

AMERICAN HISTORY COMMITTEE

AMERICAN HISTORY, JANET BICKETT Westbrook, National Chair, AmericanHistory@nsdar.org

The American History Committee promotes American History throughout the year by honoring significant historical people, places, dates, and events. Chapters will find opportunities to Celebrate Stars & Stripes Forever! as they promote the American History Essay Contest, American History Video Contest, the Patriots of the American Revolution DAR High School Essay Contest, Women in American History, the Excellence in American History DAR Award, and by contributing to the Stars & Stripes newsletter. Essays and videos to be submitted electronically.



AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST, HELEN S. DITTO, National Vice Chair amhist.essaycontest@nsdar.org



Chapters are encouraged to conduct the American History Essay Contest. All grade 5, 6, 7, and 8 students in a public, private, or parochial school, or those who are homeschooled are eligible. An individual may submit an entry directly to a DAR chapter within their state if their class or school is not participating. This contest is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin. The American History State Chair sets the deadline date for essays from her state. A national winner is selected for each grade level from the division winners. Please note that the entire essay must be the student's original work. This includes all research writing, and editing, which must be done by the student only and not by a parent, teacher, tutor, AI or other helper. Essays not following these guidelines will be disqualified. (See Topic and Question below)

AMERICAN HISTORY VIDEO CONTEST, AMY P. LAWSON, National Vice Chair, amyplawson@gmail.com

Chapters are encouraged to conduct the American History Video Contest. All grade 5 through 12 students in a public, private, or parochial school, or those who are homeschooled are eligible. An individual student may submit an entry directly to a DAR chapter, in their own state, if their class or school is not participating. Video may be written and acted out by no more than two students. Categories for this contest will be: 5-6 grade, 7-8 grade, 9-10 grade, and 11-12 grade. This contest is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin. The American History State Chair sets the deadline date for videos from her state. A national winner is selected for each grade category level from the division winners. Video may be up to 3 minutes in length. Timing of the video begins when the first visual image appears or the first sound is heard. Timing ends when the last visual image or sound ends, including source credits. The student must announce only the title of the video and the student(s) name(s) before starting the video, which does not count for the 3 minutes.

Please note that the entire video must be an original work written and created by the student(s). If professional photos, film/media clips, images, recorded music or anything that is copyrighted is used in the video, they must be properly cited in source credits at the end of the video. The entire video must be the student(s) original work and not by a parent, teacher, tutor, AI, or other helper. Each video must include a completed Title Page (AHC-1008).

The American History Essay and Video Contest Topic: "Enjoying a new kind of Tea Party!"



Question: In the 1770's there was a movement of protest from the Colonists against the British due to taxes and laws. Along the eastern coast a growing number of patriots held "tea" parties. The Boston Tea Party was on December 16, 1773, and the Charlestown, SC Tea Party and the Chester Town Tea Party followed in 1774. In October 1774, 51 women in Edenton, North Carolina, decided to refuse to buy tea from the British because of their high taxes and laws. In 1775, women in Wilmington, North Carolina, burned their tea for the same reasons. Imagine you are one of these women boldly participating in one of these Tea Parties in North Carolina. Give details of either the Edenton Tea Party or Wilmington Tea Party, describe the tea party, and why you would choose to join them. Then explain if you think it was a good decision.

PATRIOTS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION DAR HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST CATHY W. HYER, National Vice Chair, amhist.patriotseessay@nsdar.org

Chapters are encouraged to promote the Patriots of the American Revolution DAR High School Essay Contest. All grade 9, 10, 11, and 12 students in a public, private, or parochial school, or those who are homeschooled are eligible. This contest is conducted without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin. The State American History Chair sets the deadline date for essays from her state. Nationally, all grades will be judged together, with a first, second, and third-place winner chosen from division winners.

The Patriots of the American Revolution DAR High School Essay Contest topic is: "Select a figure from the era of the American Revolution (1773-1783). Discuss how he or she influenced the course of the American Revolution, who he or she was and his/her contribution to the founding of a new nation. Figures may be any person, whether a well-known figure or an every-day man, woman, or child who supported the American Revolution in ways large or small." The title of the essay should be the name of the Patriot.



WOMEN IN AMERICAN HISTORY, CATHERINE "PENNY" SWITZER, National Vice Chair, amhist.womeninhistory@nsdar.org

The emphasis of Women in American History is on the role of women, past and present, in American History. Chapters are encouraged to select a notable woman from their state or community to honor. March is officially "Women's History Month," so chapters may wish to use this occasion to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of the woman of their choice. Choose a woman to honor for this



recognition by taking into consideration women who have made a contribution or a difference in their communities. She could be a historical entity or currently alive and worthy of recognition. Look for women who are, or have been, intellectual, educational, social, religious, political, scientific, or cultural innovators. The woman or women being honored may be DAR members, prospective DAR members, or non-members. Chapters may select more than one woman to honor. While serving as examples for us all, these women should also sparkle!

EXCELLENCE IN AMERICAN HISTORY DAR AWARD

Chapters may recognize an outstanding student of American History (separate from the participation in one of the American History Essay Contest or the Patriots of the American Revolution DAR Essay Contest) through the presentation of a certificate of award and/or a bronze medal. The Chapter may determine eligibility and criteria for this award for any student in any grade.



Additional Resources:

American History Essay Contest Information (AHC-1000): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1000.pdf>
American History Essay Contest Judges Scoring Sheet (AHC-1001): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1001.pdf>
AmericanHistoryEssayContestFlyer(AHC-1004):<https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1004.pdf>
PatriotsoftheAmericanRevolutionDARHighSchoolEssayContestInformation(AHC-1002): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1002.pdf>
PatriotsoftheAmericanRevolutionDARHighSchoolEssayContestJudge'sScoringSheet(AHC-1003):<https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1003.pdf>
Patriots of the American Revolution DAR High School Essay Contest Flyer (AHC-1005): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1005.pdf>
Women in American History Report Form (AHC-1006): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1006.pdf>
American History Essay Contest Title Page (AHC-1008): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1008.pdf>
Essay Contests – Electronic Signature Form: Chapter/State/Division (AHC-1009): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1009.pdf>
AmericanHistoryVideoContestInformation(AHC-1010):<https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1010.pdf>
AmericanHistoryVideoContestGuidelinesforJudges(AHC-1011):<https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1011.pdf>
American History Video Contest Title Page (AHC-1012): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1012.pdf>
American History Video Contest Flyer (AHC-1013): <https://www.dar.org/sites/default/files/members/darnet/forms/AHC-1013.pdf>