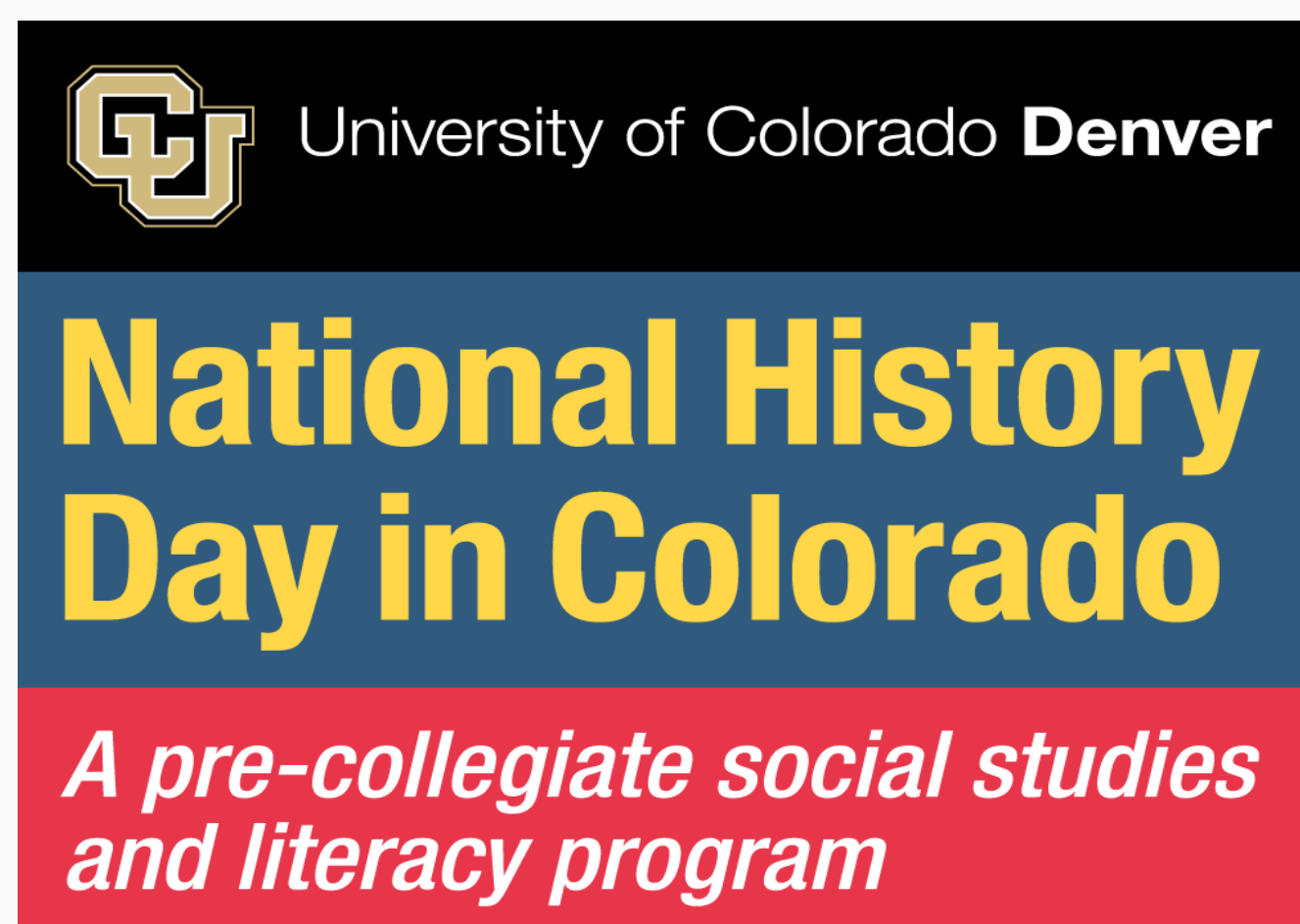




2023 COMMUNITY REPORT

National History Day in Colorado



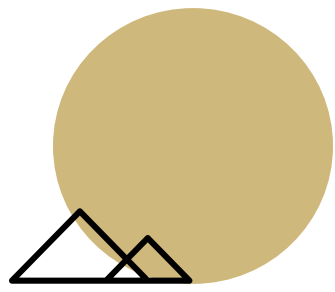


TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. OVERVIEW	1
2. GOVERNANCE & STAFF	3
3. REGIONAL CORNER	5
4. STATE CONTEST	6
5. NATIONAL CONTEST	7
6. PAPER JOURNAL	9
7. FILM FESTIVAL	10
8. TEACHER TRAININGS	11
9. ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING	12
10. CULTURAL PARTNERS	13
11. DANIELS FUND	14
12. DATA & OUTCOMES	15
13. DONORS & VOLUNTEERS	16



01 OVERVIEW

National History Day in Colorado (NHDC) is an affiliate of National History Day, a nationally-acclaimed social studies and literacy program that reaches across interdisciplinary lines to challenge and engage 700,000 students and 40,000 teachers nationwide each year. In Colorado, we reach over 10,000 - 15,000 students and between 500 and 600 teachers annually.

NHDC is a skills, content, and project-based learning program that teaches students important life-long skills, including:

- Critical reading
- Researching
- Written and oral communication
- Critical thinking
- Analysis
- Collaboration
- Creativity
- Time management
- Idea development and defense
- Working within boundaries and guidelines

HOW IT WORKS

- Students choose a topic related to the NHD annual theme.
- Students conduct extensive primary and secondary research using libraries, archives, museums, oral history interviews, and more.
- Students develop a thesis and support their argument creatively in one of the following presentation categories: exhibit, performance, documentary, website, or research paper.
- Students can then choose to participate in their regional competition.

