

# STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS

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## INTRODUCTION:

The New York State Archives announces its twenty-ninth annual Student Research Awards program to promote and recognize excellence in student research. The main purpose of the awards program is to encourage students to explore the wealth of historical records held in historical records repositories\* in New York State. A secondary purpose is to increase cooperation between schools and organizations that administer historical records useful for education.

Students, working individually, in groups, or a class, develop projects such as research papers, papers reconstructing the past, exhibits, documentaries, performances, PowerPoint entries, websites, or proposals for the designation of a historical marker, property or district. Projects must include an annotated bibliography and use historical records.

Projects are not required to focus on New York State history; however it can be more convenient and engaging to conduct research using historical records that are found locally in libraries, historical societies, local governments, businesses, community organizations, and with individuals and families. Often, the most successful research projects examine an event from a local point of view.

This is a research award contest and, therefore, the final product should answer a research question. Research questions do not have a yes or no answer and can be answered in different ways based on the evidence found in historical records. Research questions often begin with: How, What or Why. For example: Why was New York influential in the outcome of the Civil War?; How did the Erie Canal impact the economy of individual communities?; Why do people break the law?; and How does popular media influence culture? Students are encouraged to work closely with their teachers, school library media specialists, public librarians and local historians while working on their projects.

*\*A repository is a facility organized to collect, hold, care for, and provide access to historical records.*

### **AWARDS:**

The Student Research Awards program is a statewide competition open to all New York State students in grades 4-12. A total of three (3) awards will be given; one each for students in the following divisions:

- Grades 4-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

Each award consists of a framed certificate and a cash prize. **To qualify for an award, all entries must:**

- Show a heavy reliance on information from historical records
- Provide an annotated bibliography
- Provide a URL in the annotated bibliography for each online historical record found on the Internet
- Provide a signed entry form

**Projects that do not show evidence of the use of historical records; or do not include an annotated bibliography or signed entry form will be disqualified.**

### **TIMETABLE:**

**Entries must be postmarked no later than July 1, 2019.** Award winners will be notified by mid-September. Results of the competition will be formally announced during Archives Month in October 2018. Entries submitted for competition must be researched and developed during the July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 school year. Projects can be sent by FedEx, UPS, or USPS to the address on page 1 of these guidelines. Entries submitted by email will not be accepted.

### **ENTRY FORMATS:**

Students may submit a project on any topic. Project formats include: Research Papers, Papers Reconstructing the Past, PowerPoint Presentation, Exhibits, Documentaries, Performances, Websites, or Proposal for a Historic Marker. Entries must show analysis of the topic, not just the facts, and be presented in the student's own words.

#### **RESEARCH PAPER**

Two categories of research papers are eligible for an award:

- (1) Traditional research paper, based on a subject of choice;
- (2) A research paper that reconstructs the past by analyzing and interpreting the issues and events mentioned in a historical story, ballad, folksong, folktale, diary, letter, poem, or an oral history interview. (For example: a student uses an 1863 letter written by Colonel Barber in Virginia to his wife in upstate New York as part of a study to reconstruct the colonel's life, in order to show the impact of the Civil War on the life of a New York soldier and his family.) Students must use historical records to analyze and interpret the issues and events mentioned in the folksong, diary, letter, poem, etc. they are using.

Papers must be typed or computer-printed on 8 ½" x 11" paper, 12-point font and double-spaced with pages numbered and no less than 1,000 words (excludes notes, annotated bibliography, illustration captions, and supplemental or appendix materials). Citations such as footnotes or endnotes are required for all sources. Five (5) copies of the paper are required. Papers will not be returned. Feel free to print using both sides of the paper.

### **POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS**

PowerPoint presentations can be viewed as a virtual exhibit. There is a 500-word count limit for student-composed words including labels and captions. Citations and quotations do not count in the word limit. Students are encouraged to incorporate images of historical documents that can do the speaking for them; and use quotes from historical figures. This allows the students to use the student-composed words to analyze and narrate the topic. Information should be properly cited. Copies of the entry must be submitted on five (5) individual DVDs/CDs and must be PC-compatible. Submissions will not be returned.

### **EXHIBITS**

This category does not limit the size of the exhibit, but no larger than 24"x 36" is preferred. Tri-folded exhibits are welcome. The exhibit should be shipped in a re-usable carton; exhibits will be returned to the entrants if shipped this way. The State Archives is not responsible for any damage or loss suffered by the exhibit in shipment. If the exhibit is too large or heavy to be shipped, a videotape, slideshow, or photographs of the exhibit may be submitted instead. Copies of the exhibit labels, text, and any additional information that accompanies the original exhibit must be submitted with the entry.

Student-composed written materials on the exhibit should contain no more than 500 words including labels and captions. This limit does not apply to quotations or documents that may be used as an integral part of the exhibit. In fact, students are encouraged to incorporate copies of historical documents that can do the speaking for them and use quotes from historical figures. This allows the students to use the student-composed words to analyze and narrate the topic. Information should be properly cited.

