



2026 National Contest Results

Top 10 Finalists

2nd Place- Junior Paper

Students: Anne Fei

Project Title: Blood or Birthplace? How United States v. Wong Kim Ark Revolutionized Citizenship in America

School: Birchwood School of Hawken

Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer & Edward Hume

2nd Place – Junior Group Documentary

Students: Haadi Nouman & Viyan Kshetry

Project Title: Toxic Wake-Up: The 1993 Cleveland Lead Summit That Stirred Citizens and Shaped Reform

School: Birchwood School of Hawken

Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer & Edward Hume

5th Place- Junior Individual Documentary

Students: Nathan Thomas

Project Title: Echoes of the Plains: The Wounded Knee Occupation and the Fight to Reform Native American Rights

School: Birchwood School of Hawken

Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer & Edward Hume

Outstanding Entries

Junior Division

Students: Susan Stewart-Pirone

Project Title: Silence = Death: How ACT UP Turned Emotion into Action

Category: Individual Documentary

School: Walnut Hills High School

Teacher: Independent Entry

Senior Division

Students: Gabriel Heard & Masen Nelson

Project Title: A Silver Lining in a Performative Paradox: The Legacy of the Aristocrat of Harlem (The Cotton Club)

Category: Group Documentary

School: Toledo Early College

Teacher: Zachary Shepler, Allison Edler



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Special Award Winners

Discovery or Exploration in History

Students: Bram Turturici, Calvin Wilson, Lucas Tcheurekdjian & Marios Kallergis
Project Title: Vera Rubin: A Pioneer in Science and Gender Equality
Category: Senior Group Website
School: Shaker Heights High School
Teacher: Sarah Davis & Joseph Konopinski

Showcase Projects

Exhibit Showcase

Students: Lucas Cook, Zhiying Yuan, Sophie Hao
Project Title: From Patients to Athletes: The Revolution of Respect in the Paralympic Games
School: Mason Intermediate School
Teacher: Jill Hartsock

2026 National Qualifiers

Junior Group Documentary

Students: Bodi Elliott, Gabe Elliott
Project Title: The Bridge that Changed America
School: Independent Entry
Teacher: Gwen Elliott

Students: Viyan Kshetry, Haadi Nouman
Project Title: Toxic Wake-Up: The 1993 Lead Summit That Stirred Citizens and Shaped Reform
School: Birchwood School of Hawken
Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer, Edward Hume

Senior Group Documentary

Students: Joshua Gordon, Joshua Chen, Joshua Thomas
Project Title: "Justice for Vincent Chin!" The Murder that Mobilized a Movement
School: St. Ignatius High School
Teacher: Joe Ptak



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2026 National Contest Results

Students: Gabriel Heard, Masen Nelson

Project Title: A Silver Lining in a Performative Paradox: The Legacy of the Aristocrat of Harlem (The Cotton Club)

School: Toledo Early College

Teacher: Zachary Shepler, Allison Edler

Junior Group Exhibit

Students: Skye Bondy, Kamari Carpenter, Genevieve Hess

Project Title: The 1918 Flu Pandemic Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio

School: Buckeye Trail Middle & High School

Teacher: Toni Gallow

Students: Lucas Cook, Zhiying Yuan, Sophie Hao

Project Title: From Patients to Athletes: The Revolution of Respect in the Paralympic Games

School: Mason Intermediate School

Teacher: Jill Hartsock

Senior Group Exhibit

Students: Samuel Claspy, Saint Anthony Crawford V, Joseph Friguglietti, Matthew Moore

Project Title: "The George Washington of Saint Domingue," Toussaint Louverture's Revolution and the Global Reaction to Slavery

School: Shaker Heights High School

Teacher: Sarah Davis, Joseph Konopinski

Students: Mariana Smith, Anajoselyn Cruz, Karina Cruz

Project Title: The United Farm Workers

School: Toledo Early College

Teacher: Zachary Shepler, Allison Edler

Junior Group Performance

Students: Devang Pareek, Mia Woodley

Project Title: From Challenge to Change: Revolutionizing Women's Rights through Moritz v. Commissioner

School: Independent Entry

Teacher: Independent Entry

Students: Eve Thompson, Trisha Sriniketh, Architha Reddy

Project Title: Church Reformation of England

School: Mason Intermediate School

Teacher: Jill Hartsock



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Senior Group Performance

Students: Rachel Klein, Pom Ziv, Saya Walters
Project Title: Radium Girls: Doomed to Die
School: Shaker Heights High School
Teacher: Joseph Konopinski

Students: Vibha Balasubramaniam, Laura Holbrook, Ava Mason
Project Title: "Don't Pass the Babies By" - Martin Couney's Coney Island Incubator Exhibit
School: Shaker Heights High School
Teacher: Sarah Davis

