

Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award Winners Announced!

WASHINGTON, D.C. – National History Day (NHD) announced today the teachers selected to receive the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award for their state. The teachers selected have shown outstanding creativity, commitment, and inspiration in developing student interest in history. Each state winner is awarded \$500, and is eligible for the National Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award. Two national winners, announced on June 19, 2014, will receive \$10,000.

Vanessa Miller, a teacher at Narragansett Pier School in Narragansett, RI was selected as one of two state winners. “I feel so honored that a student of mine took the time to write a letter to recommend me for the Patricia Behring National History Day Teacher of the Year Award,” said Miller. “A small program at first, it has grown by leaps and bounds with support of my fellow faculty members to include the entire 7th and 8th grades in our school contest. Though organizing History Day for the school and supporting students who are successful and move onto the state and national tournaments can be time consuming, it is always a labor of love. It is wonderful to work with students that challenge themselves to be better and pursue opportunities like NHD outside of their normal school day. Receiving this award in Rhode Island was such a wonderful surprise and a validation of my hard work and support of the students I have the pleasure of working with every day.”

Middle and high school teachers are nominated by their administrators, peers, or self for the award. Each participating state is allowed to select one high school and one middle school teachers to receive the state award and consideration for the national award.

“National History Day firmly believes that quality teachers are the best educational tools that students have,” said National History Day Executive Director Cathy Gorn. The history teachers selected as Behring award recipients are a credit to their discipline, and exemplify what it takes to truly be a quality educator.”

Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award winners are NHD participating teachers who have demonstrated excellence in the classroom. Their work must clearly illustrate the development and use of creative teaching methods that interest students in history and help them make exciting

NHD NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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discoveries about the past, and a commitment to helping students develop their interest in history and recognize their achievements.

Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year State Award Winners:

- Alaska – Heidi Imhof, Debra LaRue
- American Samoa – Steven Misaalefua, Tamara Tiavea
- Arkansas – Darren Vaughn, Bill Topich
- Arizona – Ron Bahre
- California – Mary Ong–Dean, Raymond Lopez
- China – Brenda Petersen
- Colorado – Elizabeth Milligan, Kristen Lewis
- Connecticut – Jennifer Hunt, D. Claude Morest
- Florida – Leslie Porges, Dennis Dill
- Georgia – Chris Shelnutt, Amy Hendrix
- Guam – Vince Leon Guerrero, Anthony Blas
- Hawaii – Sarah Lowrey Razee
- Idaho – Jami McLing
- Illinois – Donna Beck, Aggie Przeslicke
- Indiana – Richard G. Vander Woude, Dave Wheeler
- Iowa – Patty Lien, Kirsten Doebel
- Kansas – Alice Bertels
- Kentucky – Ashley Adkins
- Korea – Sharon Gillette
- Louisiana – Michael Cilano, Tara Cox
- Maryland – Leah Renzi, Mark S. Howell
- Massachusetts – Bryan McGraw, Ilyse Mahoney
- Michigan – Abigail Kuhn, Traci Welch
- Minnesota – Josh Nutter, Carley Kregness
- Mississippi – Kimberly Jordan, Heidi Battles
- Missouri – Maureen Funk, J. Paul Arnold
- Nebraska – Melissa Stern, Ann M. Mays
- Nevada – Lindsey Clewell, Jeanine Zelik
- New Hampshire – Skye Devarney, Molly K. Stevenson
- New Jersey – Jane Okma, Jayne O'Neill
- New Mexico – Danya Jones, Allen Andraski
- New York – Judy Sokolow
- North Carolina – Kimberly T. Jamison, Lisa Dillon
- North Dakota – Jewel Marie Lyons, Vern Huber
- Ohio – Judith Darus, Krista Buckley, Kathy Arnold
- Oklahoma – Penny Heath
- Oregon – Lorin Kubishta
- Pennsylvania – Josh Elders, Kevin Wagner
- Puerto Rico – Yanira Borges
- Rhode Island – Vanessa Miller, Edward Kimmerlein
- South Asia – Jonathan Steely, Jonathan Boyd
- South Carolina – Waylon A. Ross, Adam Powley

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- South Dakota – Lauren Olson
- Tennessee – Chris Standridge, Scott Johnson
- Texas – Patrick Browder, Barbi Binnig
- Utah – Sara Hacken
- Vermont – Tyler Willis, Erin Cohn
- Virginia – Rory Dippold, Holly Frazier
- Washington – Mary Jo Macala, James Sawatski
- Washington, D.C. – Yvonne Simpson-Wayne, Matthew Malone
- West Virginia – Daniel J. Cosgrove
- Wisconsin – Michael Cirillo, Katherine Haig
- Wyoming – Mitch Irrgang, Kristy Richmond

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NHD is a non-profit education organization based out of College Park, MD. Established in 1974, NHD offers year-long academic programs that engage over half a million primary and secondary students around the world in conducting original research on historical topics of interest. These research-based projects are entered into local affiliate contests, where the top student projects have the opportunity to advance to the national competition at the University of Maryland at College Park. NHD also seeks to improve the quality of history education by providing professional development opportunities for educators. NHD is sponsored in part by the History Channel, Kenneth E. Behring, Weider History Group, Inc., WEM Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Southwest Airlines. For more information about NHD, visit www.nhd.org.