

What to Expect on Competition Day: Montana National History Day State Competition

- Registration will be from 8:30--9:45 am at Sacajawea Middle School in Bozeman, MT.
- All students are required to be present for the judging of their entry
- The public may be present for the judging of documentaries and performances. Exhibits will be available for **public viewing from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm (after the interviews are completed)**. The public is not present for the judging of websites or the interview for exhibits
- All Exhibits must be set---up in the exhibit hall **NO LATER THAN 9:45 am** on Saturday, April 2, 2016.
- **Professional Dress:** Your project represents many hours of hard work. Dress to Impress!
- Make sure you are **ON TIME** for presentation or interview. You should plan to arrive at least 10 minutes early before your scheduled time. We have a tight schedule and will follow it closely.

What will the Judging Process be like?

Documentaries

- Arrive at your room 5---10 minutes before your scheduled time.
- Bring 3 copies of your paperwork (title page, process paper, annotated bibliography—in that order). As you enter the room, present this paperwork to the judges. Your judges will review this while you are setting up and preparing to present.
- After giving your paperwork to the judges, use the teacher's station computer to log---in and set up your documentary.
- According to the official NHD rules, you have 5 minutes to set up 5 minutes to take down. Your documentary should be NO LONGER than 10 minutes.
- Wait for a cue from the judges before you begin (they will be reading over your paperwork).
- If necessary, you may test the volume of your documentary before you officially begin.
- When ready, introduce yourself to the judges and the title of your project.
Ex: My(our) name(s) is(are)_____. My(our) project is titled_____.
- Stand quietly next to the projector screen while you play your documentary for the judges.
- Keep your hands by your side or folded in front of you
Relax...breathe...
- When the documentary is over, wait for the judges cue to begin answering questions-----they will be writing comments on your judging sheet.
- Answer questions from the judges; speak loudly and make sure ALL group members (if applicable) answer questions.
- When you are finished, thank the judges for their time! (They are volunteers).

Exhibits

- ALL EXHIBITS MUST SET---UP IN THE LIBRARY ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON (4:15--6:00pm)
- Make sure that you follow the official NHD guidelines concerning the size (no more than 6 feet tall, 40 inches wide and 30 inches deep) and word limit of exhibits (no more than 500 student composed words).
- You should be present and prepared to defend/explain your board to the judges during your judging time. (Contest schedule will be available when you arrive at registration).
- Bring 3 copies of your paperwork (title page, process paper, annotated bibliography—in that order). Place these stapled packets on the table IN FRONT OF your exhibit; these are for the judges to look at while viewing your exhibit.
- When the judges are ready to view your project and begin judging, introduce yourselves and the title of your project.
- Ex: My(our) name(s) is(are)_____. Our project is titled_____.
- After the judges view your project, they will ask you questions. See list of possible questions below and be prepared to answer.
- When you are finished, thank the judges for their time! (They are volunteers).

Websites

- You should be present and prepared to defend/explain your board to the judges during your judging time. (Contest schedule to be posted week of January 4).
- All websites must be made using WEEBLY. Access this program from the NHD web site at www.nhd.org.
- Make sure you follow the official NHD guidelines concerning websites. No more than 1,200 student composed words and no larger than 100MB. Links to outside web sites are not allowed and you must include your annotated bibliography on your web page (this does not count toward your word limit).
- Bring 3 copies of your paperwork (title page, process paper, annotated

bibliography—in that order). Place these stapled packets on the table next to or in front of the computer on which your web site is displayed. These are for the judges to review while viewing your project.

- When the judges are ready to view your project and begin judging, introduce yourselves and the title of your project. Ex: My(our) name(s) is(are)_____. Our project is titled_____.
- After the judges view your project, they will ask you questions. See list of possible questions below and be prepared to answer.
- When you are finished, thank the judges for their time! (They are volunteers).

Performances

- Arrive at your room 5---10 minutes before your scheduled time
- Make sure you follow official NHD guidelines concerning performances. You have 5 minutes to set up and 5 minutes to take down your props. Your performance must be no longer than 10 minutes.
- Bring 3 copies of your paperwork (title page, process paper, annotated bibliography—in that order). As you enter the room, present this paperwork to the judges. Your judges will review this while you are setting up and preparing to perform.
- When the judges are ready to watch your performance, introduce yourself and the title of your project.
- Ex: My(our) name(s) is(are)_____. Our project is titled_____.
- After your presentation, the judges will ask you questions. See list of possible questions below and be prepared to answer.
- When you are finished, thank the judges for their time! (They are volunteers).

What kinds of questions will the judges ask?

Possible questions from judges during judging process:

- How and why did you choose your topic?
- What was the most interesting thing you learned while completing your project?
- What was the most interesting and/or most helpful source you found while doing your research? Why was it the most helpful?
- Why did you choose your project category?
- How did you complete your project? What steps did you take/carry out?
- What was the most difficult thing you encountered while completing your project?

Content specific questions and facts about your topic. They more than likely will not ask very specific questions about dates and specific details. However, you should know and be prepared to explain the basic details and argument presented in your project.