

QUICK GUIDE TO NHD JUDGING CRITERIA AND RULES

JUDGING CRITERIA

Historical Quality – 80%		Clarity of Presentation – 20%
<u>Analytical Qualities</u> Historical Argument (Thesis) – New! Theme Connection Use of Primary Sources Student Voice – New! Significance in History (impacts)	<u>Research Qualities</u> Wide Research (breadth, depth) Places Topic in Historical Context Multiple Perspectives – New! Historical Accuracy	Text Visuals Video/Audio Theatrical Technical

CATEGORY RULES

EXHIBIT	DOCUMENTARY	PERFORMANCE	PAPER	WEBSITE
500 student-composed words 40w x 30d x 72h, or max 30" diameter Source credits for all images & quotes 2 minutes max for sound/video media Student narration included in 500 words	10 minutes max Students produce, film, and edit Source credits at end of film	10 minutes max Time starts after students announce names and project title Students set up and operate props, media, lighting, etc. without parent help	1500-2500 words, including quotes, but not including the bibliography or footnotes Images, charts, diagrams go in appendices	1200 student-composed words No links to outside content 3 minutes max for sound and video clips Source credits for all images & quotes

WRITTEN MATERIALS

Title Page	Process Paper	Annotated Bibliography	Student-Composed Words
Title Student Names Division & Category Word Counts No teacher or school information.	How did you choose your topic? How does it relate to the annual theme? How did you conduct your research? How did you create your project? What is your historical argument? In what ways is your topic significant in history?	MLA or Chicago Style Two sections: Primary Sources (from the time period) Secondary Sources (credible experts) Annotations: 2-3 sentences <i>Annotations are not required for Youth Division</i>	<u>Exhibits & Websites Only</u> Includes project title, thesis, student narrative, headers, and interpretive captions. <i>Does not include: quotes, source credits, historic documents, repeating tabs in websites.</i>

RULES FOR ALL PROJECTS

- Plagiarism must be reported to the contest coordinator. This includes copy/paste from secondary sources.
- Projects are the original work of the student.
- Project started after July 1 of the current contest year.

NHD JUDGING CRITERIA

Judges will assess your project using a rubric with these criteria.

HISTORICAL ARGUMENT	<p>My project makes an argument based on my own analysis of the historical evidence I discovered during my research.</p> <p>I make meaningful connections to the annual theme throughout my project.</p>
WIDE RESEARCH	<p>I used a wide variety of credible secondary and primary sources in my research.</p> <p>I used different types of secondary and primary sources.</p> <p>I did not rely on Wikipedia as a secondary source.</p>
PRIMARY SOURCES	<p>The primary sources in my project form the evidence for my argument.</p> <p>I analyze the primary sources. They are more than simple decorations.</p>
HISTORICAL CONTEXT	<p>I discuss the relevant historical context for my topic, setting the stage so that my project shows change over time.</p>
MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES	<p>I used sources that have different perspectives on my topic.</p> <p>My project explores the different sides of the story.</p>
HISTORICAL ACCURACY	<p>The information in my project is true and factual to the best of my knowledge.</p> <p>I rely on credible sources of information.</p> <p>I do not rely on opinion.</p>
SIGNIFICANCE IN HISTORY	<p>I discuss the short-term and long-term outcomes of my topic.</p> <p>I explain how my topic changed history, and why it matters.</p>
STUDENT VOICE	<p>I use my own voice to present the information in my project.</p> <p>My ideas, analysis, and argument are presented in my own words.</p>
CLARITY OF PRESENTATION	<p>My project uses writing, multimedia, performance, web design, and/or art creatively to present my findings.</p>
<i>Visuals</i>	<p>My project and all written materials are clear, easy to read/view and understand.</p>
<i>Writing</i>	
<i>Audio</i>	<p>The organization of information in my project is logical.</p>
<i>Technical</i>	<p>I have corrected spelling and grammar errors in my written materials.</p> <p>Technical elements of my project are executed to the best of my ability.</p>

NHD RULES AT A GLANCE

Be sure to read the [NHD Rule Book](#) for complete rules and guidelines!

Rules for ALL Students

Current Year (Rule 1)	Students must begin and complete their project during the current contest year. Students may <i>not</i> build on a previous NHD project or reuse research from a previous year.
Original Work (Rule 4)	Project must be the original work of the student. Research, analysis, conclusions must be your own. Design and construction must be your own. Objects/components may not be created by others for the project. For example, hiring an artist, having a friend design your set, having a parent build your exhibit or set are not allowed.
Plagiarism (Rule 5)	An entry can be disqualified for plagiarism. This means the entry is not ranked and is not eligible to advance to a higher level.
Reasonable Adult Help (Rule 10)	Teachers = guides, coaches Parents = chauffeurs, financiers, proofreaders, power tool operators. Performance students may have parent help sewing costumes.
Hazardous Materials (Rule 13)	Weapons of any kind (including replicas, toys, and models), chemicals, plants, fog machines, or other hazardous materials are strictly prohibited.

For EXHIBIT & WEBSITE Students

What are “student-composed words” and “source credits”?	
Student-composed words include:	All text composed by the student, including: narrative, project title, headers, subheads, captions, timelines created by the student, multimedia created by the student.
Student-composed words do not include:	Quotes, source credits, historic documents/images, footnotes/endnotes, annotated bibliography, process paper.
Source credits:	A source credit tells readers where you found an image or quote. It does not include the URL. It looks like this: <i>(Rachel Carson, 1963, Library of Congress)</i> .
Guidelines for quoting:	DO use primary source quotes to present the historical evidence that informs your historical argument. DON'T use secondary source quotes to “get around” the word limit. Be selective. Quoting one or two powerful sentences is much more effective than copy-and-pasting the entire paragraph.

MAJOR RULES FOR YOUR CATEGORY

Check the [NHD Rule Book](#) for complete rules for your category!

EXHIBIT	
Dimensions	40" wide x 30" deep x 72" high, maximum
Word Count	500 student-composed words, maximum
Multimedia (optional)	2 minutes, maximum
Source Credits	Required beneath all images and quotes on the board. Also provide a complete citation of the source in your bibliography.
Setup	Students must set up their exhibit at the contest without adult help. Adults may help students carry materials into the building, and may help lift boards onto the table.
WEBSITE	
Platform	You must build your website on NHDWebCentral.org. No other website platforms are permitted in Utah contests.
Word Count	1200 student-composed words, maximum
Multimedia	3 minutes, maximum
Source Credits	Required beneath all images and quotes in the website. Also provide a complete citation of the source in your bibliography.
Self-Contained	All content must be fully embedded in your website. Links leading the viewer outside your website are not allowed.
NHDWebCentral Site Key	When you register for your local contest, you will be asked to enter your NHDWebCentral Site Key in our system. This allows the judges to view your website.
PAPER	
Word Count	1500-2500 words in the body of your paper. This word count does not include footnotes/endnotes, annotated bibliography, appendices.
Citations	Footnotes or endnotes are preferred to cite the quoted and paraphrased material in your paper. You may choose from MLA or Chicago style to format your citations and bibliography.
DOCUMENTARY	
Time Limit	10 minutes, maximum
Equipment	Students must record, edit, narrate, and operate video equipment without adult help.
PERFORMANCE	
Time Limit	10 minutes, maximum. Time starts after students state their names and project title.
Sets/Costumes/ Sound/Equipment	Students must design, create, set up and operate sets and equipment without adult help. Adults may help students carry sets into the building.