Junior Group Website

Students: Niko Constantinou, Noah DeLuca, Millan Babu
Project Title: Revolutionary Resting: How The Akron Sit-Down Strike Brought Reform To Goodyear's Factories
School: Birchwood School of Hawken
Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer, Edward Hume

Students: Nicholas Hartman II, Kristen Howard
Project Title: The Influence of The Capitol Crawl
School: Toledo Early College
Teacher: Allison Edler, Zachary Shepler

Senior Group Website

Students: Bram Turturici, Calvin Wilson, Lucas Tcheurekdjian, Marios Kallergis
Project Title: Vera Rubin: A Pioneer in Science and Gender Equality
School: Shaker Heights High School
Teacher: Sarah Davis, Joseph Konopinski

Students: Liam Calabrese, Henry Burkhart, Matias Pusa
Project Title: Ink, Blood, and Crack Cocaine: How Gary Webb's Investigation into the CIA caused Public Outrage, and its Impact on Government Accountability
School: Shaker Heights High School
Teacher: Sarah Davis, Joseph Konopinski

Junior Individual Documentary

Students: Nathan Thomas
Project Title: Echoes of the Plains: The Wounded Knee Occupation and the Fight to Reform Native American Rights
School: Birchwood School of Hawken
Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer, Edward Hume



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2026 National Contest Results

Students: Susan Stewart-Pirone
Project Title: Silence = Death: How ACT UP Turned Anger and Fear into Action and Change
School: Walnut Hills High School
Teacher: Joseph Stewart-Pirone

Senior Individual Documentary

Students: Ethan Daniels
Project Title: Frank Lloyd Wright and The Birth of Organic Architecture
School: Toledo Early College
Teacher: Zachary Shepler, Allison Edler

Students: David Machak
Project Title: America's Burning River
School: Western Reserve Academy
Teacher: Sarah Horgan

Junior Individual Exhibit

Students: Alice Gutridge
Project Title: The 1970s Reclamation of the Pink Triangle
School: Walnut Hills High School
Teacher: Samantha Bramlage

Students: James Ryba
Project Title: The Mold That Mended Millions: The Invention of Penicillin
School: St. Barnabas School
Teacher: Andrea Scullion

Senior Individual Exhibit

Students: Joseph Smith
Project Title: Standing Alone: The courage of Ida B. Wells
School: Berne Union High School
Teacher: Julie Cornell

Students: Stephanie Liu
Project Title: A Study in Deception: The Tuskegee Syphilis Study and the Reckoning of American Medical Ethics
School: Columbus Academy
Teacher: Tim Morford



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Junior Individual Performance

Students: Graham Walker
Project Title: John Muir : Revolution, Reaction, Reform
School: Gallia Academy Middle School
Teacher: Megan Lawhon

Students: Corrado Naples
Project Title: Virtue After Vietnam: How Reactions to the Bui Doi Inspired Reforms in America's Immigration Policies
School: Birchwood School of Hawken
Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer, Edward Hume

Senior Individual Performance

Students: Ananya Kandel
Project Title: The Fight of America's Glowing Radium Girls
School: Toledo Early College
Teacher: Zachary Shepler, Allison Edler

Students: Greyson Hearing
Project Title: Revolution on the Airwaves: Sesame Street and the Reaction to Educational Integration
School: Maysville High School
Teacher: Lance Mcgee

Junior Individual Website

Students: Julie Swedeh
Project Title: Killing Polio: The Medical Revolution That Saved Millions from Paralysis
School: Birchwood School of Hawken
Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer, Edward Hume

Students: Emily Dury
Project Title: Katherine Johnson - One of NASA's Hidden Figures
School: St. Agatha School
Teacher: Nicholas Moore

Senior Individual Website

Students: Ella Tang
Project Title: Víctor Jara and Nueva Canción: A Musical Revolution
School: Columbus Academy
Teacher: Tim Morford



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Students: Calvin Lei
Project Title: The Race That Changed Racing: Tragedy and the Safety Revolution in Formula One
School: Hawken Upper School
Teacher: Mati Barker

Junior Paper

Students: Anne Fei
Project Title: Blood or Birthplace? How United States v. Wong Kim Ark Revolutionized Citizenship in America
School: Birchwood School of Hawken
Teacher: Joe Parrino, Todd Boyer, Edward Hume

Students: AirMarie Stanley
Project Title: The Oberlin-Wellington Rescue
School: Spencer Center for Gifted and Exceptional Students
Teacher: Steven Lewis, Ben Rall

Senior Paper

Students: Omar Elbadawy
Project Title: Romania's Revolution of 1989: The Violent Path from Dictatorship to Reform
School: Hawken Upper School
Teacher: Mati Barker

Students: Isaiah Fuhr
Project Title: Tinker vs. Des Moines: Revolution, Reaction, and Reform
School: Rock Hill High School
Teacher: Rhonda Hacker



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