IT IS MORE THAN A DAY AND MORE THAN A COMPETITION

National History Day in Colorado supports Colorado classrooms through:

- Professional development and training
- Curriculum development
- Research assistance for students
- Classroom support through interns and volunteers
- Workshops for teachers and students
- Graduate and Continuing & Professional Education Class for teachers
- One-on-one contact with experts in students' chosen topic fields (science, literature, drama, civics, technology, engineering, filmmaking, music, politics).
- CU Succeeds Course
- State-sanctioned Literacy Capstone

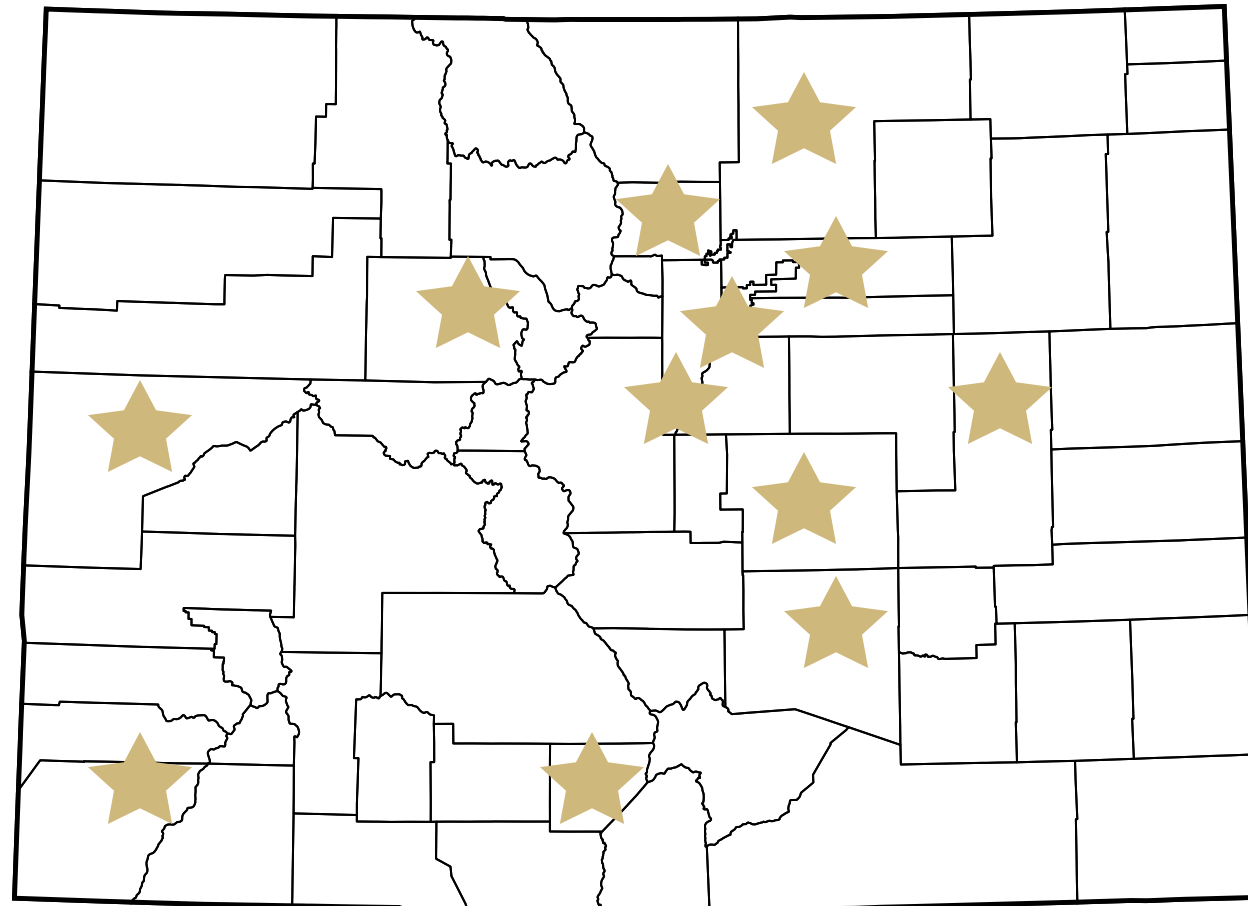
The program aligns with the Colorado Academic State Standards for social studies, literacy, and Colorado Essential Skills (formerly 21st century skills). NHDC is adaptable to any learning setting and any type of learner, from gifted and talented to special needs students. NHDC also promotes civic engagement by enhancing students' understanding of the relationship between past and present.

01 OVERVIEW

THE COMPETITIONS

1. REGIONALS

Held during Spring Semester, NHDC sponsors twelve regional competitions where projects are evaluated for historical quality, relation to theme, and clarity of presentation.



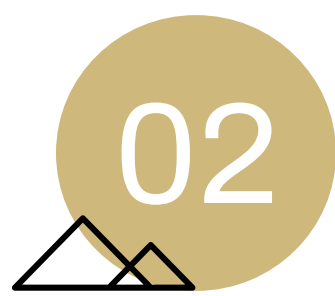
- Aurora/Denver
- Boulder Valley
- Central Plains
- Charter Schools
- Colorado Springs
- Greater Denver Metro
- Durango/4 Corners
- Mountain
- Northeast (Greeley)
- San Luis Valley
- Southeast (Pueblo)
- Western Slope (Grand Junction)

2. STATE

Held the last weekend in April, the top three regional winners in each division and category move on to the State Contest. Nearly 600 regional winners competed at the State Contest in 2023. Both middle school and high school students participate, and their work is judged by over 100 trained volunteer judges.

3. NATIONALS

The top two State Contest winners in each division and category (up to seventy students) are invited to go to the National History Day competition held in June at the University of Maryland near Washington D.C. Here they have the opportunity to compete against students from across the country and the world.



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Grady Hooten, Durango/4 Corners Region

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Newal Nasir, Denver/Aurora Region

