YOUNG HISTORIANS WIN AWARDS DURING STATE CONVENTION

(NOTE TO EDITORS: Award winners from each county are listed at the end of the release. An image of the winners is included in links.)

Nearly 450 students, advisers and parents from across North Carolina gathered at the N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh this spring for the 2018 Tar Heel Junior Historian Association (THJHA) Annual Convention. The all-day event featured dynamic learning experiences that help young people appreciate and understand North Carolina’s rich history.

At the April 27 convention students participated in engaging workshops based on Tar Heel Junior Historian magazine topics from the past 2017-2018 school year including Blackbeard, underwater archeology, and the history of North Carolina clothing. Students also had the opportunity to explore museum exhibits. The Museum of History and the Museum of History Associates co-sponsored the statewide convention.

The Awards Ceremony, an annual highlight, recognized junior historians for outstanding projects submitted in THJHA contests. The projects encourage students to research the historical significance of people, places and events in their own communities.

All winning projects are showcased for a year in the exhibit History in Every Direction: Tar Heel Junior Historian Association Discovery Gallery, featuring fun and informative hands-on history activities.

“We had a lot of great clubs attend the event this year, with groups from as far away as Asheville and Morehead City,” said Jessica Pratt, THJHA program coordinator. “The student projects covered a variety of North Carolina history topics, and I was once again blown away by their work.”

Student, Chapter and Adviser THJHA Award Winners

Awards are given for outstanding THJHA chapters and advisers, as well as student projects. Categories of competition include media projects, art projects, literary projects and essays, an artifact search, photography projects, and a state history quiz.

Projects encourage students to understand and appreciate our state’s heritage. Groups as well as individuals received awards.

The 2018 Chapter of the Year award went to the RMA Jr. Historians from Rocky Mount Academy. The year started off with students learning about primary and secondary sources and what makes a great annotated bibliography. Then they put their new skills to work! For their contest entries, the RMA Jr.
Historians—lead by adviser Angela Davis—researched influential people from their local community of Nash County. They searched online databases, conducted oral history interviews, and created their own book with the information they compiled. The book was even published and is being sold in Rocky Mount.

The 2018 Adviser of the Year went to Matthew Richards of Piedmont Patriot Historians from Piedmont Community Charter School. Richards has been a club leader for more than 10 years, and with his guidance and leadership, the Piedmont Patriot Historians have thrived. This year alone, students have hosted an event to honor area veterans, partnered with their local museum for additional learning opportunities, and participated in field trips around the state.

The Peluso Junior Historians from Peluso Christian Academy in New Bern received the 2018 Rookie Chapter of the Year. This year, the Peluso Junior Historians members explored several of North Carolina’s historic sites including the CSS Neuse, Bath, and Fort Macon. They regularly partner with their local historic site, Tyron Palace, and help with historical interpretation of colonial games. The club has also partnered with is the North Carolina Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association.

*2018 THJHA Winners From Buncombe County*

Winners from Smith-McDowell House, Asheville

The SMH Over History club, sponsored by the Smith-McDowell House Museum in Asheville, received a History in Action Award for their Living History Day entry.

Individual awards went to Lilliann Stockham as a winner in the Artifact Search Contest, Noela Moraga for first place in the Institutional/Public Buildings Photography Contest, and Olivia Moraga for first place in the Commercial/Industrial Buildings Photography Contest. Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7ptck21o37umz9i/AABBEnUh8um88uSuzBq4X-O45a?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners From Carteret County*

Winners from Morehead Elementary School, Morehead City

The Morehead Elementary School Club at Morehead Elementary School in Morehead City received a History in Action Award. In addition, they won second place in both the Literary and Video Documentary Contests for its group projects.

Club member Kailey Gillard received second place in the THJH Magazine Article Contest. Hudson White won second place in the Architectural Details Photography Contest, and Rhiley Copson won second place in the Markers/Monuments Photography Contest. Images:https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wc26buk9mn9xvts/AADDfpxjPYDY4ZjkcIxBZYTla?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners From Craven County*

Winners from Peluso Christian Academy, New Bern

The Peluso Junior Historians from Peluso Christian Academy in New Bern received the 2018 Rookie Chapter of the Year. The Rookie Chapter of the Year award recognizes a first- or second-year club that gets off to a strong start. This year, the Peluso Junior Historians members explored several of North
Carolina’s historic sites including the CSS Neuse, Bath, and Fort Macon. The Peluso club also won first place for the Video Documentary Contest with their video titled “NCUHPA: Keeping History Alive.”

