



**March 9, 2024**  
**WNY History Day Winners &  
NYSHD Qualifiers**



Western New York History Day, a year-long educational program proudly sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Council of Social Studies (NFCSS), Buffalo History Museum, and NYS 140<sup>th</sup> Assemblymember Bill Conrad. It encourages students to explore local, state, national, and world history. After selecting a historical topic that relates to an annual theme, students conduct extensive research by using libraries, archives, museums, and oral history interviews. They analyze and interpret their findings, draw conclusions about their topics' significance in history, and create final projects that present their work. These projects can be entered into a series of competitions, from the local to the national level, where they are evaluated by professional historians and educators.

**\*All First and Second Place Entries Qualify for NYS History Day\***

**Junior Historic Papers**

First Place- ***How X-Rays Changed American Medical History*** Evan Iversen (Akron Middle School, Advisor Daric Brege)

Second Place-***Dream to Disaster: How Love Canal Was a Turing Point in Environmental Justice and Human Rights*** Josephine MacDonald (BPS #195 City Honors School, Advisor Jennifer Reiss)

Third Place-***2007-2008 Writers Guild Strike*** Susetta Gonsiorek (West Seneca East Middle School, Advisor David Papke)

**Senior Historic Papers**

First Place- ***Bombs Away*** Maddy Whitesell (Westfield High School, Advisor Steve Holberg)

Second Place ***Antebellum America: A Turning Point in History*** Ava Azizoghli (BPS #195 City Honors School, Advisor Molly Stock)

**Junior Group Documentary**

First Place- ***Columbine Massacre and its Effects on the World*** Adelaide Mandell & Hannah Liss (Akron Central Schools, Advisor Deric Brege)

Second Place- ***Michael Jackson*** Mirah Norman, Zoe Hartnet & Ellie Peckham (West Seneca East Middle School, Advisor David Papke)

Third Place- ***Steroid Era in Baseball*** Anthony Pieri, Caleb Handzik, Matthew Mihalics, Thomas Nguyen (West Seneca West Middle, Advisor Patrick Weir)

### **Senior Individual Documentary**

First Place- *Les Paul: The Technology That Changed Music* Joseph Hogues (BPS #304 Hutchinson Central Technical High School. Advisor Kevin Gibson)

### **Senior Group Documentary**

First Place- *Breaking Barriers: Jackie Robinson Legacy in American History* Lance Franklin, Langston Bias, Logan Baum, Nolan Anderson, Seth Zielinski (Westfield High School. Advisor Steven Holmberg)

Second Place- *The Ogoniland Oil Crisis* Akeef Chowdhury, Zigabor Banuna, Naing Thang (BPS #304 Hutchinson Central Technical High School. Advisor Kevin Gibson)

### **Junior Group Website**

First Place- *The Holocaust* Aubrey Schutt, Hayden Lyons (West Seneca West Middle, Advisor Patrick Weir)

Second Place- *The Structure of DNA Scandal* Amelia Houseman, Faye Kitchen (West Seneca West Middle, Advisor Patrick Weir)

Third Place- *Plankalkul* Conrad Poczciwinski, Evan Thompson (West Seneca East Middle, Advisor David Papke)

### **Senior Individual Website**

First Place- *From Earth to the Moon: The Epic Apollo Landing Journey:* Halima Ali (BPS #212 Leonardo DaVinci High School, Advisor Julia Tomaka)

Second Place- *The Holocaust: How it Changed the World* Rukia Omar (BPS #212 Leonardo DaVinci High School, Advisor Julia Tomaka)

### **Junior Individual Exhibit**

First Place- *Yellowstone: Start of a Conservation Legacy* McKenna Barrett (Iroquois School District, Advisor Ryan Barrett)

Second Place- - *The Easter Rising* Rowan Mannion (West Seneca West Middle, Advisor Patrick Weir)

Third Place- *Important Women in Jazz History* Savannah Thompson (West Seneca West Middle, Advisor Patrick Weir)

### **Junior Group Exhibit**

First Place- *Susan B. Anthony Casts Her Ballot* Nushrat Islam, Tasneem Manha & Honor Gayles (BPS #195 City Honors School, Advisor Jennifer Reiss)

Second Place- *Dropping the Bomb: America's Call to War* Lucas Adamczyk-Turkovich, Aiden Meier & Brady Roberts (BPS #195 City Honors School, Advisor Jennifer Reiss)

Third Place- *The Jones-Shafroth Act A Turning Point for Puerto Rico* Angel Martinez, Jayleen Pagan, & Yadiel Rojas Ramos (BPS #33 Bilingual Center, Advisor John Simpson & Dr. Timothy Monreal)

### **Senior Group Exhibit**

First Place- *Alice Paul's Incrimination: A Turning Point For Women's Suffrage* Pam Curtiss, Rachael Heusinger (West Seneca East High School. Advisor Kara Welgoss)

### **Junior Group Performance**

First Place- *Hedy Lamar: The Hollywood Star Who Transformed Technology Yet Titled* Abygail Bishop, Keiara Wells, Mya Wilder-Soules, Elena Lovett & Miranda Bryant (BPS #192 Buffalo Academy for the Visual and Performing Arts School, Advisor Kelly Beuth)

### **Senior Group Performance**

First Place- *How the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire Wasted Lives* Ella Chagnon, Liberty Maring, Mary Quagliana, Sage Zachmann (Westfield High School. Advisor Steven Holmberg)

**20 PROJECTS AND 43 STUDENTS IN ALL 5 CATEGORIES HAVE  
QUALIFIED FOR NYS HISTORY DAY ON SUNDAY APRIL 14, 2024**

**AT SUNY ONEONTA**



## **2024 WNY History Day Event Special Awards**

**Best Overall Entry:** Sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Council of Social Studies.

***The Columbine Massacre and It's Effect on the World***

**Best Local History Entry:** Sponsored by the Buffalo History Museum.

***Dream to Disaster: How Love Canal is a Turning Point***

**Best Sports Themed Entry:** Sponsored by the Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame.

***The 1936 Berlin Olympics***

**Best Political Themed Entry:** Sponsored by the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site.

***The Jones-Shafroth Act: A Turning Point for Puerto Rico***

**Best Military Themed Entry:** Sponsored by the Buffalo/Erie County Naval & Military Park

***Dropping The Bomb: America's Call to War***

**Best Presidential Themed Entry:** Sponsored by the Buffalo Presidential Center

***Yellowstone: Start of a Conservation Legacy***

**Best Science Themed Entry:** Sponsored by the Buffalo Museum of Science

***Marie Curie***

**Best Education Themed Entry:** Sponsored by Canisius University

***The True Dr. Seuss***

**Best African American History Entry:** Sponsored by the Afro-American Historical Assoc. of the Niagara Frontier

***Misty Copeland***

**WNY History Day Teacher of the Year:** Sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Council of Social Studies.

***Hon. Bill Conrad and Peter Stuhlmiller Ken-Ton Schools***

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