



## PRESS RELEASE

### National History Day – California (NHD-CA)



## Seven California Entries Earn Medals at National History Day

-- MARYLAND – June 21, 2022 --

On Saturday, June 18, National History Day® (NHD) presented the awards for the 2022 NHD National Contest in a live-streamed ceremony. Seven California entries and sixteen students earned top honors at the 2022 Virtual National History Day Contest June 12-16. In addition, eight California entries were named finalists and two entries were named Outstanding In State. More than 600,000 middle and high school students entered the competition during the 2021/2022 academic school year, creating projects related to the theme *Debate & Diplomacy; Successes, Failures, Consequences*. After advancing through school, local, and state competitions, just over 2,700 students advanced to the National Contest presenting documentaries, exhibits, papers, performances, and websites.

Each fall students nationwide begin the year-long National History Day program. Students begin by creating projects in the classroom and then move on to compete in a series of history contests progressing from district to county, and then on to the state contest. Participating students choose their own topics of study and research from original sources based on this year’s theme. National History Day students research historic documents and artifacts, conduct oral histories, search the archives and libraries for information on their topic, and travel to historic sites. They present their work in a variety of ways including: exhibits, documentaries, websites, original performances, or traditional research papers. In California more than 40,000 students participate in National History Day each year. Sixty-four of the 1,238 students who competed at the NHD-CA contest in early May qualified to advance to the National History Day competition. Historians and other education professionals evaluate the students work at the national competition. \$150,000 in scholarships are awarded at the awards ceremony, and approximately 100 students took home cash prizes between \$250 and \$5,000 for superior work in a particular category of judging.

**Winners and finalists are listed on following pages.**

**For More Information or to contact students for interviews or photos:**

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Website: [www.nhdca.org](http://www.nhdca.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NHD>

National History Day - California is run by the Sacramento County Office of Education in partnership with county coordinators from throughout the state.



# 2022 NHD Winners & Finalists



## National Winners

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### First Place

#### Senior Individual Exhibit

*"A World Without War": Women Empowered Debate and Diplomacy at the Hague*

**Students:** Riya Gupta

**Teacher:** Deanna Myers  
Northwood High School  
Orange County

#### Senior Individual Performance

*The Diplomacy that Launched a Nation: The Exodus 1947*

**Student:** Alexander Fan

**Teacher:** Bryan Deger  
Centennial High School  
Kern County

#### Junior Historical Paper

*The Cod Wars: Iceland's Victory Through Diplomacy and the Global Consequences of Their Success*

**Student:** Alexander Miller

**Teacher:** Jon Pang  
Lakeside Middle School  
Orange County

### Second Place

#### Senior Group Website

*We're Not Experiments: Shaping Medical Ethics Through The Nuremberg Code*

**Students:** Nataly Lopez, Sofia Sevilla

**Teacher:** Devin Beliveau  
Samueli Academy  
Orange County

#### Junior Group Performance

*The Failure of Diplomacy: How International Indecisiveness Damaged the Climate*

**Students:** Alissa Phillips, Ananya Rege

**Teacher:** Jay Lee  
Bert Lynn Middle  
Los Angeles County

### Third Place

#### Senior Individual Website

*Pass the Salt: Water Diplomacy in the U.S.-Mexico Salinity Crisis*

**Students:** Shea McGrath

**Teacher:** Joseph Kurz, Mary Ong-Dean  
Francis Parker School  
San Diego County

#### Senior Group Performance

*On the Brink of Armageddon*

**Students:** Max Timmons, Noah Marquez, Saahil Chaddha, Zachary Zinman, Siddharth Kamannavar

**Teacher:** Faith Daly  
Saratoga High School  
Santa Clara County

## National Finalists

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### Senior Individual Exhibit (5<sup>th</sup>)

*"This Insidious Practice": Debate and Diplomacy in the Fight for Fair Housing Rights in California*

**Student:** Felix Chen  
**Teacher:** Fiona Griffiths  
The Harker School  
Santa Clara County

### Senior Group Exhibit (5<sup>th</sup>)

*Abstract Expressionist Art in the American National Exhibition: Modernist Culture as a Diplomatic Weapon*

**Students:** Allison Yue, Deul Choi, Sol Choi  
**Teacher:** Jane Koch  
University High School  
Orange County

### Junior Individual Performance (4<sup>th</sup>)

*Unsung Ambassador: Jackie Kennedy's Soft Diplomacy Ends a War and Stirs a Debate Over the Role of the First Lady*

**Student:** Supriti Bhopale  
**Teacher:** Monique Burtschell  
Sandpiper School  
San Mateo County

### Junior Individual Performance (6<sup>th</sup>)

*Yu Gwan Sun: A Martyr of the Korean Independence Movement*

**Student:** Susan Kim  
**Teacher:** Jonathan Millers  
Sierra Vista Middle School  
Orange County

### Senior Group Performance (7<sup>th</sup>)

*The American Occupation of Haiti: The Dark Side of Diplomacy*

**Students:** Dzifa Ackuayi, Eve Youkana, Baani Pannu, Saloni Bansal  
**Teacher:** David Tanaka  
Modesto High School  
Stanislaus County

### Senior Individual Website (7<sup>th</sup>)

*Dr. Ludwig Guttmann: How a Medical Pioneer Fostered Diplomacy Through His Successful Creation of the Paralympic Games*

**Student:** Anjana Chandrasekhar  
**Teacher:** Christopher Hertzog  
Stockdale High School  
Kern County

### Senior Group Website (7<sup>th</sup>)

*Separate but Equal: Brown v. Board of Education and the Desegregation Debate*

**Students:** Adviti Aleti, Stuthi Kandula  
**Teacher:** Andrew Wengel  
Dougherty Valley High School  
Contra Costa County

### Junior Group Website (9<sup>th</sup>)

*Judy Blume & The Battle Against Book Censorship*

**Students:** Isabelle Yang, Yongjing Li, Zixuan Cui  
**Teacher:** Christopher Hertzog  
Stockdale High School  
Kern County

## Outstanding In State

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### Junior Division

#### Junior Individual Exhibit

*Comfort Women: Sparking Debate and Igniting Diplomacy for Human Rights, Justice, and Honor*

**Student:** Emily Shin

**Teacher:** Brandon Smith

Corona Fundamental Intermediate School  
Riverside County

### Senior Division

#### Senior Historical Paper

*The Tinsley Voluntary Transfer Program: How a Decade of Courtroom Debate Resulted in a Compromise to Desegregate Mid-Peninsula Schools*

**Student:** Sheryl Chen

**Teacher:** Jackson Shaad

Menlo-Atherton High School  
San Mateo County