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### **DSMS Students Honored in State Competitions**

Four DSMS students were recently honored in state competitions. Three eighth-graders won a Silver Key Award in the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission Video Contest, and a seventh grader was honored in the National History Day contest.

Eighth-graders Seth Friesenhahn, Eli Tod and Dylan Wolfe won a Silver Key Award in the annual Student Video Contest sponsored by the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission. They submitted a three-minute video that addressed the theme "Standing Up for Others." The three will share a \$200 scholarship. The statewide Student Video Contest has two entry categories: a high school division and a middle school division, each with Gold Key, Silver Key, and Bronze Key awards.

A total of 16 DSMS students entered videos in small groups from Pre-AP ELA classes as part of the Anne Frank/Holocaust unit of study.

In addition, DSMS seventh-grader Karsten Bobb placed first in the Central Texas Regional History Day Contest in the "Individual Paper" category. She earned the right to advance to the state competition, where her paper competed against middle school and high school students. Karsten, a seventh-grader in Kibbie Jensen's Texas History class, received a "Regional Honors" Award, a state-level honor reserved for the highest-placing students in each category.

National History Day is year-long academic program focused on historical research, interpretation and creative expression for students in Grades 6-12. It culminates with students competing at local (school), regional (area), and state competitions for the honor of representing the State at the National Contest. This year's theme was "Taking a Stand in

History" and Karsten researched Dr. Sun Yat-sen the father of Modern China. In addition to conducting research, Karsten had to defend her research in front of a panel of 3 judges at both the regional and state competition.