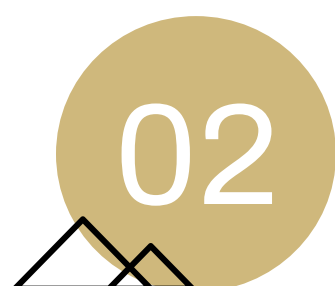
Riva Linga, GDM Region

Nolan Ottele, Denver/Aurora Region

Jessica Buser, San Luis Valley Region

Quinton Carson, GDM Region

Kenia Hansen-Guzman, Greeley/Northeast Region



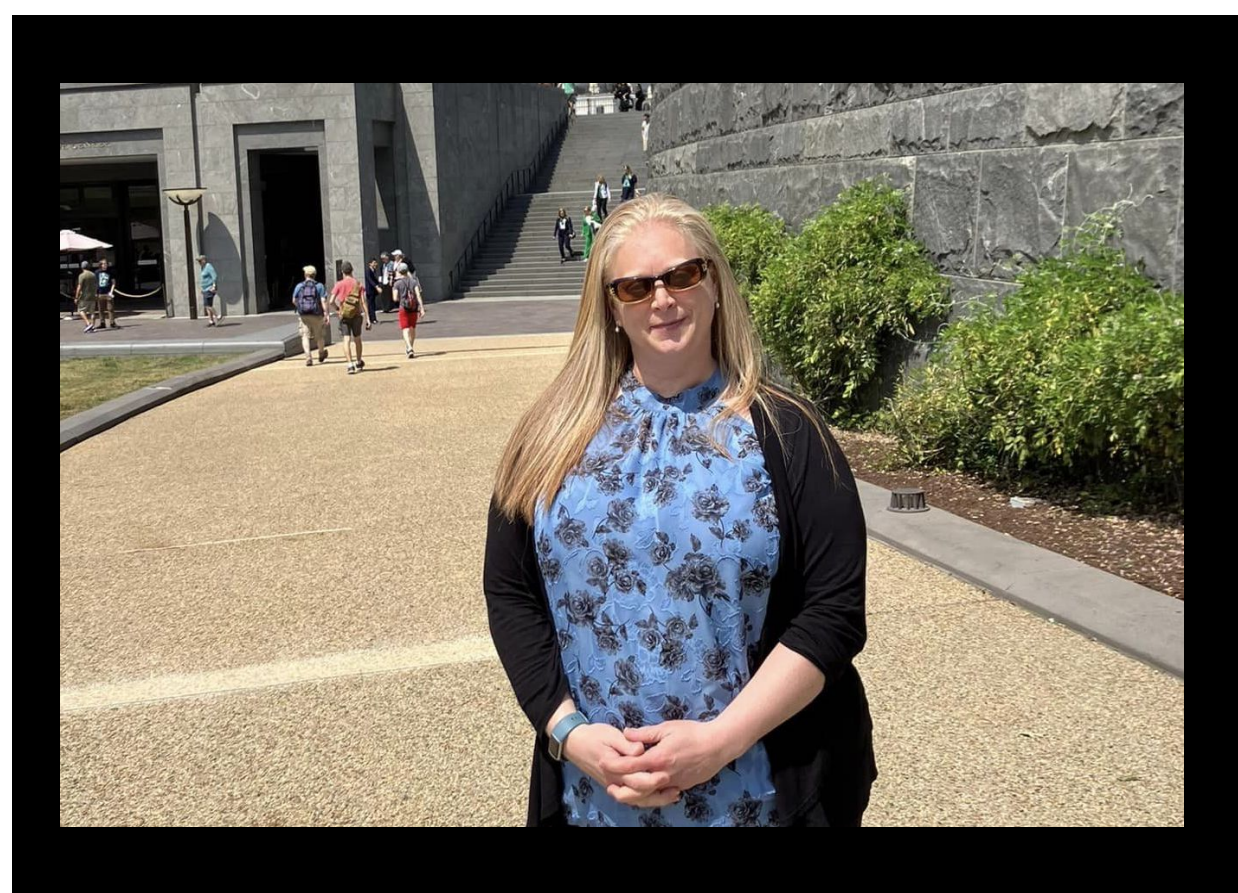
GOVERNANCE & STAFF



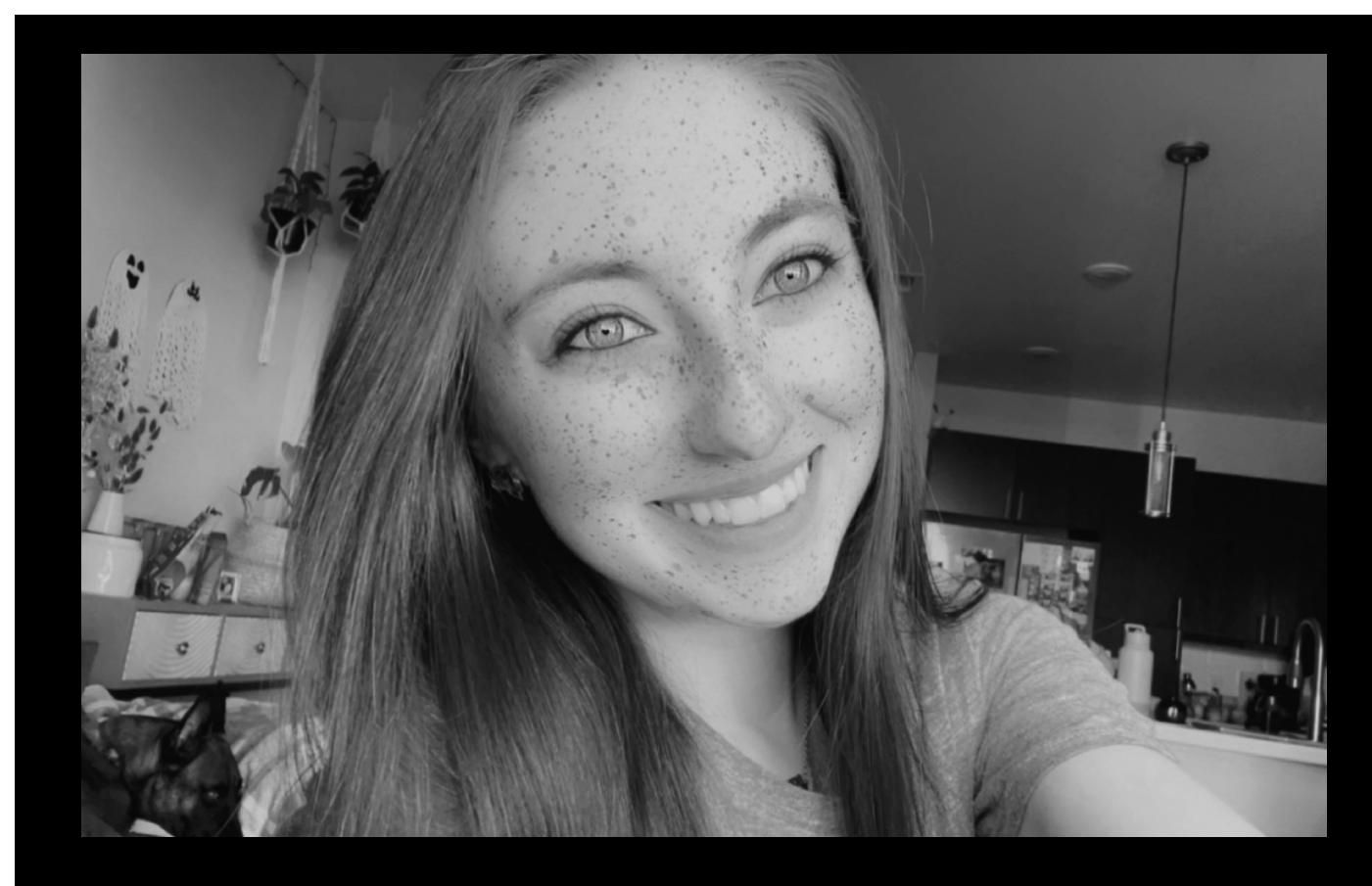
Stuart Pattison
NHDC Board President



Celeste Archer
Executive Director



Dr. Kelly Cvanciger
Associate Director



Harleigh Sanchez
State Intern

During the 2022 Contest Cycle, our Regional Coordinators went above and beyond to transition all regions and competing students back to fully in-person contests. We saw a post-COVID uptick in participation--one that we expect to continue in the 2023 contest season.

