



# 2025 NHD-CA CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

## Individual Documentary

### Senior

**Champion**

**The Most Loyal "Traitors:" How the Nisei Soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion & 442nd RCT Fought to Protect America and to Free Their Families at Home**

**Kayla Ling**

**San Mateo County**  
The Nueva School

Teachers: Nellie Ling

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**Champion**

**Lakes and LA: How Mono Lake's water rights revived the public trust doctrine**

**William Gao**

**San Diego County**  
Canyon Crest Academy

Teachers: Nicole Baker

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**Runner-up**

**Separate and Unequal: How African Americans Were Chased Out of the Neighborhood and the Classroom**

**Ashley Wang**

**Marin County**  
The Branson School

Teachers: Talia Di Manno, Malik Ali

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**Honorable  
Mention**

**Balancing Workforce Rights and Responsibilities: The Lasting Legacy of the Wagner Act**

**Akanksh Borah**

**Contra Costa County**  
Dougherty Valley High

Teachers: Andrew Wengel

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# 2025 NHD-CA CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

## Group Documentary

Senior

**Champion**

**Black and White and Red All Over: The Rights and Responsibilities of SAG-AFTRA**

Jongmin Chae, Luna Moon

**Orange County**  
Portola High

Teachers: Wind Ralston

**Champion**

**Prescribing a Nightmare: Thalidomide's Wake Up Call for Global Regulation**

Renee Chu, Jollyn Gunardi

**San Mateo County**  
South San Francisco High

Teachers: Kimberly Chin

**Runner-up**

**Taking a Day Off for Equal Rights: The Icelandic Women's Day Off**

Dioelle Balubar, MaryAnn Granat, Yulia Cai

**Fresno County**  
Buchanan High

Teachers: Debbie Hodge

**Honorable  
Mention**

**One Child Nation: Voices Silenced**

Angelina Gan, Seraphina Gan

**Sacramento County**  
Cosumnes Oaks High

Teachers: Jordan Dietrich



# 2025 NHD-CA

## CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

### Individual Exhibit

Senior

**Champion**

**Forbidden to Fundamental: Perez v. Sharp's Defense of Marriage Rights and Call for Constitutional Responsibility**

Samantha Bailey

Orange County

Orange County School of the Arts

Teachers: Lana Sawalha

**Champion**

**Legacy of Betrayal and Medical Immorality: The Rights, Responsibilities, and Redemption of Tuskegee**

Emily Yi

Orange County

Orange County School of the Arts

Teachers: Lana Sawalha

**Runner-up**

**The Indian Removal Act of 1830: Conflicting Rights and Responsibilities**

Nandu Sukesh

Fresno County

Buchanan High

Teachers: Debbie Hodge

**Honorable  
Mention**

**Brushed with Censorship: How Nazis created the “Degenerate Art” Exhibitions to Erase Artists' Rights**

Warda Khan

Riverside County

Canyon Springs High

Teachers: Aurelio Cortez, Ana Pantoja



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## Group Exhibit

Senior

**Champion**

**The Holocaust on Trial: How Nuremberg Paved the Way For Universal Human Rights**

Nayleen Pulver, Angel Garay

**San Bernardino County**  
Summit High

Teachers: Alexandra Becker, Leslie Madrigal, Brian Garay

**Champion**

**“Should I Sacrifice to Live Half American?”: The Double V Campaign and the African-American Struggle for Rights through Responsibility during World War II**

Augusta Chen, Felix Chen

**Santa Clara County**  
Harker School, The

Teachers: Byron Stevens

**Runner-up**

**The Victorville Five: Policing the Police through the Lens of a Video Camera**

Robert Long, Jazzmeen McCrory, Emmalynn Glass

**San Bernardino County**  
Oak Hills High

Teachers: Jeni Boulanger

**Honorable  
Mention**

**Chinatown: Rising from the Ashes**

Victoria Park, Melody Chen, Sophie Lau, Marisa Kataoka

**San Diego County**  
The Cambridge

Teachers: Cherie Redelings



# 2025 NHD-CA

## CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

### Historical Paper

Senior

**Champion**

**Daughters of the Pyre: Sati Abolition – Rights, Responsibilities, and a Reluctant Reform in Colonial India**

Ryka Chopra

**Alameda County**  
Mission San Jose High

Teachers: Keith Kottenback

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**Champion**

**Rights vs. Responsibilities: The Irish Nationalists of the RIC in the War for Independence**

Rahul Sundaresan

**Santa Clara County**  
Harker School, The

Teachers: Byron Stevens

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**Runner-up**

**A Match Struck, A Light Snuffed: Workers' Rights and Corporate Responsibility in the Matchgirls' Strike of 1888**

Suzuko Ohshima

**Los Angeles County**  
North Hollywood Senior High

Teachers: Catherine Underwood

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**Honorable  
Mention**

**Left Behind by the Greatest Generation: How the GI Bill Widened the Racial Gap in America**

Luke Kwak

**Los Angeles County**  
South Pasadena Senior High

Teachers: Oliver Valcorza

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# 2025 NHD-CA

## CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

### Individual Performance

#### Senior

##### Champion

**From Language Revival to Irish Nationalism: The Gaelic League and the Responsibility to Fight for Cultural and Political Rights**

Zachary Sinha

San Diego County  
The Cambridge

Teachers: Cherie Redelings

##### Champion

**From Wollstonecraft to the Women's March on Washington: Rights and Responsibilities in Feminism from the 1700s to the Modern Age.**

