. For example, Junior Documentary, Junior Exhibit, and Junior Website are all judged independently.

REWARDS FOR PARTICIPATION

The most important reward is the skill and knowledge you gained from doing your research and to contributing to increasing the understanding and history of Cambria County; however, achievements may be recognized through certificates, medals, trophies, or monetary awards.

ENTRY PROCEDURES

Both individuals and groups must register their entries online at www.cambriamemory.org by the deadline. Entrants will receive a confirmation email.

Preparing Your Entry

TOPIC

The challenge is to select a topic related to Cambria County history that provides a new interpretation of known events, uncovers new history, brings together multiple sources, is narrow enough to allow for a deep dive into the research, and which interests you.

A good topic will have many sources written by historians, sources created at the time of the event, and will be comprised of primary and secondary sources.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Historical context is the larger setting in which your topic took place. Consider the economic, social, intellectual, religious, cultural, and political conditions of the place and time. Pay attention to how your topic developed over time.

HISTORICAL ACCURACY

Historians must be accurate when presenting information about the past. You must present accurate historical facts before you can make your historical argument and interpret historical significance. If you find conflicting facts, you need to verify which are correct.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Significance refers to the impact or consequences of your topic. What occurred as a result of your topic, both in the short term and the long term? What changed or stayed the same? What impact did your topic have on society or on the course of human events? Think of historical significance as answering the question, "So what, why does this matter?"

HISTORICAL ARGUMENT

Your historical argument states the central point or focus of your project in two or three sentences. It is called the thesis or claim. Your argument should reflect your analysis of the historical evidence that you gathered.

Your historical argument must make a meaningful connection to the topic and shows why your topic is significant in history. It must be incorporated into your project and be clear to those who read or view it. **However, labeling your historical argument in or on your project is not required**.

Research

SOURCES

To build your knowledge about your topic, begin with secondary sources and the proceed to primary sources. Below is a list of sites to explore to learn the difference between primary and secondary sources.

Library of Congress – [What Makes a Primary Source a Primary Source?](#)

Bowling Green University – [Library Basics: Primary and Secondary Sources](#)

University of Massachusetts Boston – [Primary Sources: A Research Guide](#)

Harvard University – [Recognizing Secondary Sources](#)

City University of New York – [Secondary Sources](#)

STUDENT VOICE, ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, AND RULES COMPLIANCE

STUDENT VOICE

Student voice refers to your ideas and analysis. Your argument and your supporting analysis must be clear in your project. Do not let supporting evidence, such as quoted material from primary or secondary sources overwhelm your voice.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity refers to the honesty and originality of your project. This is YOUR project. It must reflect your research, your analysis and design. You must give credit to all of your sources.

Violations to academic integrity include:
• Intentionally presenting inaccurate information and/or forging documents
• Altering or inventing results, data, or conclusions for any assignment
• Altering or making up information or quotations that are passed off as authentic
• Plagiarism
      o Presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., not citing a source)
      o Using ideas from any source without providing proper citation of the source
      o Improper citation consists of excluding a source or misrepresenting a source
      o Copying or presenting material word for word from any source without using quotation marks and the proper citation of the source
      o Copying and/or altering a few words from a source in order to avoid exact quotation, without providing the proper citation of the source
      o Rewording (i.e., paraphrasing) an idea found in a source without providing proper citation of the source

Rules

ENTRY

- You may enter only one project (or entry) in one category.

INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP ENTRIES

- Individual entries must be the work of only one student.

- A group entry must be the work of two to five students

- All students in a group must be involved in the research and interpretation of the group's topic.

STUDENT RESEARCH

- You must complete the research, design, and creation of your project on your own.

- If you are part of a team, your team must work together to complete the research project.

- You may not submit someone else's research as your own

COPYRIGHT

The Fair Use doctrine allows for educational use of copyrighted material for non-commercial purposes. For this reason, you must not place your project in a nonacademic public setting, such as a commercial internet site without obtaining the permission of the copyright holder.
https://www.copyright.gov/fair-use/more-info.html

Required Written Materials for All Categories

RULE 1: PROJECT SHEET

Your entry must include the following written materials in order to be presented below:

1. A title page is required as the first page of your written materials in every category. Your title page must include only the title of your entry, your name(s), the contest division and category in which you are entered.
2. Print your written materials on plain white 8.5x11" paper, with 1-inch margins on all sides, in 12-point font in Times New Roman or Arial font.
3. Use single or double-sided printing
4. Staple materials in the top left corner. DO NOT enclose materials in a binder, folder, etc.

Categories

1. DOCUMENTARY

A documentary is an audio/visual presentation that uses multiple source types such as images, video and sound to communicate your historical argument, research, and interpretation of your topic's significance in history.

