



Ohio History Day Websites

Websites MUST be created using [NHDWebCentral](#). Websites not created using the NHD software will be ineligible for advancement at the contests.

Some tips about websites:

- Remember that just because the medium is different, the historical quality is still most important.
- A website is more than just an essay on the web or an exhibit online. Combine different elements to make your website more interactive. Videos, images, text can all be used to support our main idea.
- The website must be completed built by the student, video or other media used in the website can be used from professional sources. Check the rules for length limits on media clips.
- School computer labs can be a great resource for building your website.
- Look at history websites produced by museums or universities for ideas.
- Go out and research in the real world! Even though your entry is made for the virtual world you should still be doing research at libraries, archives, and other research institutions.
- Keep your information organized. Like a documentary, performance, or exhibit, you want your audience to be able to follow your story. Create a website navigation map before you start uploading information into the NHD Website Creator.



800 E. 17th Ave, Columbus, OH 43211-2474 ∞ 614.297.2300 ∞ ohiohistory.org

Ohio History Day is an affiliate of National History Day



The History Day Project

Project

Thankfully, many History Day participants share their projects online. Both students and educators benefit from observing projects from past contests.

Helpful Hints and Sample Projects

Website Hint:

Consider the order in which students intend the viewer to access the information and pages within the site. Design the site navigation and the links between pages to guide the viewer through the site in the intended order.

Taylor Walsh (Charles Wright Academy) made great use of page design and navigation to guide viewers through her 2013 silver-medal website.



<http://www.galleryofthelouvre.com/>

Website Hint:

Do not pad the website with extra quotes or photos and do not rely too heavily on items brought in from other websites. It should be apparent that the student contributed and did not simply use materials made by someone else.

Andrew Cooper (Liberty High School) chose quotes and photos that were useful in explaining his topic and thesis, then used his own words to connect it all.

<http://62110879.nhd.weebly.com/thesis.html>



Read the website rules very carefully. It is easy to miss one by accident!

FOIA: Balancing Rights and Responsibilities

HOME | THESIS | PRE-FOIA | FOIA | AMENDMENTS | IMPACT | FOIA TODAY | CONTACT



Devika Baliga, Suchi Sridhar, and Vaishnavi Phadnis (Redmond Middle School) took care to properly upload all important documents into their website.

<http://freedomofinformationact.weebly.com>

<http://99084313.nhd.weebly.com/>

Jessica Jin and Anastasiya Kirichuk (International Community School) used web tools like mouseovers to help make the information clear, focused, and easy to read in their 2011 gold-medal website.



Website Hint:

Pay attention to the technical aspects of the website category, including rules. "Publish" the site often to be sure the work is saved, verify when websites will be locked, and pay attention to rules like not including links to outside websites.

Website Hint:

Websites offer many opportunities for students to show off their technological skills. However, this should not come at the expense of historical quality. Students should utilize technology and multimedia as a means, not an end.

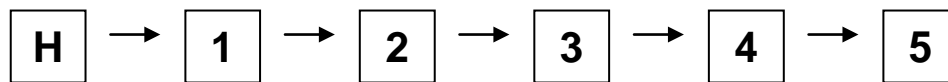
Organizing Your Information: Website

Websites can be organized in many ways, use your judgment to decide how this will work best for your particular topic.

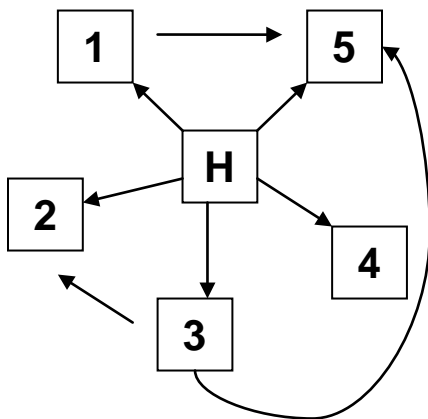
- **Segment your information in a logical way.** This can be done in multiple ways, for example: chronologically, topically, by location, etc. You may use any or all of these to divide your information into different pages.
- **Homepage:** Include all of the most important information here- your argument, title, names, and introduction. All pages must link to this page.
- **Unify your pages.** Use a common text, color, template/ layout, font, etc. to establish a flow that makes it easy for the viewer to understand your information.
- **Avoid visual clutter.** Don't include all the funky widgets you can find, this will overwhelm your viewer. Viewers will quickly see through the glitz if there is little substance.
- **Pay attention to structure.** Use the diagrams below to help you think about how your information is best presented.

These diagrams offer some ideas about how to structure your web site.

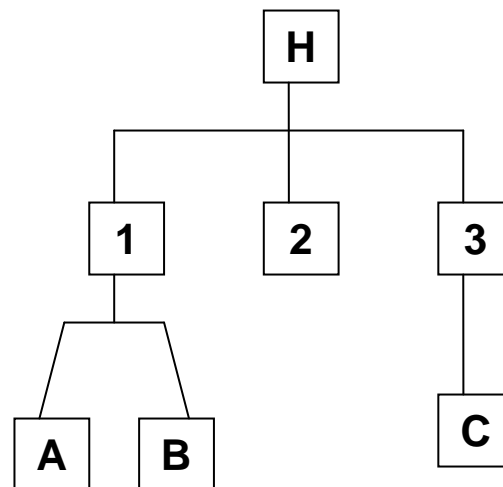
Linear Organization: This allows you to sequence the exact order your viewer goes from page to page.



Spider Web: This organization allows the viewer to explore the website in any way they choose. Viewers will assume that all of the information is equally important because it is only one step away from the homepage. Not all pages must link together.



Hierarchical Organization: Viewer may look at this type of website in multiple ways. By layering the information you show the viewer that some is more important than the rest. The closer the page is to the homepage, the more essential the information will be assumed to be.



This information is taken from the National History Day website, for more info and tips please visit www.nationalhistoryday.org.