National History Day in Colorado is a state-sanctioned literacy capstone project that satisfies state graduation requirements, we offer a CU Succeeds dual enrollment course, and are working on providing technology and scholarships for students in underrepresented communities. We expect these offerings to continue to expand our participation as schools and extracurriculars have been able to resume a more normal presence.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

SAN LUIS VALLEY & VICINITY

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BOULDER VALLEY

Gina Scioscia

MOUNTAIN

John Spierling

COLORADO SPRINGS

Kathy Lindeman

GREATER DENVER METRO

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Ed Glassman

WESTERN SLOPE

Dr. Vincent Patarino & Dr. Sean Gallagher

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Dawn Carver

NORTHERN FRONT RANGE/GREELEY

Jamie Fogg

COLORADO CHARTER REGION

Paula Worley

CENTRAL PLAINS

Scott Thomas

SOUTHWEST/DURANGO

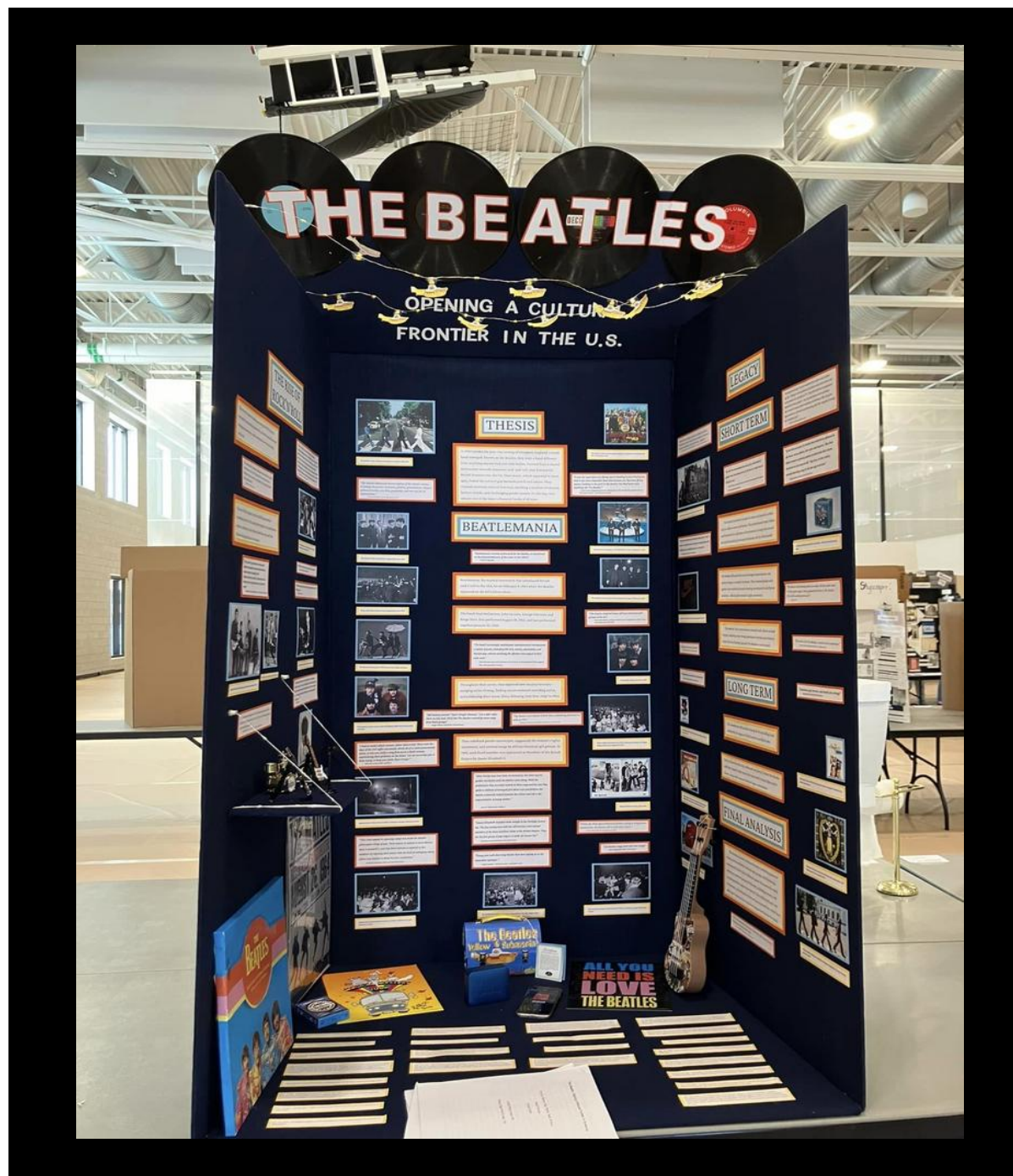
John Hise

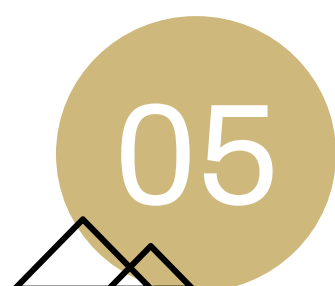


04 STATE CONTEST

Students competed in one of our regions for a chance to compete in the State Contest on April 29. Following the COVID-19 Pandemic, 2023 marked the second time that NHDC was able to host the State Contest fully in-person on the CU Denver Campus. There were 566 students with 341 projects representing 61 schools in the competition. Fifty-eight students qualified to compete at Nationals.

