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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:** More than 400 students from 30 area schools will participate in the annual National History Day Competition, sponsored by Covestro LLC, at the Senator John Heinz History Center this weekend, March 30-31.

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 "Triumph and Tragedy in History," and many entries reflect a local history focus with topics such as the Great Fire of Pittsburgh, Jonas Salk, Roberto Clemente, the steel industry, 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 10-11 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 30. 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 31. 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 30 and Sunday, March 31**

**MEDIA NOTE:** The best time to capture visuals of students showcasing their history projects is on **Saturday, March 30, 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 St.  
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](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org)-



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