

2023 Washington History Day State Contest Finalists

First and second place entries/students (**bolded**) advance to the National Contest.

Division	Category	Place	Student(s)	Title	School	Teacher(s)
Junior	Individual Exhibit	1st	Bryson Piper	<i>The Penicillin Project</i>	Royal Middle School	Emily Ovenell
Junior	Individual Exhibit	2nd	Caylee Guerrero	<i>HMS Challenger</i>	Royal Middle School	Emily Ovenell
Junior	Individual Exhibit	3 rd	Surabhi Koundinya	<i>"The Buddha Has Smiled Again" - India Entering its Frontier as a Nuclear State</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Individual Exhibit	4 th	Giselle Perez	<i>The Indian Removal Act</i>	Royal Middle School	Emily Ovenell
Junior	Individual Exhibit	5 th	Sixian Zheng	<i>"To Illuminate the Whole Earth" - Nikola Tesla</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Group Exhibit	1st	Naithik Vutukuru, Toprak Celikel, Arnav Kaja	<i>Riding the Magnetic Rail: The Frontier of Maglevs</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Group Exhibit	2nd	Tanya Acharya, Neha Garde	<i>Flying With Both Wings: How Valentina Tereshkova Launched the Frontier of Gender Equality in Space</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Group Exhibit	3 rd	Arjun Pai, Advik Arun	<i>The Rise of Ether: A Revolutionary Frontier in Surgery</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Group Exhibit	4 th	Alexa Mendizabal, June Hammers	<i>Anesthesia: Waking Up to a New Frontier</i>	Northshore Middle School	Al Plummer
Junior	Group Exhibit	5 th	Joseph Lumsden, Finleigh Mork, Alejandro Correa-Hernandez, Leah Shattuck	<i>Communication Through Comics: A Frontier In Civil Rights</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Junior	Group Exhibit	6 th	Jason Mayo, Elijah Gonzalez, Scout Stevenson	<i>Yellowstone National Park Act</i>	Royal Middle School	Emily Ovenell

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Senior	Individual Exhibit	1st	Kaitlin Medina	<i>Occupy Fort Lawton! Reclaiming Seattle's Frontier for Tribal Justice</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Senior	Individual Exhibit	2nd	Cindy Yang	<i>Crossing the Western Frontier: Chinese Labor on the Transcontinental Railroad</i>	Tesla STEM High School	Andrew Ivy
Senior	Individual Exhibit	3 rd	Simone Miller	<i>Ruffling Fashion's Feathers</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw
Senior	Individual Exhibit	4 th	Narave Medranda Lentz	<i>Ynes Mexia</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw
Senior	Individual Exhibit	5 th	Nakul Rajpal	<i>Walking the Red Line: How Redlining in Seattle Shaped Communities Today</i>	Tesla STEM High School	Andrew Ivy
Senior	Individual Exhibit	6 th	Emma Le	<i>Grace Abbott: Pioneering Children's Welfare</i>	Bothell High School	Kimberly Matthews
Senior	Group Exhibit	1st	Lucas Blat-Phillips, Adi Hurvitz, Kyra Isaacson	<i>The Mother of Radium: Crossing Frontiers in Modern Chemistry and Physics</i>	Lake Washington High School	Jill Berge
Senior	Group Exhibit	2nd	Eli Macht, Cooper Haymes, Cora Hoyt	<i>Hidden History: Planting a Legacy in Washington</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Senior	Group Exhibit	3 rd	Prithika Mageshwaran, Emma Conklin, Camila Noriega	<i>Space Race: The Beginnings of Space Exploration</i>	Bothell High School	Kimberly Matthews
Senior	Group Exhibit	4 th	Seoyeoun Jeon, Vanessa Wang, Marlisa La, Dayna Verlinsky	<i>Chanel: Reimagining Haute Couture</i>	International Community School	Sydney Robertson
Senior	Group Exhibit	5 th	Brooke North, Prakshi Shukla	<i>Words Were Her Weapon: Ida B. Wells and the Fight Against Lynching</i>	Tesla STEM High School	Andrew Ivy
Senior	Group Exhibit	6 th	Olivia Droubay, Ayden Christian	<i>The Myth of the American Frontier</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale

