The History Day Project

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

Exhibit Rules

- **SIZE LIMITS**
  - Stationary exhibits: up to 40” wide x 30” deep x 6’ high
  - Rotating exhibits: up to 30” in diameter
  - Measurements do not include the table, but do include any stands and/or table drapes

- **WORD LIMIT**
  - No more than 500 student-composed words
  - Includes titles, subtitles, captions, graphs, timelines, media devices, and supplemental materials.
  - Does not include brief, factual credits.

- **MEDIA DEVICES (DVD players, tablets, mp3s, etc.)**
  - Media may not run longer than three minutes
  - Judges/viewers must be able to control the device
  - Media devices are included within the size limit
  - Media are included in the word count
    - Includes interview questions, narration, graphics, etc. shown or heard that are student-composed.
  - Any media used should be integral to the exhibit, not a method to bypass the prohibition on live narration.

- **CREDITING SOURCES**
  - ALL quotes must be credited on the exhibit
  - ALL visual sources must be credited on the exhibit AND fully cited in the bibliography

- **REQUIRED PAPERWORK**
  - Three copies of the title page, process paper, and annotated bibliography (in proper formats) should be set out for the judges with the exhibit
  - Bring an extra copy of all paperwork

Counting Words

Dates: count as one word
(May 6, 1770 = 1)
Names: each part counts as one word (John Quincy Adams = 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Captions</th>
<th>vs.</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>vs.</th>
<th>Citations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Captions go on the exhibit and explain or give context to items on the board.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brief, factual credits go on the exhibit and help locate the item in the annotated bibliography.</td>
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<td>Citations go in the bibliography and show where the item came from.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abraham Lincoln was the 16th president of the United States.</td>
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<td>Portrait of Abraham Lincoln, 1860, Smithsonian Institution</td>
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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).