May 20, 2016

2016 Texas State History Day Competition

During the Texas State History Day Competition in Austin held on Saturday, April 30, several students from Plano East Senior High School and Otto Middle School participated in the competition. Many of those students earned awards, including Kimberly Nguyen, Alex Spiride, Mark Methange, Jude Franklin and Joshua Mathew from Plano East who won 1st Place in the Senior Group Performance for their project, "I, Too, Am America," and Anjali Gonuguntla from Otto Middle School who won 1st Place in the Junior Individual Documentary for her project, "Tempest in a Teapot: How the Enounter and Exchange of Tea Fueled British Imperialism."

The 1st Place winners will now compete at the National History Day Contest June 12-16 at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Other award winners include:

- Rahul Gupta from Plano East who won Best in Dallas Region
- Aniq Chunara, Vijay Vuyyuru, Christina Reynolds, and Natasha Raman from Plano East who won 3rd Place Group Performance
- Meena Hari from Plano East who won 3rd Place Individual Website
- Natasha Wakim, Divya Prabhakaran, Sophie Walsh, Monish Challagondla from Plano East who won 4th Place Group Exhibit
- Milena Djordjevic-Kisacanin from Plano East who won 4th Place Individual Paper
- Meena Ramakrishnana and Riya Shah from Plano East who won 4th Place Group Documentary
- Aditya Palacharla from Plano East who won a Special Award
- Rakesh Kathiresan, Thomas Truong, Adhya Beesam, and Shriya Beesam from Plano East who won Finalists Group Documentary
- Rahul Hayaran from Plano East who won Finalist Individual Performance
- Matthew Zhao, Humza Qavi, Tanmay Singh, Huy Tran, Vivek Raghuram, Audrey Hsien, Jullie Liu, Ruth Abebe, Grace Kitka, Davarya Raman from Plano East also earned Distinguished Achievement Status.

The theme for this year's history day competition is Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange in History. Students selected a topic related to the theme, conducted research using primary and secondary sources and analyzed their findings. Students then presented their work in papers, exhibits, websites, performances or documentaries.

More information can be found on the National History Day website - www.nhd.org - and the Texas State Historical Association website, www.tshaonline.org.