For some students, NHDC was a year-long academic experience. Other students spent a semester or a few months, either during class or as an extracurricular activity working on their History Day projects. Students completed projects based on the annual theme: *Frontiers in History: People, Places, & Ideas*.





NATIONAL CONTEST

The National Contest held its first in person contest since 2019. Fifty-eight students representing thirty-six projects from across the state formed "Team Colorado." NHDC also offered a trip to D.C. for winners from 2023. We had nearly eighty students and parents join us on this trip. Our activities included visits to Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper, a day-trip to Mt. Vernon, and a bus tour of the monuments by moonlight. Many donors across the state ensured that the fees for many of our qualifiers were covered this year. Additional private donors helped cover the remaining fees, including the Gilson Family Foundation and Walter S. Rosenberry, III Charitable Trust.

TEAM COLORADO WINNERS

National Champions

1st Place—Junior Group Documentary

Lucy Herbert & Pranav Bandaru

"The Highways to the Future: Eisenhower's Frontier that Modernized America"

Stargate School

2nd Place—Junior Group Documentary

Claire Gold and Jiyu Kim

"Crossing Frontiers in Radio Broadcasting: Radio Londres's Counter-Propaganda Campaign in World War II"

Summit Middle School

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

Best in State

Riva Linga

"Frontiers in Non-Violent Protest: The Idea of Civil Disobedience"

Junior Individual Exhibit

New Vision Charter

Best in State

Wren Capra

"Dividing the Waters: How the Colorado River Compact Transformed the Southwestern Frontier"

Senior Individual Documentary

COSLI

Best Project on Native American History

Coulee Fox

"The Frontier of Indian Law Reform: How Cobell v. Salazar Opened the Door to US Government Accountability"

Junior Paper

Escalante Middle School

05 NATIONAL CONTEST

In addition to our many national champions, special award winners, and finalists, National History Day in Colorado also had a number of projects place in the top three in their particular heats at the National Contest. The National Contest is incredibly competitive; only one project moves onto the Final Round from each heat.

TEAM COLORADO FINALISTS

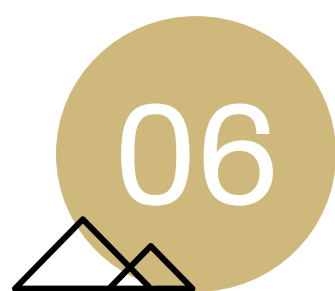
6th Place—Senior Group Website

Alex Zhang and Michael Gao

"Overlooked: How One Man's Eccentricity and Genius Shaped Modern Computing and Artificial Intelligence"

Fairview High School





PAPER JOURNAL

This year, NHDC released the sixth annual *Paper Journal*. The *Journal* features seven student papers from 2023 that competed in the paper category. This year's issue features one papers from the junior paper category.

This year, we partnered with the CU Denver History Department to edit the journal. Each student was paired with a professor who is a subject-matter expert to prepare their paper for publication.

JOURNAL AUTHORS

Alex Zou

"The Privatization of Space"
COSLI

Catherine Busche

"New Frontiers in a Silent Spring: Rachel Carson's
Ideas to Prevent Environmental Harm"
Bear Creek High School

Kenia Hansen-Guzman

"The Building of a New Community: How a Sugar Beet
Facility Created the Second Most Diverse Community
in Colorado"
COSLI

Kyla Eha

"Prejudice and Perseverance: The Frontier of Equal
Opportunity in Professional and Collegiate Basketball"
Prospect Ridge Academy

Rowan Hilhouse

"Stuck In The Middle: Defining Racial
Boundaries During The War Relocation Act"
Denver East High School

Coulee Fox

"The Frontier of Indian Law Reform: How Cobell
v. Salazar Opened the Door to US Government
Accountability"
Escalante Middle School

Mikel Kratzer

"Nuclear Weapons at the Journey of Death: The
Frontier to the Atomic Age"
Caprock Academy





FILM FESTIVAL

To kick-off the State Contest, NHDC held its fourth annual Film Festival at the Sie Film Center. Five documentaries that qualified for the State Contest in 2023 were featured.

DOCUMENTARIANS

Lucy Herbert & Pranav Bandaru

Stargate School

"The Highways to the Future: Eisenhower's Frontier that Modernized America"

Junior Group Documentary -- National Award Winner

Claire Gold and Jiyu Kim

Summit Middle School

"Crossing Frontiers in Radio Broadcasting: Radio Londres's Counter-Propaganda Campaign in World War II"

Junior Group Documentary -- National Award Winner

Wren Capra

COSLI

"Dividing the Waters: How the Colorado River Compact Transformed the Southwestern Frontier"

Senior Individual Documentary -- Best in State

Mark Thompson

Denver School of the Arts

"Norman Borlaug: The Unknown Hero Behind the Green Frontier"

Senior Individual Documentary

Erin Chastain, Ruby Frederick-Law,

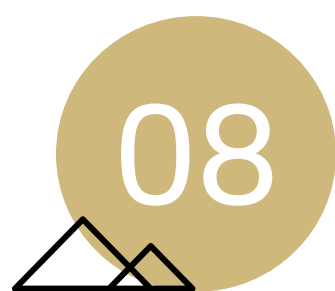
Audrey Mattox, and Alea Brower

Greeley Central High School

"The Radium Girls: The Rotting Repercussions"

