

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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Media Alert

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

National History Day – Tulare County

February 16, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

TCOE Administration Building, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia

The annual National History Day – Tulare County event will be held Friday, February 16 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Tulare County Office of Education administration building, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd. in Visalia. The public is welcome to attend. This year, elementary, middle and high school students from 14 Tulare County schools will bring 121 projects to the competition.

National History Day (NHD) is a theme-based research program that showcases original presentations by students in grades 4-12 pertaining to historical issues, ideas, people and events. Students may choose any topic in local, national or world history and explore its significance relative to the annual theme, which for 2018 is *Conflict and Compromise in History*.

Students compete in three grade categories: 4-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Students in grades 4-5 compete in the two-dimensional category only. Students in the two upper-grade categories present findings through one of the following categories: historical paper, exhibit, performance, documentary or historical website. Except for the historical paper category, students may collaborate in groups of up to five students, or they may work

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individually. At the event, presentations are evaluated by local historians and educators who look for a balance of perspectives in the project. The “Best of Event” presentations will be held in the Redwood Conference Center at 1:00 p.m.

National History Day – Tulare County provides students with special learning experiences that extend beyond the projects they have prepared. In the lobby, throughout the morning, students can visit a variety of hands-on history-related stations, including NHD bingo, Pictionary and puzzles. At 1:30 p.m., Lorenzo Rios, a retired US Army Lieutenant Colonel, will present the keynote address in the Redwood Conference Center. The son of migrant farmworkers, Lt. Col. Rios had a military career that included serving as a commander in Iraq and Afghanistan, teaching International Relations and Comparative Politics at West Point, and serving as a Professor of Military Science and department chair at Fresno State.

During the presentation of awards, event coordinator Gay Atmajian will also announce the winners of scholarships to support the students as they move to the state competition May 5-6 at William Jessup University in Rocklin, California.

“Students involved in History Day do a phenomenal job of preparing for the competition,” said County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “Each year, they produce awesome videos, exhibits, reenactments and websites on important aspects of local, state, national or world history.”

For more information, contact Gay Atmajian at (559) 651-3350 or visit tcoe.org/historyday.

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