



Frequently Asked Questions

Do all students in a group have to be present at the contest?

No. However, all members of a group must register and pay for the competition even if they can't attend. At least one member must be present for the interview.

Do I have to be at the NHD Sac competition for the whole time?

No, you will need to be present to set up your project and participate in your interview. You are free to leave and then come back for the awards ceremony.

Do students have to bring physical Exhibits & Posters?

Yes, all Posters and Exhibits must be physical. No virtual submission will be allowed. Check your entry information page for when these need to be set-up.

What time should I arrive to NHD Sac?

If you have an exhibit or poster these must be set up between 7:30 - 9:15 a.m. the morning of the competition. For all other project, you will just need to show up in time to check in and report to your room in time for your scheduled interview.

When can students set up Exhibits & Posters?

Saturday morning between 7:30 - 9:15 AM.

When can Exhibits & Posters be removed?

At the very end of public viewing or after the award ceremony. See your entry info page.

Will I have to pay for parking?

No, the university will have designated lots where you can park for free without a permit or will provide a code for free parking. This information will be emailed to you.

Can a parent, chaperone, or teacher check in for students?

No, all students must pick up their own registration packet at check-in.

Who are the judges?

History Day judges are volunteers. They come from a variety of professional backgrounds. They love history and working with young people.

What should I wear?

There is no dress code. Wear clothing that makes you feel confident. Only Performance students may wear costumes.

What should I expect for an Elementary Division Poster or Podcast Interview?

See your entry information page for Elementary Posters and Podcasts for information on elementary interviews.

What should I expect for my interview for Junior & Senior Division Students?

Keep in mind that this is an interview - judges lead the discussion. The only category that needs to have a prepared presentation are performances.

Although your total session will be 10-20 minutes (depending on your category), your interview portion with the judges will be about 5 minutes in length. You will be asked questions from 2-3 judges who are volunteers from the community. The judges will ask you questions that allow you to showcase your knowledge of your topic and highlight your project. They will not "quiz" you. Remember, the judges are there to learn about your project!

Typical questions might include:

- How did you choose your topic?
- How did you go about researching your topic?
- What were your most helpful sources?
- How does your topic connect with this year's theme?
- How did you create your project?
- They may ask specific questions about your topic or what you discovered during your research.
- What did you learn that surprised you?
- What would you like to know more about?



FAQ - Continued

Where can I eat?

Starbucks and Round Table will be open. It's possible that other vendors may open or you can venture off campus for lunch/food.

What should I do when I'm done being judged?

Students can bring games, music, or homework to the contest. You may also watch Documentaries, Podcasts and Performances to support your friends being judged! You may also leave and come back later if you choose.

What if I need help with technology?

- **Limited** tech support will be available near Documentary & Podcast rooms during judging.

Is there Wifi on campus?

Wireless Internet Access: Select the open guest wireless network.

Why isn't the Exhibit hall open all the time?

Judges and students have told us that it is hard to look at Exhibits and talk with judges while the room is full of excited people. We are limiting access to Exhibit areas to help keep distractions to a minimum and improve judging.

What should I do/bring for Documentary, Podcast or Website technology?

Please look at the category-specific instructions so you can bring all necessary equipment.

Will Final-Round schedules be posted online?

Finalists will be announced at Sac State and also posted on the NHD Sacramento Webpage.

What is a Finalist/ Final Rounds?

If a category has more projects than can be evaluated by one group of judges (10 or more) we divide the projects into 2 or more heats. The preliminary round judges select 2-3 projects from these heats to move on to a Final Round to determine the winning entries. Check the "Schedule of Events" for a list of categories that will have a finals round.

What happens if I am a finalist?

For most categories, students are not present during finals judging. See the Entry Information page for your category for more information.

Do I need to be at the Awards Ceremony?

No. However, we encourage everyone to attend. If you are declared a Sacramento champion, we will notify you.

Where do I go to get my entry number?

Entry numbers will be listed in the Interview Schedule that will be posted online at <https://www.nhdca.org/Sacramento> on March 5th.

How and when do I get my score sheets?

Score sheets will be available to download once judges are finished and they have been reviewed. You will be sent information on how to download these from your online student or coach portal after the contest.

Can parents and other participants watch an interview?

- **Documentary, Podcast & Performance** rooms are open to the public (space permitting). Please only enter rooms in between scheduled interviews. Phones must be on silent.
- **Website** rooms are not open to the public.
- **Exhibit & Poster** rooms are not open to the public. However, the Exhibit/Poster rooms will be open at designated times for students to share their projects and for contest spectators to enjoy the many amazing projects developed by California students. See Contest Schedule for public viewing dates & times.
- Parents and other guests are to have no interaction with the students or judges during the interview.



FAQ - Continued

What types of Awards are given?

Champions We will award 3 projects as champions for each Jr./Sr. Division category for both groups and individual projects. We will award 4 projects as champions for each Elementary Division category for both groups and individual projects. Champions will advance to the NHD-CA competition that takes place at Sac State in May.

Runner-Up

We will award 1 Runner-Up medal for Elementary Division Posters.

Special Awards

We will recognize projects and provide special awards. Special award judges look for projects that fit the criteria of the award. Examples of Special Awards:

- Environmental History Award
- Medical History Award
- WWI History Award
- Women's History Award

Special Awards Ceremony

Students receiving special awards will be notified a day or two before the contest. A ceremony to present certificates will be held (see schedule for time and location).