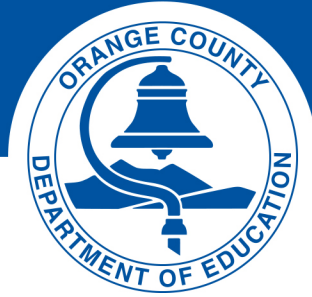


# NEWS RELEASE

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## **More than 550 students prepare for National History Day-Orange County competition**

This year's projects will focus on the theme of 'Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History'

COSTA MESA, Calif., March 1, 2016 – More than 550 young historians representing 38 schools and a dozen school districts will once again showcase their original websites, papers, documentaries, performances and exhibits at the National History Day-Orange County competition. The event will be hosted by the Orange County Department of Education and held on its main campus on Saturday, March 12.

Each year, more than 500,000 students in grades four through 12 take part in National History Day contests at the local, state and national levels. Participants, working as individuals or teams, must conduct extensive research on a historical topic before submitting in-depth projects related to the year's specific theme. Student projects can take the form of an original paper, a website, an exhibit, a performance or even a documentary.

This year's theme is "Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History." Capping months of research and preparation, entries from throughout Orange County will be displayed and judged from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on March 12. The 2016 NHD-OC awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday, March 16, also at OCDE's main campus.

The top submissions from the National History Day-Orange County competition will travel to the state finals in May, and California's highest-scoring projects will advance to the Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park in June.

For more information, contact Coordinator Rob Vicario at 714-966-4447 or [rvicario@ocde.us](mailto:rvicario@ocde.us), or visit the NHD-OC website at [www.ocde.us/History/Pages/History-Day.aspx](http://www.ocde.us/History/Pages/History-Day.aspx).

WHAT: National History Day-Orange County competition

WHEN: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 12, 2016

WHERE: Orange County Department of Education, 200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

COST: There is no cost to attend.

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