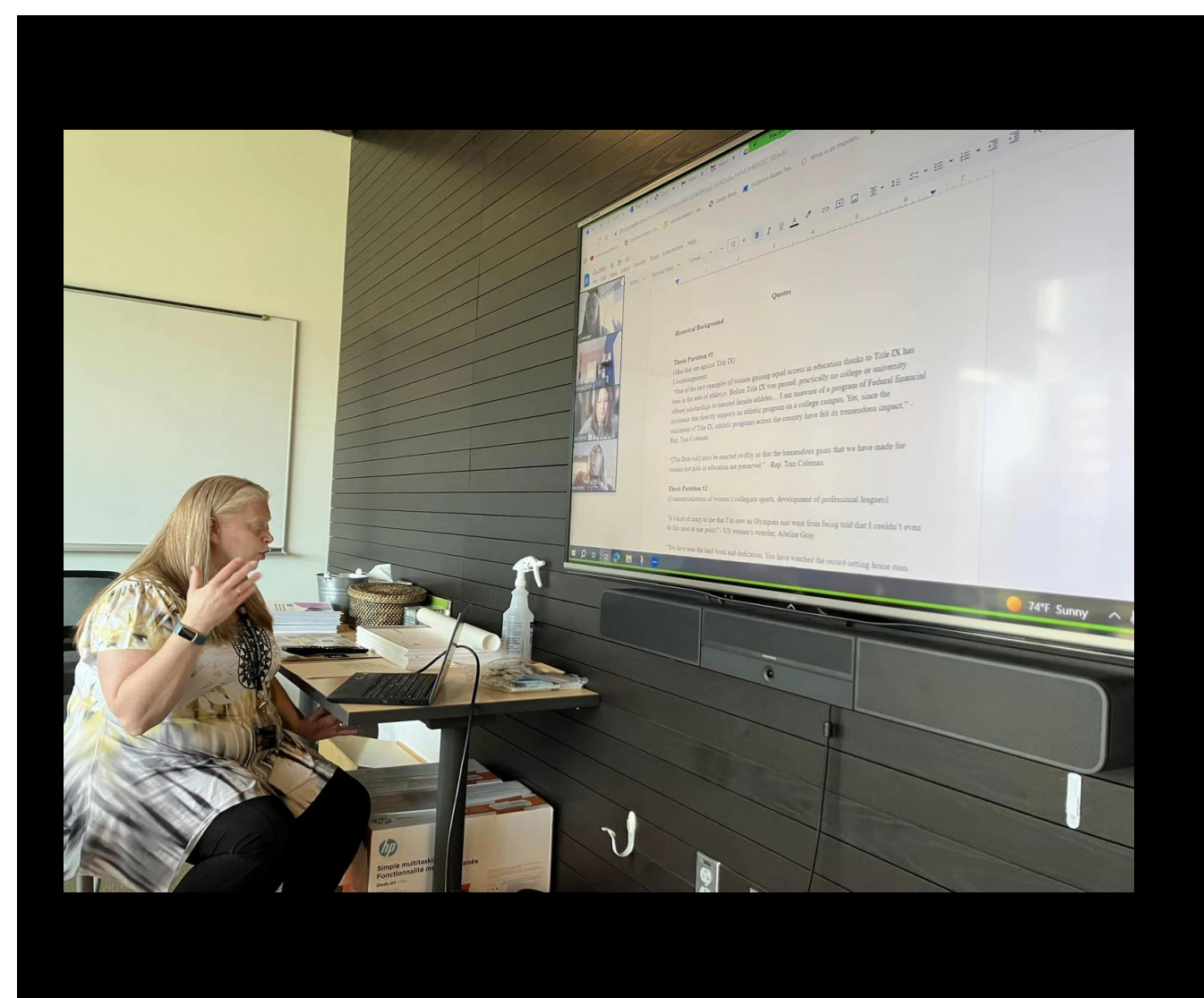
Senior Group Documentary

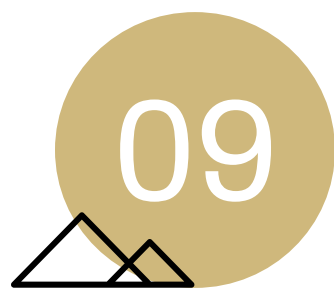




TEACHER TRAININGS

In 2023, with a regional grant from Teaching with Primary Sources at Metro State University of Denver, we held two sessions of hybrid Master Educator Workshops that included one full day of in-person instruction and four evenings of additional online instruction and training. This event culminated with our two cohorts coming together to showcase their own NHDC projects. All teachers who completed the training were awarded professional development hours and an NHDC Master Teacher designation. The grant continued into 2023 with seminars in Denver and Alamosa.





ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

INTERNSHIPS

Each year the NHDC Office pairs undergraduate and graduate students with teachers across the state. These interns work one-on-one with History Day students to develop quality and well-rounded projects. NHDC provides a stipend to all interns across the state. University of Colorado interns are also eligible to receive three hours of undergraduate or graduate credit for their work.

SUPPLY GRANTS

NHDC is proud to continue to be able to offer supply grants to teachers in schools with financial need. This year, we provided over \$15,000 in supplies to teachers to support their History Day efforts.

We provided large numbers of exhibit boards and construction materials, as well as technology, signaling an increase in first-time NHDC teachers.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

This year's Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to longtime, steadfast supporters and lovers of NHDC, Dr. Pam Laird & Dr. Myra Rich at the 2023 State Contest.

