

DATE: February 26, 2018

SSMS QUALIFY FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY STATE CONTEST

Students from Sycamore Springs Middle School participated in the Central Texas competition of the National History Day Contest Feb. 24, with nine projects moving on to the state level. This is the first time that DSISD has entered an organized contingency of students in this contest, which continues to the state and national levels. Entries that finished in the top two places will advance to the state contest April 28 at the University of Texas at Austin.

Every year National History Day Contest frames students' research within a historical theme. The theme is chosen for the broad application to world, national, or state history and its relevance to ancient history or to the more recent past. This year's theme is "Conflict and Compromise in History." Students may enter in several different categories.

Two SSMS projects took first place at the regional contest: one in the Individual Website category by Luke Bohan titled "Battle of the Sexes" and one in the Group Website category by Cade Brunson, Joshua Oliphant, and Boston Papp titled "Imprisonment of the Innocent: Japanese Internment After the Deadly Attacks on Pearl Harbor." That group website also won a special award, presented by the George Washington Carver Museum.

Seven projects took second place in multiple categories. Aidan Brunner placed second in Individual Documentary for "The Conflict and Compromise of Iwo Jima During WW2," and Noah Belyea and Ethan Nebrig placed second in Group Documentary for "The Fight for Pet Safety." Mickey Cost placed second in Individual Website for "Magna Carta," and Priya Chandrani, Ali Gartner, and Krystin Nixon placed second in Group Website for "Thirteen Days on the Brink of Nuclear War." In the Individual Exhibit category, Morgan Adams placed second for "Vietnam War: The Draft Effects." Morgan's project was honored

with the Texas Military Forces Museum Military History Award. Hunter Mead placed second in the Individual Performance category for "The 1936 Nazi Olympics," and Presley Cochran and Kaleigh Howell placed second in Group Performance for "The Devil Who Took Over Salem."

All projects listed above will move on to the state contest.

Seven projects took third in multiple categories. Rylee Ekberg placed third in Individual Documentary for "Children of the Holocaust," and Presley Alford, Olivia Almager, Rebecca Calles, Arabela Grijalva, and Mia Simons placed third in Group Documentary for "It's Walt's Fault: The Story of Walt Disney." Emma Williamson placed third in the Individual Website category for "Bloody Mary: England's Most Cruel Yet Catholic Queen, Burning Almost 300 Protestants at the Stake," and Tate Anderson, Vivek Ramadhar, and Austin Van Burkleo placed third in the Group Website category for "Dunkirk." Taylor Anderson placed third in the Historical Papers Category for "U.S. Government After Pearl Harbor Attack." Jordan Cox placed third in Individual Exhibits for "Thanksgiving Unrolled" and Hailey Jarvis and Rylie Jensen placed third in the Group Exhibits for "A Wall to Heal."