### **DOCUMENTARY**

Copies of the documentary must be submitted on five (5) individual DVDs, playable on a computer or a DVD player. Five (5) copies of the script must also be included (feel free to use both sides of the paper). Be sure to cite any music and persons interviewed in bibliography. Entries should be no longer than fifteen (15) minutes. Submissions will not be returned.

### **PERFORMANCE**

Copies of the performance must be submitted on five (5) individual DVDs, playable on a computer or a DVD player. Five (5) copies of the script must also be included (feel free to print using both sides of the paper). Entries should be no longer than fifteen (15) minutes. Submissions will not be returned.

### **WEBSITES**

There is no word limit on websites. Website entries must have a valid URL address listed on the entry form. Entrant(s) must ensure that the entry is accessible over the Summer months. Entrant(s) names must appear on the website.



- VEVWDQWLDOSRUWLRQRIWKHVWGHQWUHVHDUFKPVWEHEDVHGRQKLVWRULFDUHFVRUGVIURPDUFKLYHVPVHPV  
KLVWRULFDUHFVRFLHVLHVOORFDUJRYHUQPHQWVFRPPQLWRUJDQLDWRQVEV LQHVVHVIDPLOLRVLQGLYLGD  
LVWRULFDUHFVRUGVORWSEOLVKHGFRSLHVRIGRFPHQWV7KHDUH RULJLQDGRFPHQWVFUHDWHGGULQJWKH  
WLPKSHULRGRQKLFKWKHUHVHDUFKLVIRFVHG7KHVHRI,QWHUQHWHVHLWHVVFKDVWKRVRHRIWKH1HRUN  
6WDWHUHFKLYHVVWKH/LEUDURIRQJUHVVVDQGWKH1DWLRQDOUHFKLYHVLVHQFRUDJHG:KHQVLQJ,QWHUQH  
VRUFHVWGHQWVPVWOLQNRWKVSHFLILFKLVWRULFDUHFVRUGVHGQRWMMVWKHJHQHUDOHEVLWHRIWKH  
UHSRVLWRULQWKHDQQRWDWHGELEOLRJDUSKRHWKUH,QWHUQHVVKROGQRWEHWKHRQOVRFHRI  
KLVWRULFDUHFVRUGV7KHIROORLQJDUHHDPSOHVRIKLVWRULFDUHFVRUGVDQGHUHWKHPKWEHIRQG
- 3HUVRQDOSDSHUVRULJLQDOOHWWHUVGLDULHVMRUQDOVSKRWRJUDSKVGDULQJVDQGLQDQFLDOUHFVRUGV  
IURPIDPLOFROOHFWRQRUDUHFKLYHV
- VLQHVUHFVRUGV OHGJHUVFRUJHVSROGHQFHMURQDOVPHHWLQJPLQWHVDGYHUWLVHPHQWVDQGUHVHDUFK  
DQGGHYHORSHPHQWLOHVVVLQHVUHFVRUGVDUHVDOORFDWHGDWVKHEVLQHVVLVWVHOILQWKHSRVVHVLRQRI  
WKHIDPLOWKDWQRQHGWKHEVLQHVVRUDWORFDODUHFKLYHVOLEUDULHVQLYHUWLVLHVDQGLVWRULFDUHFVRFLHVM
- 6WDWHDQGDQDLWRQDOUHFVRUGVVFHQVHVfiYLDOSURSHUWDQGSUREDWHUHFVRUGVfiDQGLQOVRSLHVRI  
WKHVHUHFVRUGVDUHVRIWHQORFDWHGLQORFDQJRYHUQPHQWUHFKLYHVVDVHOODVDWORFDOKLVWRULFDU  
VRFLHVLHVDQGOLEUDULHVKLFKPKDYHPLFURILOPFRSLHV
- /RFDQJRYHUQPHQWUHFVRUGVPLQWHVRIERDUGPHHWLQJVVDDVHVVPHQWUHFVRUGVHQJLQHHULQJQDQ  
KLKDGHSUWPHQWUHFVRUGVSROLFHDQGFURUWUHFVRUGVEGJHVVVDQGDQDOUHSRUWVDQGRWKHUWVSHV  
RIUHFVRUGVVFUHDWHGEWKHORFDQJRYHUQPHQWVWKHPVHOYHV7KHVHUHFVRUGVDUHVDOORFDWHGDW  
LQGLYLGDORFDQJRYHUQPHQWQLWVVFKDVVFKRROGLVWULFVWWRQVYLOODJHVFVRQLHVLVFLVILUH  
GLVWULFVVDQGSOLFQHILWFRUSRUDWLRQV
- RPPQLWRUJDQLDWRQRUHFVRUGV FRUJHVSROGHQFHVSHHFKHVPHEHUVKLSOLVWVILQDQFLDOUHFVRUGV  
DQGGPHHWLQJPLQWHVVRPPQLWRUJDQLDWRQRVPLQFQGHORFDQFQVFKHVDORUQRQVSRQLWLFDO  
SDUWLHVHUVHUYLFHFOEVDQGSKLODQWKURSLFDQGIUDWHUQDOJURSV7KHUHFVRUGVRIWKHVHJURSVPEHLQ  
WKHSRVVHVLRQRIHDFKVSHFLILFRUJDQLDWRQRUORFDWHGDWORFDOKLVWRULFDUHFVRFLHVLHVDUHFKLYHV  
QLYHUWLVLHVDQGOLEUDULHV
- 6WGHQWV0867HKLWWRULFDUHFVRUGVGHVFULEHGLQWKHEOOHWVDERYHEWVKHPDDOVRVHSEOLVKHG  
SULPDUVRUFHPDWHULDQVWRVSSOPHQWVKHLUHVHDUFK3EOLVKHGSULPDUVRUFHVFQDQFQGHORFDQ  
PLQWHVIRUHDPSONFRQWERDUGSURFHHLQJVEURDGLGHVPSVDQDOUHSRUWVSHULRGLFDVORU  
QHVSOSHUV3ULPDUVRUFHPDWHULDQVFDQDOVRLQFQGHVHPVFRQVHPSRUDUWRWKSHULRGWKDWLVWKHEMHP  
RIWKHUHVHDUFKIRUHDPSON*Godey's Ladies' Book to document 19th century fashion crafts recipes  
etiquette etc Harper's Weekly to document the Civil War years Life Magazine to document the World  
War years If these primary source materials are generally located in special collections of libraries  
historical societies universities or local governments*
- 2UDOKLVWRULQWUHVHVDUHQRWHLJLEOHIRUWKLVDUGVSRUJHUVFKLQWUHVHVPDEH  
VHGDVDKLVWRULFDOLWHPDVSDUWRIDUHVHDUFKSDSHUWKDWUHFVRQVWUFWVWKHSDVWVH5HVHDUFK3DSHUV
- (QWULHVSUHSUHDGIRURWKHURFSPHWLWLRQVVFKDV1DWLRQDOLVWRUDDUHHOLJLEOHLIWKHPHHW  
RWKHUHOHYDQWFULWHLVDHVSFLDOOWKVVHRIKLVWRULFDUHFVRUGVLUHVHDUFK
- QSODJLDULVPLQOHHVOWLQGLVTDOLILFDWLRQ
- OOHQWULHVPVWEHLQFQGHILYHFRSLHVRWKHVLIJQHGHWUVRUP