ANNUAL NHDC CALENDAR

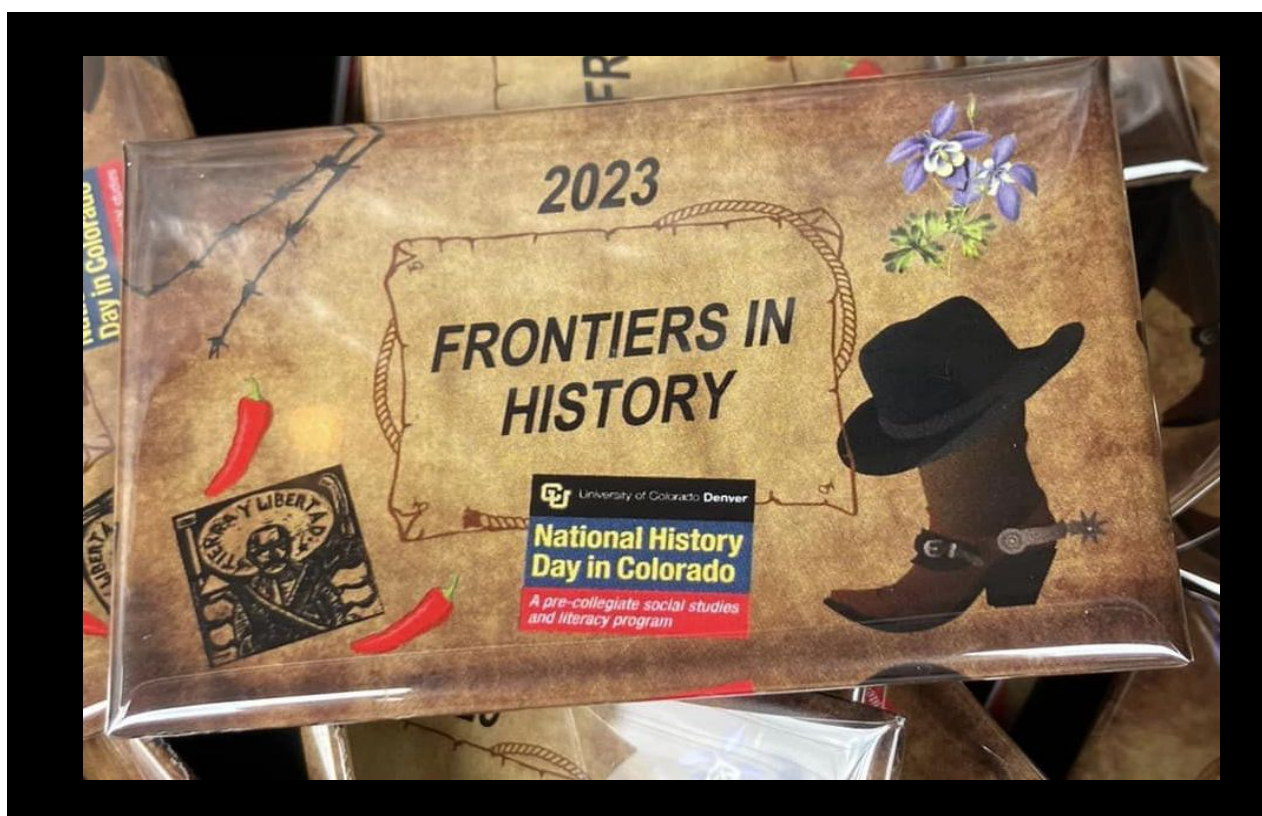
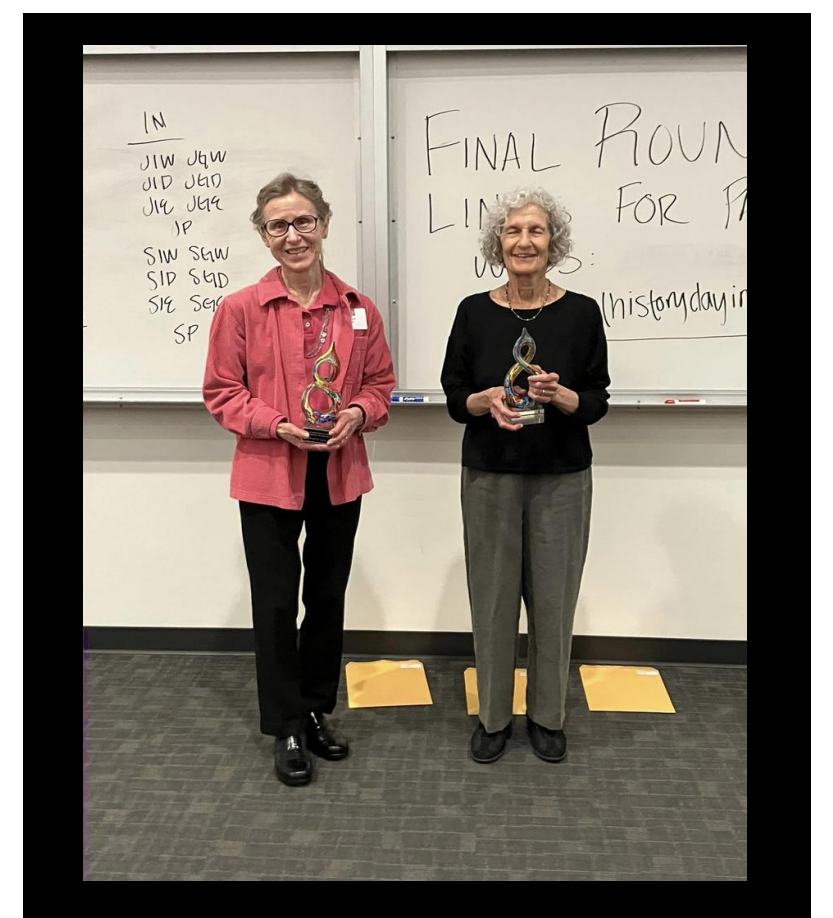
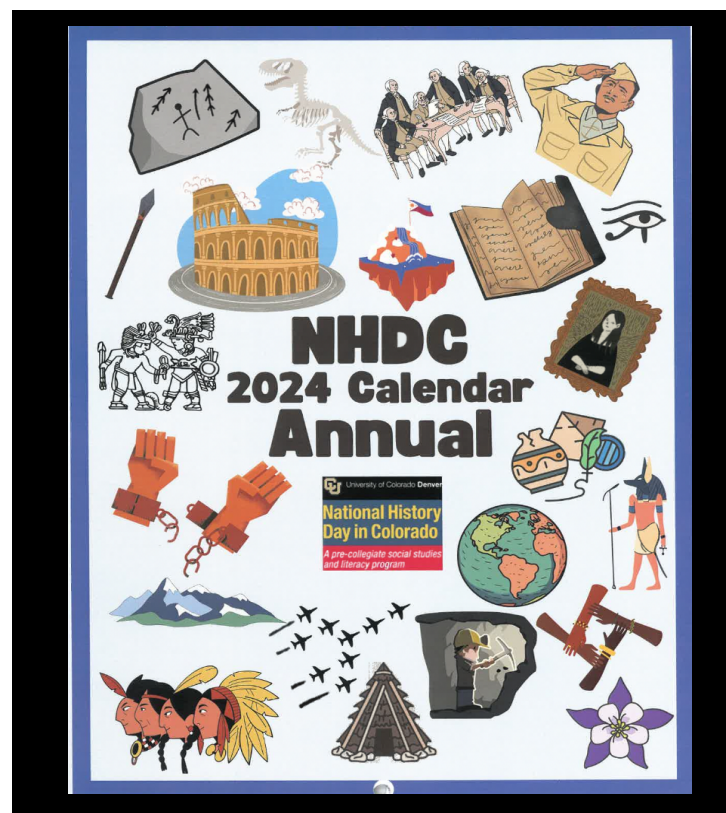
This year, NHDC's Student Advisory Board designed the NHDC Annual Calendar. The calendar features veteran teacher profiles, as well as historical photos with a silly twist.

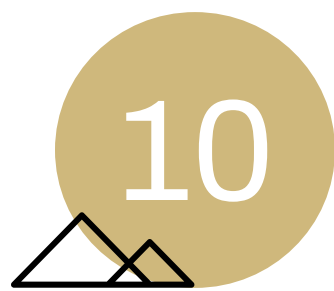


T-SHIRT & BUTTON DESIGN CONTEST

The 2023 button and t-shirt were designed by Maya Lerma of Pleasant View Middle School and Domanick Tremont of Pleasant View Middle School, respectively.

