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*****MEDIA ALERT***MEDIA ALERT***MEDIA ALERT***MEDIA ALERT*****

**Hundreds of Local Students to Showcase Creative Projects at
History Center's National History Day Competition**
-Local Winners Will Advance to State Competition in May-

WHAT: Nearly 450 students from 33 area schools in four counties will participate in the annual National History Day Competition, sponsored by **Covestro LLC**, at the Senator John Heinz History Center this weekend, March 10-11.

Since 1989, the History Center has hosted the Western Pa. regional National History Day competition, one of the largest scholastic history contests in the nation.

Students compete individually or as part of a small group in one of five history-focused categories, including documentaries, exhibits, historical papers, performances, and websites. This year's theme is "Conflict & Compromise in History," and many entries reflect a local history focus with topics such as the Whiskey Rebellion, the Homestead Steel Strike, the Donora Smog of 1948, the Hill District, Andrew Carnegie, Martha Graham, Rachel Carson, and more.

First, second, and third place category winners from each age group qualify for the state competition held at Carlisle High School on May 11-12 and could potentially advance to the national contest held at the University of Maryland in June.

The competition is divided into two divisions:

- The **Junior Division** (grades 6-8) will compete on Saturday, March 10. Judging begins at 8 a.m., and the awards ceremony will take place at approximately 2:30 p.m.
- The **Senior Division** (grades 9-12) will compete on Sunday, March 11. Judging begins at 9 a.m., and the awards ceremony will take place at approximately 1:30 p.m.
- Projects will be on view to the public beginning at 1 p.m. both days.

National History Day is a key component of the History Center's robust educational programming. The History Center offers field trips and classes that meet Pennsylvania academic standards, Girl and Boy Scout merit badge programs, teacher in-service seminars, online curriculum packages, and educational outreach initiatives that reach thousands of students each year.

WHEN: Saturday, March 10 and Sunday, March 11

MEDIA NOTE: The best time to capture visuals of students showcasing their history projects is on **Saturday, March 10, between 9:30 a.m. and noon.** The award presentation will be held at approximately 2:30 p.m. with Christine A. Bryant, senior vice president, **Covestro LLC.**

WHERE: Senator John Heinz History Center
1212 Smallman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

-For more information about the National History Day Competition and additional educational programs at the History Center, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org-



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