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Junior	Individual Documentary	1st	Oviya Raja	<i>The Panama Canal: Carving a Path Through the Frontier</i>	Skyview Middle School	Nicole Maleki
Junior	Individual Documentary	2nd	Aiden Nielsen	<i>How Radio Crossed the Frontier into True Mass Broadcasting</i>	Cedar Heights Middle School	Wayan Morales
Junior	Individual Documentary	3 rd	Bien Clarin	<i>Michael Jackson: Frontiers in Music Video</i>	Explorer Middle School	Haven Borgias
Junior	Individual Documentary	4 th	Anastasia Makarevich	<i>Psycho: Slashing its Way Through the Frontier of Cinema</i>	Northshore Middle School	Al Plummer
Junior	Individual Documentary	5 th	Finn Bucher	<i>Breaking an Arctic Frontier With the Graf Zeppelin</i>	Northshore Middle School	Al Plummer
Junior	Group Documentary	1st	Prahalad Talur, Aditya Menon, Aashrith Pisupati	<i>The CCC - Planting the Seeds of Environmentalism and U.S. Infrastructure</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Group Documentary	2nd	Olivia Hansen, Adah Goel	<i>How Nothing Became Everything: The Hubble Telescope on the Frontier of Space and Time</i>	Leota Middle School	John Moore
Junior	Group Documentary	3 rd	Serissa Gamble, Gagana Bodala	<i>The Dark Lady of DNA: How Rosalind Franklin Crossed Frontiers to Discover the Structure of DNA</i>	Leota Middle School	John Moore
Junior	Group Documentary	4 th	Rylee Turner, Alethea Basri	<i>The Exploration of the Mariana Trench: How Humanity Crossed the Frontier of the Depths</i>	Northshore Middle School	Al Plummer, Corey Martin
Junior	Group Documentary	5 th	Enoch Akinbade, Atharva Gupta	<i>Johannes Gutenberg: Stamping into the Frontier of Communication with Letters</i>	Housel Middle School	Dean Smith

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Senior	Individual Documentary	1st	Katie Ng	<i>The FSA Photo Project: Pushing the Frontiers of Photography</i>	Woodinville High School	Kimberly Matthews
Senior	Individual Documentary	2nd	Aubrey Grier	<i>Politics, Punk and Empowerment: The Impact of the Riot Grrrl Movement</i>	Prairie High School	Beth Doughty
Senior	Individual Documentary	3rd	Melody Sakiya	<i>Everything, Everywhere, to Everybody: The Story of Rural Free Delivery</i>	International Community School	Sydney Robertson
Senior	Individual Documentary	4th	Rohit Venkatesan	<i>Breaking the Tracks of Racism: The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters</i>	Eastlake High School	Timothy Rodgers
Senior	Individual Documentary	5th	Robert Luiten	<i>George Brooks: Lighting the Path for a Safer Line Industry</i>	Riverside High School	Steve Biljan
Senior	Individual Documentary	6th	Autumn Kern	<i>The Fight for the Franchise: How Women of Color Faced the Frontier of Gender Equality</i>	Mt Spokane High School	Luke Thomas
Senior	Group Documentary	1st	Leonard Lannynd, Armaan Mohapatra	<i>Gorbachev: A Pioneer of Democracy</i>	International Community School	Sydney Robertson
Senior	Group Documentary	2nd	Andrew Da, Bryan Nie, Brandon Nie	<i>Forgotten Frontiers: The Women Behind the Atomic Bomb</i>	North Creek High School	Rhonda McGee
Senior	Group Documentary	3rd	Teddy Dong, Arihant Singh, William Gong, Ziang Chen, Ethan Yu	<i>From Atrocities to Accountability: The Nuremberg Trials as a Frontier in International Justice</i>	Tesla STEM High School	Andrew Ivy
Senior	Group Documentary	4th	Julissa Garcia, Denise Cochran	<i>Desegregation of Schools: How Brown v. Board Broke the Walls of Segregation and Became One of the Most Important Frontiers in American History</i>	The Delta High School	David Blacketer
Senior	Group Documentary	5th	Raveesh Pujari, Rohil Verma, Muralidhar Dontineni	<i>Jane Crow: Pauli Murray's Crossing of Systematic Frontiers</i>	North Creek High School	Rhonda McGee
Senior	Group Documentary	6th	Quinn Wimpres, Braden Swihart	<i>The 1986 Anti Drug Abuse Act</i>	Castle Rock High School	Stephen Hart, Miranda Elliott