Every State Contest qualifier received a t-shirt and button.





CULTURAL PARTNERS

PARTNERS

Cultural partnerships help support students and teachers by providing valuable resources and opportunities to assist with project research, development, and support. Cultural partners are our best pool for contest judges.

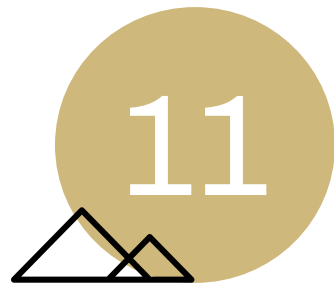
Cultural partners also facilitate:

- Mutual program/organization endorsement
- Cross promotion of workshops, events, and social networking
- Collaboration in teacher/student workshops
- Connections to students, families, and teachers
- Development of site/organization specific programs for NHDC

American Museum of Western Art
Auraria Casa Mayan Heritage (ACMH)
Aurora History Museum
Black American West Museum
Boulder Public Library
Buffalo Bill Gravesite & Museum
Center of the American West at CU Boulder
Colorado Humanities
Colorado Women's Hall of Fame
Clyfford Still Museum
Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
Daughters of the American Revolution
Denver Art Museum
Denver Mountain Parks
Denver Museum of Nature and Science
Denver Public Library
Denver Westerners Posse
Douglas County Libraries
Golden History Museum

History Colorado Center
Honor Bell Foundation
League of Women Voters Colorado
Library of Congress
Louisville Historical Museum
Michener Library, University of Northern Colorado
Molly Brown House Museum
Museum of Boulder
National Archives and Records Administration
Nielsen Library, Adams State University
Optimist Club of Monaco South
Teaching with Primary Sources at MSU Denver
Telecommunications History Group, Inc.
Westminster History Center
Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum





DANIELS FUND

National History Day in Colorado is honored to have been awarded a Daniels Fund grant for the 2022-2024 cycle. This was our fifth time receiving a gift from the prestigious fund--a tribute to the hard work of our students, teachers, coordinators, cultural partners, and many supporters. With this grant, we will be able to develop and continue the following programs and opportunities for NHDC, as well as develop a strong focus on American History.

PROGRAMS



- Expanded classroom internships for direct student engagement across the State
- Funding for two office interns to assist with day-to-day functions
- Increased teacher trainings across the state
- Scholarships for teachers to earn graduate and continuing & professional education credit
- Expanded funding for technology and crucial supplies to Title I & Free and Reduced Lunch eligible classrooms
- Increased travel assistance to winning students in Title I & Free and Reduced Lunch eligible classrooms
- 10% growth across the State
- Expanded focus on American History and its founding.





DATA & OUTCOMES

Even in uncertain times, National History Day in Colorado did not see an overall decline in participation.

12

The number of regions NHDC served across the State of Colorado in 2023.

15K

The average number of students statewide who annually complete an NHDC project.

566

The number of students who competed at the 2023 NHDC State Contest.

61

The number of schools who sent Regional winners to the State Contest in 2023.

92

The number of teachers who had students qualify for the state contest.

58

The number of students who competed at the National Contest

90%

rated History Day as one of their top three learning experiences.

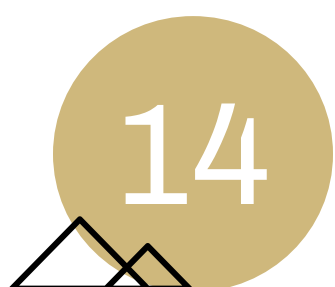
When surveyed, students described NHDC as...

Enriching
Engaging

Transformative
Inspiring & Thrilling

82%

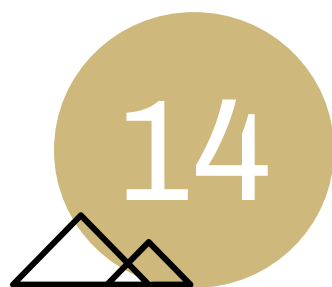
said that History Day made them believe that they could be successful in college someday.



LOOKING FORWARD

We now offer:

- **Literacy Capstone.** *National History Day in Colorado is a state-sanctioned literacy project that satisfies graduation requirements. Visit our website to view our Capstone Guide*
- **CU Succeed Course.** *NHDC now offers a CU Succeed dual enrollment course. The course fosters NHDC skills, and students earn three hours of transferable college credit. The syllabus for this course is also available on our website.*
- **Technology.** *NHDC has always prioritized funding supplies and technology for classrooms. We are now working on providing technology to students with resource limitations in both urban and rural communities.*
- **Partner and Resource Curriculum.** *NHDC has partnered with various organizations, including the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame, Honor Bell Foundation, and Colorado Humanities to produce valuable resources for teachers and students to explore local history.*



DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS

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Laura Argys
Jane Barber
Ken Barber
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Susan Barrett
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Mitch Whitus
Chantelle Wilkerson
Lindsay Williamson
Chelsea Willman
Jamie Wilms
Aaron Wilson
Lindsey Woolmington
Angie Wulff
Brian Yates
Emily Zinn

and many more across our regions!

DONORS

We gratefully acknowledge the following companies, civic groups, foundations, and individuals for their generous support.

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University of Colorado Denver
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Walter S. Rosenberry, III Charitable Trust
Teaching with Primary Sources at Metro State University Denver
Telecommunications History Group
James and Alvina Bartos Balog Fund
Gilson Family Foundation
Colorado Humanities
Honor Bell Foundation
Denver Museum of Nature & Science
Denver Art Museum
Denver Public Library
Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum
Optimist Club of Monaco South
League of Women Voters Colorado
Fort Lewis College
The Hewit Institute
University of Northern Colorado
Colorado College
Adams State University
Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum

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Peter Spina
Barbara Beckner
Ryan Hay
Kathy & Theodore Lindeman
Leslie Blum
Laura Thomasson
Leigh Nansel
Ravi Kanth Linga
Sandra Lewis
Patricia Limerick
Katherine Kerwin McCrimmon
Rebecca Hunt
Jim Slora
Michelle Johnson
Ed & Michelle Glassman



University of Colorado **Denver**

National History Day in Colorado

*A pre-collegiate social studies
and literacy program*

National History Day in Colorado
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
University of Colorado Denver

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