2024 State Contest Special Awards

Student must pay close attention to each special award criteria. You should aim to apply for no more than two (2) special awards. For application instructions, please refer to the State Qualifier packet.

**African American History Award**

*Award amount:* $150 Junior; $150 Senior  
*Award Sponsor:* Department of History, The Ohio State University  
*Award Criteria:* The Department of History at The Ohio State University offers this award to any outstanding project in the Junior or Senior Divisions that investigates a topic related to the historical contributions of African-Americans in the United States.

**The American Founding Award**

*Award amount:* $250  
*Award Sponsor:* The Ashbrook Center, Ashland University  
*Award Criteria:* An excellent essay related to the study of the Declaration of Independence and/or the U.S. Constitution.

**First Ladies of the United States Prize**

*Award amount:* One prize awarded at $50 if an individual project or $100 if a group project  
*Award Sponsor:* National First Ladies Library & Museum  
*Award Criteria:* Dive into the fascinating world of our nation's First Ladies. The project may be an awe-inspiring documentary, an essay that sparks curiosity, a cutting-edge website, or a performance that captivates! This award will be given to a project that excels in exploring and presenting the captivating narratives of our First Ladies. Open to both Junior and Senior divisions.

**George Washington Leadership Prize**

*Award amount:* $500 Junior; $500 Senior  
*Award Sponsor:* Washington Library, George Washington’s Mount Vernon  
*Award Criteria:* This award recognizes outstanding projects in both the Junior and Senior categories that demonstrate a clear understanding of the ideas and events defined by Washington’s life, leadership, and legacy. In addition to outstanding historical interpretation, this award gives special consideration to projects that seek innovative and compelling ways to tell the story of George Washington so that his timeless and relevant life are accessible to the world.
The History of Education Award

**Award Amount:** A 529 college savings plan valued at $250 - one (1) Junior Award and one (1) Senior Award

**Award Sponsor:** Ohio’s 529 Plan, CollegeAdvantage

**Award Criteria:** This award is sponsored by Ohio’s 529 College Plan, CollegeAdvantage and is given to one Junior and one Senior project in any category that focuses on the history of education in the United States.

**Important Application Note:** By applying for this award, students and their families agree to complete all necessary steps to accept the award, including attending a student-family meeting with award sponsors and creating a 529 Plan account. Failure to do so by the deadline may result in the forfeiture of the special prize.

National Maritime Historical Award

**Award amount:** $100 Junior 1st; $100 Senior 1st; $50 Junior 2nd; $50 Senior 2nd

**Award Sponsor:** National Maritime Historical Society

**Award Criteria:** National Maritime Historical Award is given to one outstanding project in each the Junior and Senior categories that explores a topic related to Maritime History. The first place winners in each division will be awarded a $100 cash prize (for the individual or to be split among the group), a one-year membership in the National Maritime Historical Society and their name and project will be featured in Sea History magazine and on www.seahistory.org. The second place winners will receive a $50 cash prize (for the individual or to be split among the group), a one-year membership in the National Maritime Historical Society and their name and project will be featured in Sea History magazine and on www.seahistory.org. Potential maritime topics for this year’s theme include (but are not limited to): War of 1812, the Spanish American War, Whaling, Washington Naval Treaty of 1922 and/or The London Naval treaty of 1930, Roosevelt’s Great White Fleet, and more!

Ohio Academy of History Award

**Award amount:** $100

**Award Sponsor:** Ohio Academy of History

**Award Criteria:** The award will be given for an outstanding documentary, website or paper on a topic from any area of the world outside of North America.
The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board History Day Award

Award amount: $100 Senior; $100 Junior  
Award Sponsor: Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board  
Award Criteria: Eligible projects are individual or group, junior or senior division entries in the categories of papers, websites and documentaries. Projects must demonstrate exceptional use of Ohio primary sources, either originals or copies (such as digital) and either created in Ohio or held by an Ohio repository. Primary sources represent a first-hand account contemporaneous with the events or people researched.

The Ohio Local History Alliance Award

Award Amount: $100 Senior; $100 Junior  
Award Sponsor: Ohio Local History Alliance  
Award Criteria: This award is presented to one Junior and one Senior project that most successfully meet the following criteria: 1. The project is focused on an Ohio local history topic or a topic of national or world history that draws a significant connection to Ohio or a community within Ohio. 2. The project uses archival or object collections found within an Ohio historical society, museum, or library.

The Ohio Women in Government Award

Award amount: $100 Junior 1st; $100 Senior 1st; $50 Junior 2nd; $50 Senior 2nd  
Award Sponsor: League of Women Voters of Ohio  
Award Criteria: The Ohio Women in Government Award is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Ohio for outstanding Ohio History Day projects, in any category, that focuses on a women’s political movement or a woman leader in local, state or national government. Project must be well-researched and include accurate citations in the bibliography. Project may be a paper, exhibit, performance, documentary, or website.

The Society of Ohio Archivists Award

Award amount: $100 Junior; $100 Senior  
Award Sponsor: Society of Ohio Archivists  
Award Criteria: The award is given to a project that demonstrates exceptional research and use of primary sources to include at least two of the following: letters, speeches, diaries, newspaper articles from the time, oral history interviews, documents, photographs, artifacts, or anything else that provides a first-hand account about a person or event. History Day Project winners must have used primary resources on site at a research institution housing those materials. All primary sources must be cited accurately in the bibliography of the paper.