

VIRTUAL JUDGING: WEBSITE CATEGORY

Website Basics

Websites are web-based, multimedia representations of a student's argument and supporting evidence.



- **No more than 1,200 student-composed words.** Students can include up to 1,200 student-composed words. Words that students do not write - such as quoted material or words within primary sources - do not count toward this limit. The navigational structure, menus, and user instructions do not count toward the student-composed word limit.
- **Created using NHDWebCentral.** Students are required to use a standard NHD-provided platform to develop website entries.
- **Up to three minutes media.** Can include up to three minutes of video/audio. Students can divide this up as they wish, as long as the total does not exceed three minutes.
- **The evidence should support, not overwhelm, the student's analysis and interpretation.** The student's voice should be clear to the viewer.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PROCESS PAPER

In addition to the exhibit itself, judges will review the following written documents as part of the evaluation of the website.



- The **annotated bibliography** will document the research upon which the project is based. It should be separated, at minimum, into primary and secondary sources.
- The **process paper** answers key questions about how the students researched and created the project.
 - How did you choose your topic and 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?

Virtual Contest Websites

- Students were required to use a **History Day-provided website creation program, NHDWebCentral**. This is a new platform. It is significantly harder, and much more like what a professional web designer would use, than the previous platform.
- **Be understanding of technical problems and challenges.** Judges should focus on the historical argument and analysis the student is presenting - and not formatting errors, or bells and whistles.
- Judges should assume all projects do not exceed the total size limit of websites.

Website Rules Compliance

Major Rule Violations: Have the potential to give a project an unfair advantage over their competition. Major violations must be taken into consideration when deciding rankings. **Consult with History Day staff if your top entries have a major rule violation.**

- Missing bibliography
- More than 20 words over student-composed word limit of 1,200
- More than 15 seconds over three minute media time limit
- Failure to use the NHDWebCentral editor to build the site

Minor Rule Violations: Note on the judge sheet, but should not be the focus of a judge's written commentary. Should not influence a project's ranking, unless projects are *exceptionally* close in quality.

- Missing process paper
- Incorrect citation format, missing annotations, or bibliography not sorted into primary/secondary sources
- Failure to provide credits for images/quotes in website
- Not including correct information on title page or website homepage
- Links appearing within annotated bibliography