Sixth grader Matthew Peluso received second place in the Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine Article Contest and was named a winner in the Artifact Search Contest. Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/feiov7fyajlfyb5/AAAggwILAsO-5cQ5usP-f0lba?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners From Davie County*

Winner from Gospel Warriors Homeschool, Davie County

Tanner Flippin, a member of the Gospel Warriors club in Davie County, won first place in the Architectural Details Photography Contest. Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7jndhiwu7z9hmy/AAD51828B0RYch4DX1peAK9a?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners From Durham County*

Winner from Camelot Academy, Durham

Catherine Williams, a member of the Roots Class club at Camelot Academy in Durham won second place in the Literary Contest.

NOT PICTURED

*2018 THJHA Winners From Gaston County*

Winners from Piedmont Community Charter School, Gastonia

The 2018 Adviser of the Year went to Matthew Richards of Piedmont Patriot Historians from Piedmont Community Charter School. Richards has been a club leader for more than 10 years, and with his guidance and leadership, the Piedmont Patriot Historians have thrived.

Jaylon Lowery won second place for a Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine Article in the secondary division, and Alexis Whitworth received first place for a Tar Heel Junior Historian magazine article in the intermediate division. Additionally, Meagan Whitworth won first place for the Exhibit/Art Contest in the intermediate division, and Jared Dawson received first place for a Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine Article in the secondary division. Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/x772ov6tenhhev/AAD5DsAdmbvnYZdaGtyHtM3za?dl=0
**2018 THJHA Winners From Guilford County**

Winners from Academy at Lincoln, Greensboro

The **Lincoln Historians** club from the **Academy at Lincoln** in Greensboro received a History in Action Award for their *Storytelling at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park* entry.

**Hayden Creech** and **Emma Duehring** won first and second places, respectively, in the Christopher Crittenden State History Quiz in the intermediate division.

Images: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ce5qcs0e0e8js69/AAAJymLDjyU_9Lws64Uj-7da?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ce5qcs0e0e8js69/AAAJymLDjyU_9Lws64Uj-7da?dl=0)

**2018 THJHA Winners From Johnston County**

Winners from the Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield, Smithfield

The **Homeschoolers Unfolding History** club, sponsored by the Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield, won first place in the Exhibit/Art Contest (secondary division), as well as second place in the Video Documentary Contests (intermediate division). The group also received a History in Action Award for their *The Life and Works of Local Pilot Warren Wheeler* entry.

**Seth Young** and **David Young** won first and second places, respectively, in the Christopher Crittenden State History Quiz in the secondary division.

The **Homeschoolers Unfolding North Carolina History** club, also sponsored by the Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield, won second place in the Literary Contest.

Images: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zlgbg32lgrm0dra/AADScnS96tN27Dl846CZRoxia?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zlgbg32lgrm0dra/AADScnS96tN27Dl846CZRoxia?dl=0)

**2018 THJHA Winners from Lee County**

Winner from North Carolina Homeschool Adventures, Sanford

**Cobey Ledford**, a member of the **History Hounds of Central Carolina** club at North Carolina Homeschool Adventures in Sanford won first place in the Literary Contest, as well as the Sports History Award.

NOT PICTURED

**2018 THJHA Winners from Lenoir County**

Winner from Arendell Parrott Academy, Kinston

**Grace Newhall**, a member of the **The K-Tribe** club at Arendell Parrott Academy in Kinston, won second place in the Exhibit/Art Contest in the secondary division.

Images: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tr8mvvyvs4kwcd6/AACHIDLBCdvS_fWoU-6l2H64a?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tr8mvvyvs4kwcd6/AACHIDLBCdvS_fWoU-6l2H64a?dl=0)
*2018 THJHA Winners from Nash County*

Winners from Rocky Mount Academy, Rocky Mount

The 2018 Chapter of the Year award went to the RMA Jr. Historians from Rocky Mount Academy. The year started off with students learning about primary and secondary sources and what makes a great annotated bibliography. For their contest entries, the club researched influential people from their local community. They searched online databases, conducted oral history interviews, and created their own book with the information they compiled.

The group also won first place in the Literary contest at the intermediate level for their entry on Notable Nash and Rocky Mount Natives. Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/yu2m6tbboucegrq/AACL9np2rIa_uV8ekJxAxjt_a?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners from Orange County*

Winners from Eno River Academy, Hillsborough

Thomas McKiernan, a member of the ERA of History club at Eno River Academy in Hillsborough won second place in the Literary Contest. In addition, Christina McKiernan won the Women's History Award.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c2e7jqu8ez29zc3/AAAMSEmEgPnY3gD215e9uCO-a?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners from Person County*

Winners from Home Educators' Association of Roxboro, Roxboro

Members of The Time Travelers club at the Home Educators' Association of Roxboro won individual awards. Luke Bradsher was named a winner in the Artifact Search Contest, and Dale Painter won second place in the Exhibit/Art Contest.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5u3gowygcml7pot/AAAKvQlvvqvOK2-EqVieJvvKa?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners from Stanly County*

Winners from Aquadale Elementary School, Norwood

Club members Becca Carpenter and Jordan Cooke from the Aquadale Explorers club at Aquadale Elementary School in Norwood were winners in the Artifact Search Contest.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c1oqkxoc9o7w3lo/AAA0rm0cgwwh-0hFh9y4dGvMa?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners from Surry County*

Winner from the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History, Mount Airy

The Jesse Franklin Pioneers club at the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History in Mount Airy was awarded first place in the Exhibit/Art Contest at the intermediate level.