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Division	Category	Place	Student(s)	Title	School	Teacher(s)
Junior	Individual Performance	1st	Madison Smith	<i>How Sputnik Paved the Way to the Space Race: The Frontier That Boosted Space Exploration in America</i>	Housel Middle School	Dean Smith
Junior	Individual Performance	2nd	Kaylin Moon	<i>Culture and the Art of Linguistics: The Frontier of the Korean Written Language</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Individual Performance	3rd	Caroline Carpenter	<i>Nuclear Weapons: Crucial or Cataclysmic?</i>	Lighthouse Christian	Kristin Finnigan
Junior	Individual Performance	4th	Baylee Thornock	<i>Secrets in Wax: How the Frontier of Espionage Saved Millions</i>	Housel Middle School	Dean Smith
Junior	Individual Performance	5th	Zachary Wyckoff	<i>Francis Drake: Exploring, Establishing, and Expanding New Frontiers</i>	Housel Middle School	Dean Smith
Junior	Individual Performance	6th	Aidan Hefley	<i>Our Neighbor</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Junior	Group Performance	1st	Adrianna Scorup, Kyra Ready	<i>Joseph Lister; Revolutionizing Victorian Medicine Through the Introduction of Antiseptics</i>	Cedar Heights Middle School	Ira Franklin
Junior	Group Performance	2nd	Vivian Gu, Akanksha Revuru, Ananya Akurathi	<i>The Power of Roe v. Wade: A Frontier in Women's Choice</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Group Performance	3rd	Allison Hartliep, Sydney Belisle	<i>Sandra Day O' Connor- the First Woman to Cross the U.S Supreme Court's Female Barrier, a Frontier that Took 200 Years to Cross</i>	Housel Middle School	Dean Smith
Junior	Group Performance	4th	Alina Popovciuc, Mikaela Hoe	<i>Beyond Discrimination: A New Frontier of LGBTQ+ Rights in Baker vs. Nelson</i>	Leota Middle School	John Moore
Junior	Group Performance	5th	Ezri Roy, Olivia Smasne	<i>The Equal Rights Amendment: A Frontier Towards A More Equal Future</i>	Housel Middle School	Dean Smith
Junior	Group Performance	6th	Daniel Hughes, Asha Dutt	<i>The National Park Service Organic Act: A Frontier in Preservation</i>	Northshore Middle School	Corey Martin

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Senior	Individual Performance	1st	Jiwon Kang	<i>A Light For Korea, Yu Gwansun</i>	North Creek High School	Rhonda McGee
Senior	Individual Performance	2nd	Ethan Nguyen	<i>John Snow: Medical Frontiers</i>	Bothell High School	Kimberly Matthews
Senior	Group Performance	1st	Margaret Galbraith, Miriam Slonecker	<i>The Pill: The Journey Towards a Controversial Social and Medical Frontier</i>	Prosser High School	Kila Salyers Smith
Senior	Group Performance	2nd	Samantha Novitski, Saachi Sharma	<i>Journalist Emmeline B Wells: The Frontier of the Women's Rights Movement in the Wasatch Range</i>	Tesla STEM High School	Andrew Ivy
Senior	Group Performance	3rd	Megumi Okamoto, Noor Khalidi	<i>Seattle's Expansion: Breaking Frontiers by Advertising for the Klondike Gold Rush</i>	Woodinville High School	Kimberley Matthews
Senior	Group Performance	4th	Sweta Purushothaman, Amy Tran	<i>Andrew Carnegie: Forging Frontiers Through Foundations</i>	North Creek High School	Rhonda McGee
Senior	Group Performance	5th	Lincoln Nolte, Lydia Galle, Sikander Sohi, Mario Camacho, John Solomon	<i>The Tuskegee Airmen: Flying Into A New Frontier of Racial Equality in the Military</i>	The Delta High School	David Blacketer

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Junior	Paper	1st	Mac Callahan	<i>Title IX's Impact on High School and College Athletics: Creating New Opportunities for Women</i>	Northshore Middle School	Al Plummer, Corey Martin
Junior	Paper	2nd	Katie Meng	<i>Ignaz Semmelweis: Conquering the Frontier of Handwashing</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Paper	3rd	Izabella Stewart	<i>Bertha Landes, Forging the Frontier for Women in Politics</i>	Cedar Heights Middle School	Wayan Morales
Junior	Paper	4th	Tanvi Varangaonkar	<i>The Abjad before the Alphabet: How the Language Advancements of the Phoenicians Were the Frontier for the Romance Languages Today</i>	Kamiakin Middle School	Marcy Martin
Junior	Paper	5th	Amberlie Baumann	<i>The Development of Insulin: The Great Idea that Changed Diabetes</i>	John Sedgwick Middle School	Michele Falla
Junior	Paper	6th	Hazel Hartlieb	<i>Meat in America: How Manifest Destiny affected the way we eat, produce, and think about meat in the United States</i>	North Central High School	Brandon Hollen
Senior	Paper	1st	Sherry Fei	<i>Sailing Against the Tides: One Man's Journey to Securing United States Citizenship for Millions</i>	The Overlake School	Jordan Van Horn
Senior	Paper	2nd	Matthew Ng	<i>All Shook Up: Elvis Presley and the Cultural Transformation of America</i>	Woodinville HS	Kimberly Matthews
Senior	Paper	3rd	Anson Chen	<i>Taking on the Titan, the Progressive Era Pioneers who brought down Rockefeller's Standard Oil</i>	Tesla STEM High School	Andrew Ivy
Senior	Paper	4th	EJ Wallace	<i>The Philadelphia Eleven: A Religious Frontier for Women's Ordination and The Modernization of The Episcopal Church</i>	The Delta High School	David Blacketer
Senior	Paper	5th	Dakota Silcott	<i>The Iron Road: Another Spike in the Tracks of Native American Genocide</i>	Prosser High School	Kila Salyers Smith
Senior	Paper	6th	Leopoldo Serna	<i>The Establishment of King Leopold's Congo: A New Frontier in 19th Century Imperialism</i>	The Delta High School	David Blacketer