Arya Bosworth

San Diego County  
Poway High

Teachers: Abraham Cabral, Tom Bosworth

##### Runner-up

**Rachel Carson: She Writes our Responsibilities**

Daisy Luke

Los Angeles County  
North Hollywood Senior High

Teachers: Catherine Underwood

##### Honorable Mention

**Kim Gu: Balancing the Scales of Freedom and Duty**

Susan Kim

Orange County  
Northwood High

Teachers: Deanna Myers



# 2025 NHD-CA CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

## Group Performance

Senior

**Champion**

**Today Is My Death Day**

**Piper Allen, Mason Pitcher, Kyle Mrkaich, Selena Wall, Daniel Green**

**Fresno County  
Edison High**

Teachers: Gary Mrkaich

**Champion**

**Speaking Your Truth; A Right or Responsibility? Yellow Journalism**

**Amyah Biddle-Browne, Benjamin Briggs, Camryn Canada, Sophia Martinez, Xavier Carrillo**

**Riverside County  
Canyon Springs High**

Teachers: Autumn Earle-Rodriguez

**Runner-up**

**Peterson v. Pay**

**Evie Cameron, Arianna Salinas, Maisie Van Vleet**

**Fresno County  
Sanger High**

Teachers: Austin Rurik, Bonnie Gonzalez

**Honorable  
Mention**

**Innocence on the Assembly Line: Responsibility Ignored, Rights Denied**

**Elya Hussain, Maryam Rizvi, Shruthi Gouni**

**Riverside County  
Eleanor Roosevelt High**

Teachers: Macie Walker



# 2025 NHD-CA

## CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

### Individual Podcast

Senior

**Champion**

**Korematsu vs. US: A Case of Shattered Rights and Ignored Responsibility That Will Live in Infamy**

**Madeline Cheng**

**Orange County  
Northwood High**

Teachers: Deanna Myers

**Champion**

**Defying Power, Defending Rights: How New York Times Co. v. United States Redefined Press Freedoms and Government Responsibilities**

**Asmi Aggarwal**

**Orange County  
Orange County School of the Arts**

Teachers: Lana Sawalha

**Runner-up**

**When Rivers Burn: The River That Sparked a National Movement for the Right to Clean Water and Environmental Responsibility**

**Jay Rizvi**

**Riverside County  
Canyon Springs High**

Teachers: Aurelio Cortez, Ana Pantoja

**Honorable  
Mention**

**From Rights to Ruins: The Responsibilities We Owe After the Tulsa Race Massacre**

**Carlie Adams**

**Riverside County  
Canyon Springs High**

Teachers: Aurelio Cortez, Autumn Earle-Rodriguez, Ana Pantoja





# 2025 NHD-CA CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

## Group Podcast

Senior

**Champion**

**From Hallways to History: The 1968 East LA Walkouts and the Fight for Chicano Educational Rights**

Sailee Charlu, Julianne Wu

Orange County  
Orange County School of the Arts

Teachers: Lana Sawalha

**Champion**

**Voices Unheard: The 1968 East L.A. Walkouts and the Fight For Educational Equality**

Oscar Tello, Mariano Tinoco

Stanislaus County  
Patterson High

Teachers: Jesus Mendoza

**Runner-up**

**Right to Publish, Responsibility to Protect: The Pentagon Papers**

Jadeynn Gallardo, Natalia Avila, Natalie Ballesteros

Riverside County  
Martin Luther King Jr. High

Teachers: Kevin LeDuc

**Honorable  
Mention**

**The Rosenhan Experiment: Redefining Rights and Responsibilities in American Psychiatry**

Evan Bravo, Nolan Vu

San Bernardino County  
Upland High

Teachers: Chris Hauk



# 2025 NHD-CA

## CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

### Individual Website

#### Senior

##### Champion

**The Chinese American Voice in Segregation: A Responsibility to Advocate for Equal Rights in Education**

Chelsea Su

Fresno County  
Clovis North High

Teachers: Sally Howe

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##### Champion

**The Nuremberg Code: Shaping Human Rights and Responsibilities in Medical Research**

Anna Cao

Orange County  
Northwood High

Teachers: Deanna Myers

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##### Runner-up

**Diego Rivera: The Rights and Responsibilities of an Artist and a Communist**

Isla Duncan

San Diego County  
Francis Parker

Teachers: Joseph Kurz

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##### Honorable Mention

**The Responsibility to Protect: The Nuremberg Trials's Influence on Human Rights and International Law**

Jennifer Choi

Orange County  
Orange County School of the Arts

Teachers: Lana Sawalha

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# 2025 NHD-CA

## CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

### Group Website

#### Senior

##### Champion

**Hearts in the Darkness: The Congo Reform Association's Campaign for Human Rights**

**Dillon Custer, Autumn Fowler**

**Fresno County  
Buchanan High**

Teachers: Debbie Hodge

##### Champion

**From Sovereignty to Exile: The Forgone Rights of the Cherokee and the Abandoned Responsibilities of the U.S. Government**

**Mark Blair, Krishna Kuruvadi, Eric Lillie**

**San Diego County  
Francis Parker**

Teachers: Joseph Kurz

##### Runner-up

**Survivors of the Wartime Female Slavery System: The Rights and Responsibilities**

**Dahlia Balderrama, Michelle Hur, Nathan Gautsche, Noor Jaber**

**Riverside County  
Martin Luther King Jr. High**

Teachers: Kevin LeDuc

##### Honorable Mention

**Freedom on Trial: Diplomacy vs. Dignity in the Amistad Case**

**Jacob Golden, Christian Lee, Jeffrey Kim**

**San Diego County  
The Cambridge**

Teachers: Cherie Redelings