



1305 Abbot Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823

Phone: (517) 324-1828
FAX: (517) 324-4370
E-mail: hsm@hsmichigan.org
Website: www.hsmichigan.org

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Media contact: Shannon White, (517) 324-1828.
A full list of winners and can be found at
www.hsmichigan.org/mhd.php.

2010 MICHIGAN HISTORY DAY STATE CHAMPIONS ANNOUNCED

Michigan elementary, middle, and high school students received top honors at the Michigan History Day State Finals on Saturday, April 24, at The Henry Ford in Dearborn.

Winners at the state finals included students from Ada, Ann Arbor, Atlantic Mine, Bay City, Calumet, Canton, Chassell, Comstock Park, Detroit, Dollar Bay, Galesburg, Gobles, Grand Rapids, Hancock, Holland, Houghton, Howell, Kalamazoo, Kawkawlin, Lansing, Middleville, Montague, Muskegon, North Muskegon, Northville, Plymouth, Portage, Rockford, Saginaw, South Haven, Twin Lake, Waterford, West Branch, Whitehall and Ypsilanti.

This year, about 5,500 students competed in the Michigan History Day program. After competing in regional districts statewide, 278 students reached the state finals from across Michigan. Finalists chosen at the state competition in the junior and senior divisions now move on to the national contest. It will be held in June in College Park, Md., where Michigan students will compete against their peers from across the country at National History Day.

Michigan History Day offers a fascinating opportunity to move social science beyond routine learning. Students perform research on an individually chosen topic. They then present their work through the disciplines of writing, art, literature, music, drama, and/or visual communications.

“Students put in tremendous effort researching their topics and it shows throughout the day as they are interviewed by our volunteer judges,” said Shannon D. White, assistant director of the Historical Society of Michigan, which runs the event.

All entries were tied in some way to the National History Day theme for 2010, innovation in history. A full list of winners can be found at the Michigan History Day web site www.hsmichigan.org/mhd.php.

Lead sponsors of History Day include Meijer Inc., the Cook Charitable Foundation, the Richard and Helen DeVos Foundation, the Detroit Salt Company, and Amway. In addition, financial support was provided by the Holland Area Historical Society and the Algonquin Club of Detroit & Windsor.

Michigan History Day is an educational program of the Historical Society of Michigan, the state’s oldest cultural organization. For more information, visit www.hsmichigan.org.