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Junior	Individual Website	1st	Ila Lu	<i>Clara Schumann: Music History's Unsung Force</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Individual Website	2nd	Sanika Kabbur	<i>Tribal Casinos in Washington - Changing Economic Opportunities</i>	Canyon Park Middle School	Craig Tupper
Junior	Individual Website	3 rd	April Zhong	<i>From Family-Owned Business to Multinational Conglomerate: A Pioneer of Business</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Individual Website	4 th	Raina Banerjea	<i>Taming the "Evil Empire": Glasnost, Perestroika, and the Frontier of Democracy</i>	Leota Middle School	John Moore
Junior	Individual Website	5 th	Saanvi Vontela	<i>Breakthrough in Medicine: How Cancer Immunotherapy Changed the Future of Science</i>	Leota Middle School	John Moore
Junior	Group Website	1st	Paul Denton, Karan Khanolkar, JD Kim, Varun Patankar	<i>A New Era: The Birth of the Bomb</i>	Kamiakin Middle School	Marcy Martin
Junior	Group Website	2nd	Elizabeth Dudar, Kamya Jagtap	<i>Che Guevara: Revolution Knows No Borders</i>	Leota Middle School	John Moore
Junior	Group Website	3 rd	Cydney Neitzel, Maya Mevissen	<i>Roe v. Wade: How Two Lawyers Changed Women's Rights</i>	Explorer Middle School	Haven Borgias
Junior	Group Website	4 th	Nicole Terry, McKenna Knowles	<i>Wyoming's Female Suffrage Bill</i>	Chief Umtuch Middle	Beth Doughty, Jon Nesbitt
Junior	Group Website	5 th	Grace Zheng, Ankita Datta	<i>Rosalind's 51: Unlocking the Key to Life</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler
Junior	Group Website	6 th	Lucien Jimenez Robertson, Jai Kumar	<i>The Pioneer of Long-Distance Travel</i>	Meeker Middle School	John Buchinger

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Senior	Individual Website	1 st	Yizhou Hu	<i>Tacoma Riots of 1885: How were the Chinese expelled from the American Frontier</i>	Annie Wright Schools	Emily Dovel
Senior	Individual Website	2 nd	Carlee Catlin	<i>Eleanor Roosevelt: The First Lady of Frontiers</i>	Castle Rock High School	Stephen Hart, Miranda Elliott
Senior	Individual Website	3 rd	Gavin Belles	<i>The Attack on Pearl Harbor</i>	West Valley Innovation Center (Yakima)	Bradley Liebrecht
Senior	Individual Website	4 th	Phaedra Mathis	<i>Frontiers In History: Henry Ford's Moving Assembly Line</i>	Castle Rock High School	Stephen Hart, Miranda Elliott
Senior	Individual Website	5 th	Julia LaVelle	<i>The Train to Deinstitutionalization</i>	Central Valley High School	Joshua Barber
Senior	Individual Website	6 th	Abigail Moore	<i>Emily Dickinson: Establishing A New Frontier in American Literature</i>	Castle Rock High School	Stephen Hart, Miranda Elliott
Senior	Group Website	1 st	Brietta Yi, Antonia Kwan, Amy Du	<i>Nidoto Nai Yoni, "Let It Not Happen Again": Navigating Belonging in the Frontier of Japanese American Identity</i>	Newport Senior High School	Robert Valaas
Senior	Group Website	2 nd	Halle Jones, Kendall Rice, Tara Bobbarjung	<i>Humanizing Religion: How Iconography Forged Buddhism's Path Across Frontiers</i>	Lake Washington High School	Maik Hollinger, Jill Berge
Senior	Group Website	3 rd	Sydney Morgan, Casie Kleine	<i>Before and After: The Eruption and Frontier of Mount St Helens</i>	Castle Rock High School	Miranda Elliott, Stephen Hart
Senior	Group Website	4 th	Jacob Persinger, Corbin Neorr	<i>Louis Bleriot</i>	The Delta High School	John Keaney
Senior	Group Website	5 th	Ihsan Lishar, Saravana Jayavelu, Venkatram Chandra, Edward Zhang	<i>The Israeli Palestinian Conflict, A Battle for Home</i>	North Creek High School	Rhonda McGee
Senior	Group Website	6 th	Surya Selvakumar, Arav Popli, Clovis Son, Amey Joshi, Noah Kim	<i>Alan Turing: An Ambassador for Science & Victim of Intolerance</i>	North Creek High School	Rhonda McGee