## JUDGES AND CRITERIA

The Student Research Awards judges include teachers, historians, and archivists. The judges will select the award recipient(s) for each division based on the following criteria:

- To what extent has the student used historical records?
- Does the bibliography display a variety of historical records?
- To what extent has the student used information from these documents?
- Is the entry historically accurate?
- Does the entry demonstrate an understanding of historical context?
- Does the entry show analysis of the topic, not just the facts, and is this analysis presented in the student's own words?
- Does the entry show evidence of creativity and imagination in interpreting information from historical records with other information?
- Does the final product answer a research question in depth, using analysis and interpretation of the historical records?

## ENTRY CHECKLIST

As you prepare an entry for competition, use this summary as a checklist. An explanation of competition rules begins on page 4 of these guidelines.

- Did you use historical records in conducting your research?
- Have you included five (5) signed copies of the entry form, annotated bibliography and entry (except for exhibits)? Feel free to print using both sides of the paper when able.
- Did you include citations, if required?
- Does the final product answer a research question in depth, using analysis and interpretation of the historical records?
- Does your entry meet word length, time and size requirements?
- Are exhibit entries packed in re-usable cartons?
- Are documentaries and/or performances submitted in DVD format and include a script?
- Are computer-based entries PC-compatible?
- Did you provide a URL on the entry form for your website entry?
- Did you provide URLs for all online sources listed in your annotated bibliography? Each online source must link to the specific record, not just the institution's homepage.
- Did you meet the July 1, 2019 deadline?

### ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY EXAMPLES

These examples were taken from previous entries of the Student Research Award contest. Students may use these examples to help create their own annotated bibliographies. For further instructions on creating an annotated bibliography, visit [Purdue University's Online Writing Lab](#).

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Knapp Frost, Samuel. *The Society of Friends Cemetery and Quaker Burial Group, Grace Marker Inscription*. Photograph. Westbury Historical Society. 06 May 2017

We used this photo to verify the founding of the religious Society of Friends in 1702. The grave marker identifies the existence of the Quaker Meeting House in 1776, and that the house was occupied by British and Hessian forces during the Revolutionary War.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL

Porter, Marjorie Lansing. Ballad Recordings. 1956. TS 73.2, Marjorie Lansing Porter: Ballad Collecting and Lore Stories, Plattsburgh State University Special Collections.

This was a manuscript that Marjorie Porter wrote which had information on her ballad recording and about collecting songs in general. I used this source because it explained a lot about the people she collected songs from. This manuscript provided me her perspective on her work and why she thought it was important. I quote this article extensively in my paper.

#### HIGH SCHOOL

Letter to Edwin Oviatt, November 12, 1909. Rack 7, Shelf 4, Herbert Parsons Yale Alumnus, Knapp House Archives. Rye, NY

While not signed, the letter is from a Yale alum and penned early in the twentieth century, so one could assume they are from a nineteenth century graduating class. This provided the entry with a unique perspective on how the college athletics were viewed prior to their expansion in the early/mid twentieth century.

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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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