



NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099
785-272-8681

REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

Contacts:

Bobbie Athon • 785-272-8681, ext. 262 • bathon@kshs.org
Teresa Jenkins • 785-272-8681, ext. 263 • tjenkins@kshs.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2009

KANSAS STUDENTS WIN HONORS AT NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

Topekan awarded four-year tuition to Case Western Reserve University

TOPEKA, KS—The Kansas Historical Society announced that of the 53 Kansas students competing this week at the Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest in College Park, Maryland, 11 will come home with medals or scholarships.

One Kansan received a medal as part of the divisional competitions. Cooper Self, Topeka Collegiate School, Topeka, won the silver in the junior individual exhibit division for his exhibit, "Harry Colmery Writes the First G.I. Bill: The Making of the American Middle Class." Self's teachers are Scott Shipman, John MacDonald, and Lanny Moyer.

Two entries from each state are given the outstanding state entry award. The Kansas winners for the junior division were:

- Junior division: Robert Horton and Trenton Miller, Seaman Middle School, Topeka, for their junior group documentary, "Billy Mills: Every Passion Has Its Destiny." Their teacher is Kyle Johnson.
- Senior division: Reanda Mims, Grant Stucky, and Keenan Gregory, Fort Scott Senior High School, Fort Scott, for their senior group performance, "A Recipe for Legacy: 35 MM and a Wide Angle Lens." Their teacher is Megan Felt.

Several special awards were also presented at the awards ceremony. The Kansas winners were:

- Award for Outstanding 20th Century Political History: Carolyn Roderer and Trent Rhodes, Haven High School, Haven, for their senior group documentary, "Ahead of his Time: J.M. Keynes and his Economic Legacy." Their teacher is Vicki Galloway.
- History Channel Award for Outstanding Entry on an International Theme (\$5,000 scholarship to be shared by winners): Anna Stone and Lindsay Frank, Ottawa Senior High School, Ottawa, for their senior group exhibit, "Gavrilo Princip: Forgotten Man, Unforgettable Legacy." Their teacher is Candie Campbell.

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of the Case Western Reserve University David Van Tassel Founder Award. Van Tassel was the founder of National History Day and was a professor at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. The winner of the award, a four-year tuition scholarship to Case Western, was Sjobor Hammer, Topeka High School, Topeka, for her senior individual documentary “‘With Dignity and Purpose’: Ron Walters and the Sit-In at Dockum Drug Store.” Hammer’s teacher is Harry M. Peterson, Jr.

Fifty-three Kansas students qualified in state competition to advance to National History Day. Throughout the school year more than 1,000 students statewide and more than 500,000 nationwide worked, researched, and tracked primary sources for their projects. Kansas students grades six through twelve compete in junior and senior categories, divided by individuals and groups in performances, documentaries, papers, exhibits, and websites.

The Kansas Historical Society, a state agency, has administered the Kansas History Day program for the past 27 years. For more information visit kshs.org.

The Kansas Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Historical Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.