

The History Day Project

Rules: By Entry Type

Students and educators should read all rules before students start planning and developing their entries.

Documentary Rules

○ TIME REQUIREMENTS

- May not exceed ten minutes in length
 - Includes the required end credits
- Timing begins at the first sound or image and ends at the last sound or image
- Up to five minutes for setup
 - Includes testing audio/video, if needed
- Up to five minutes for removal/interview

○ PRODUCTION

- Students must write, film, narrate, and edit the documentary themselves, including running all equipment and software
 - Only the student(s) and interview subjects may be recorded for the film
- The entry must be an original production
- You may use professional photographs, film, music, etc., if cited properly in both the credits and annotated bibliography
- End credits are required for all sources used
 - Credits are not required throughout the film; only brief, factual credits at the end

○ INTRODUCTION/PRESENTATION

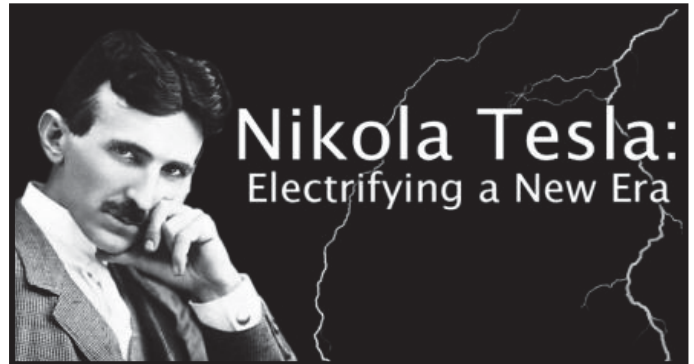
- Students may only announce the title of the entry and name(s) of participant(s)
- No comments or live narration are allowed prior to or during the film
- Students must run all equipment
- Judges and audience members may not be asked to participate in the presentation

○ REQUIRED PAPERWORK

- Three copies of the title page, process paper, and annotated bibliography (in proper formats) should be given to judges
- Bring an extra copy of all paperwork

Technology Can Fail!

Bring at least one extra copy of the film on a disc, USB drive, or other portable storage device.



*Documentary by Ethan Perrin, Anand Nambakam, and Kevin Nakahara, STEM High School
They won the gold medal for their documentary at the 2013 National contest*

Citations vs. End Credits

Citations belong in the bibliography. Students should include a full bibliographic citation and annotation for each source used.

End Credits belong at the end of the documentary. Students should include all sources used, but neither a full bibliographic citation nor an annotation are needed in the credits.



Documentary by Jeffrey Maxwell, Jake Millman, Ray Fung, and Eric Zhu, Northshore Junior High School

See the **NHD Rule Book** for a complete list of rules and appendix **Worksheet 5** for a checklist including rules compliance. Paperwork rules are discussed in the Paperwork section (p.21-22).