Eleanor Edwards was a winner in the Artifact Search Contest, and Brooks Harold and Cora Branch won first place in the Literary Contest in the elementary and intermediate divisions, respectively.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/r9odgrtdr0fgzk3/AAB3dpufj-dGP4-pIK7jmX91a?dl=0
**2018 THJHA Winners from Swain County***

Winners from Mountain Discovery Charter School, Bryson City

The Mountain Discovery Junior Historians club at Mountain Discovery Charter School in Bryson City placed first in the Literary Contest at the elementary division.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hbtws57ixnep6zn/AACLxnIh7DVrFL-w5Q3h_Q9ja?dl=0

**2018 THJHA Winners from Wake County***

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pye3ocd36z73692/AADH3jws30O8sUH6TAgDC9O0a?dl=0

Winners from Garner Area Homeschoolers, Garner

The Seed History Seekers club from Garner Area Homeschoolers in Garner was awarded second place in the Exhibit/Art Contest at the elementary and secondary levels. The group also placed second in the Literary Contest at the secondary level, and received a History in Action Award.

Bethany Crawford and Luke Crawford placed first for their Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine Article Contest, and both were named winners in the Artifact Search Contest. Luke Crawford placed second in the Commercial/Industrial Buildings Photography Contest.

Michaela Darbouze won first place in the Exhibit/Art Contest, and Rebekah Walker won the African American History Award for her Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine Article.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kw2ckpy7smc7tmf/AABv4cfgpITUX6GseRoOf5fa?dl=0

Winners from Old North State History Hounds, Homeschool

The Old North State History Hounds club won first place in the Exhibit/Art in the elementary division and second place in the intermediate division. The group also received a History in Action Award.

Club member Caleb Monasterio placed first in the Markers/Monuments Photography Contest, and second in the Institutional/Public Buildings Photography Contest.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z4xlhoyzde7e1si/AABVKVBeXmW9km3OD2HnbZz1a?dl=0

Winners from We ARGH!, Homeschool Families

The We ARGH! club won second place in the Video Documentary Contest. Among individual club members, Amelia Cutlip placed first in the Video Documentary Contest, and Kacy Fletcher placed second in the Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine Article Contest.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/uu4dojpri10dksf/AADfjtD0wAGXtO_K-wfhBVfLa?dl=0

Winners from Underwood GT Magnet Elementary, Raleigh

Multiple members from the MUG T MES Historians club at the Underwood GT Magnet Elementary in Raleigh won individual awards.

Anna Ma placed first in both the Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine Article Contest and the Christopher Crittenden State History Quiz. Haley Malone placed second in the Christopher Crittenden...
State History Quiz. Kate Malone won the American Indian History Award for her Tar Heel Junior Historian magazine article and was named a winner in the Artifact Search Contest. Juliana Segal placed second in both the Exhibit/Art and Literary Contests.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/59csuem2l1ft6rj/AADiOU1iF9HOKjavXjg6xjJwa?dl=0

*2018 THJHA Winners from Wilson County*

Winner from Greenfield School in Wilson

Mae Pridgen from the Greenfield School Junior Historians club at Greenfield School in Wilson, won first place in the Exhibit/Art Contest.

Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1klu9k901fvyghx/AACiNz2ZFnqsiY2tv4fX73OGa?dl=0

About the Tar Heel Junior Historian Association

There are more than 8,000 Tar Heel Junior Historians in 60 counties across North Carolina. Any group of students in grades 4 to 12 with an adult adviser can form a Tar Heel Junior Historian club and join the association at no charge. To learn more about this free program, email thjhaclubs@ncdcr.gov or access www.tarheeljuniorhistorians.org and www.facebook.com/tarheeljuniorhistorianassociation.

About the NC Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate

The NC Museum of History is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

For information about the NC Museum of History, call 919-807-7900 or access ncmuseumofhistory.org or follow on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+ or YouTube.

About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state’s natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR’s mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state’s history, conserving the state’s natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette’s Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the NC Zoo, the nation’s first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the NC Arts Council, State Preservation Office and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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