DOCUMENTARY ELEMENTS

- Your documentary must be an original production
- To produce your documentary, you must have access to equipment and be able to operate it.
- Your documentary must conform to all general and category rules.
- Documentaries may not exceed ten minutes in length.
- Timing of the documentary begins with the first visual image appears or the first sound is heard. Timing of the documentary ends when the last visual image and sound concludes, including source credits.
- You must be able to provide, open, and run the file containing your documentary
- Once the documentary begins, it must run on its own. No interaction of any kind with judges or the audience is allowed.
- Only you may write and narrate your documentary's script.
- Using materials created by others specifically for use in your entry is prohibited.
- You may use professional photographs, film, recorded music, etc. in your documentary, but use of these must adhere to all copyright rules.
- The last portion of your documentary must be a list of acknowledgments and credits for sources moving footage, interview, music, and images that appear in the documentary. These source credits must be brief – not full bibliographic citations and not annotated. Items found in the same collection can be included together in one credit.
- The list of source credits is included in the 10-minutes time limit. They must be readable.

- You must provide a complete bibliography with fully cited sources as part of your written materials.

2. EXHIBIT

An exhibit is a three-dimensional physical and visual representation of your historical argument, research, and interpretation of your topic's significance in history.

EXHIBIT ELEMENTS

- Your analysis must be clear and evident to the viewer in the exhibit itself. Do not rely on supplemental materials or media devices to deliver your messages as judges may not have time to view them.
- Your argument must be supported with, but not overwhelmed by, visual and textual evidence.
- Your exhibit must not include any takeaway items for judges or others.
- The overall size of our exhibit when displayed for judging must be no larger than 40 inches wide by 30 inches deep, and 72 inches high.
- Rely on your own analysis, primary sources, and visuals to tell your story. Use caution when deciding on the length and quantity of quotes, primary or secondary.
- Extensive supplemental material is inappropriate. Extraneous materials used as sources for your exhibit should be cited in your bibliography, but not attached to your bibliography or exhibit.
- All quotes and visual sources (e.g., photographs, paintings, charts, graphs) must be credited on the exhibit and cited in the bibliography.
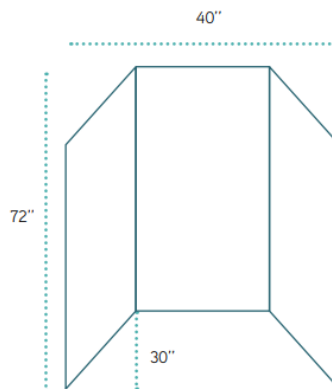
Front View of Stationary Exhibit with
Maximum Dimensions

3. WEBSITE

A website is a collection of interconnected web pages that uses multimedia to communicate your historical argument, research, and interpretation of your topic's significance in history.

WEBSITE ELEMENTS

- Your website must be an original production
- Your website must reflect your ability to use website design software and technology
- To construct a website, you must have access to the internet and appropriate software and equipment
- Your entry should be constructed using free webpage builders such as Google sites or Wordpress.
- You may use professional photographs, film, recorded music, etc. in your documentary, but use of these must adhere to all copyright rules.
- All pages must be interconnected with navigational links.
- Using objects or content created by others for specific use in your entry violates this rule. For example, adding viewer comments or using a graphic that others produced at your request is not permitted. However, using graphics, multimedia clips, etc. that already exist is acceptable.
- One page of the website my serve as your home page.
- Include the following on your home page.
    - Your name(s)
    - Entry title
    - Division and category
    - Total length of multimedia
    - The main menu that directs viewers to the various sections of the site.
- The home page must not include the name of your teacher or school
- The website may contain multimedia clips (audio, video, or both) that total no more than three minutes (e.g., use only one three-minute clip, three one-minute clips). Included in the three-minute total is any music or songs that play after a page loads.
- You may record quotes and primary source materials for dramatic effect, but you may not narrate your own compositions or other explanatory material.
- If you use any form of multimedia that requires a specific software to view (e.g., Flash, QuickTime, Real Player), you must provide on the same page a link to a website where the software is available as a free, secure, and legal download.
- You may not use content that is hosted on an external website or link to external websites, other than described in the preceding bullet.
- Judges will make every effort to view all multimedia content, but files that cannot be viewed cannot be evaluated as part of the entry.
- All quotes and visual sources (e.g., photographs, paintings, charts, graphs) must be credited on the website and cited in the annotated bibliography.
- You must remove the hyperlink from all URLs listed within a website's on-screen source credit.
- The pages must be viewable in a recent version of a standard web browser (e.g., Microsoft Edge, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, Google Chrome)
- Your project sheet information and bibliography must be included as an integrated part of the website. They must be in .pdf format. They must be included in the navigational structure. Because this information is included in the site, no printed copies are required.

Entry Evaluation

JUDGES

Judges for the competition will be historians, educators, and others interested in history and education.

CONSENSUS JUDGING

After viewing all entries in a division and category, the judges will not assign a numerical score to each entry but will work together to rank the entries in the group after fully evaluating all of the entries and discussing the strengths and areas for improvement of each entry based on the evaluation criteria.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Judges will use a variety of evaluation criteria for determining the historical significance of your entry. These criteria will include: use of primary sources, if the presentation of the information is grammatically correct and accurately spelled, is the analysis you did and the conclusions you have drawn from the historical data reasonable, what the information presented in an understandable and logical way.

DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES IS FINAL

Judges alone will determine each entry's ranking and whether a project receives recognition. The decision of the judges is final.

This handbook was created using "The National History Day Contest Rule Book" June 22, 2020 Edition. https://www.nhd.org/how-enter-contest