



# 2026 STATE CONTEST AWARDS

NHD GA is a  
program of:





# 2026 STATE CONTEST CATEGORY AWARDS

## Junior Group Documentary

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#12006

*The March King*

STUDENT(s)

Davis Amaro

Cooper Weiss

**Ochlocknee, GA**, Thomas County Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Brenton Smith

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### **Second Place**

#12008

*Soweto Uprising*

STUDENT(s)

Kennedy Hightower

Yassin Manneh

Mia Locekt

Chloe Sims

Paityn Sykes

**mcdonough, GA**, Ola Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

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### **First Place**

#12017

*How the "Little White House" Navigated Polio: A Revolution in Quarantining, Reaction to Pandemics, and the Reform of the Salk Vaccine.*

STUDENT(s)

Elizabeth Johns

Elsa Trader

Aidan Massey

**McDonough, GA**, Ola Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

## Senior Group Documentary

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

### **Third Place**

#22007

STUDENT(s)

Malia Troup

Samaya Gill

*A Monumental March for Change*

**Fayetteville, GA**, Sandy Creek High School

TEACHER(s)

Sharon Mcmeans-Lukiri, Joy Carter

### **Second Place**

#22001

STUDENT(s)

Gavin Wise

Daniel Kang

Kenneth Athon

Nathan Shelton

*The Anglo-Irish Treaty: The Document of Peace that Sparked Civil War*

**lagrange, GA**, Troup County High School

TEACHER(s)

CHANCE GIDDENS

### **First Place**

#22012

STUDENT(s)

Lily Kenney

William deMontfort

*Georgia's History of Eugenics*

**Warner Robins, GA**, Houston County High School

TEACHER(s)

Jennifer McDaniel

## Junior Group Exhibit

Rank, Student(s) Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#16015

STUDENT(s)

Laila Taylor

Karim Lumpkin

Nivea Hood

Mary Jane Okoli

*The Easter Rising*

**Athens, GA**, Burney-Harris-Lyons Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Richard Simonds

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### **Second Place**

#16022

STUDENT(s)

Taylor Wright

Shayla Ford

*Mission: Flight for Freedom and Equality*

**Columbus, GA**, Baker Middle School

TEACHER(s)

April Allen

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### **First Place**

#16021

STUDENT(s)

Breyl Martin

Jenab Balde

*2, 4, 6, Hate, We Don't Want to Integrate!: The Desegregation of Clarke County Schools*

**Athens, GA**, Clarke Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Shawn Hinger

## Senior Group Exhibit

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

### **Third Place**

#26001

STUDENT(s)

Moses Morano

Jayla Smith

*Rooftop Koreans: Community Defense and Reaction During the 1992 Los Angeles Uprising*

**Fayetteville, GA**, Sandy Creek High School

TEACHER(s)

Patience Douglas, Joy Carter

### **Second Place**

#26009

STUDENT(s)

Carolina Morales

Maldonado

Hayden Ray

*Mental Health Reform: Reshaping and Revolutionizing Patient Treatment in England*

**Hogansville, GA**, Troup County High School

TEACHER(s)

CHANCE GIDDENS

### **First Place**

#26013

STUDENT(s)

Michael Lopez Lopez

Adrian Lugo Ramirez

*Same people Different Education*

**Shady Dale, GA**, Jasper County High School

TEACHER(s)

Bonnie Garvin

## Junior Group Performance

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#14006

*Jump to Equality*

STUDENT(s)

Cody Barnwell

Matthew Aoko

**stone mountain, GA**, Dekalb Arts Academy

Jaslin Bright

TEACHER(s)

Carmella Blackmon

Noah Blount

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### **Second Place**

#14004

*Revolution N.O.W! How Women's Reactions Have Differed  
Over the E.R.A. Reform.*

STUDENT(s)

Jade Myers-Foster

Madyson Schuck

**McDonough, GA**, Ola Middle School

Zoey Jules

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

Kayli Thomas

Zara Barcliff

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### **First Place**

#14015

*The Flame That Sparked A Revolution: The Triangle  
Shirtwaist Factory Fire Of 1911*

STUDENT(s)

Caitlin Davis

Aurelia DeWald

**Athens, GA**, Hilsman Middle School

Gaby Farnham

TEACHER(s)

Reva Barnes, Katherine Johnson

Nora Cooper

## Senior Group Performance

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

### **Third Place**

#24006

STUDENT(s)

Amanda Hernandez

Naomi Barnes

*Crying Across the Rio Grande: The Transformation of La Llorona Into a Symbol of Migrant Grief*

**Milledgeville, GA**, Georgia College Early College

TEACHER(s)

Zach Balkcom, YiSheika Lawrence

### **Second Place**

#24004

STUDENT(s)

Ahmad Howell

Colton Poole

Tomaris Hayes

Jordan Torrance

Kobi Barfield

*Robert F. Williams and Organized Armed Self-Defense*

**milledgeville, GA**, Georgia College Early College

TEACHER(s)

Zach Balkcom

### **First Place**

#24005

STUDENT(s)

Abrielle Miller

Vy Nguyen

Breonne Fuller

Litzy

Sanchez-Cerecero

Candessa Barker

*Someone will speak for you: How RFE caused Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in the Velvet Revolution.*

**Ellenwood, GA**, Morrow High School

TEACHER(s)

Jennifer Henley

## Junior Group Website

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#18007

*From Dragons to a New Republic*

STUDENT(s)

Igypt Sanders

Jordyn Wilson

**Columbus, GA**, Baker Middle School

TEACHER(s)

April Allen

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### **Second Place**

#18006

*Russian Revolution*

STUDENT(s)

Cameron Anderson

Aiden Whisenant

Eliab Videz

Aiden Jackson

**McDonough, GA**, Ola Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

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### **First Place**

#18008

*Hiroshima and Nagasaki*

STUDENT(s)

Jesse Jeon

Max Hendrix

Neil Dasa

**Columbus, GA**, Richards Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Stan Shively

## Senior Group Website

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

### **Third Place**

#28011

STUDENT(s)

Violet Cipriano

Yubin Kim

hannah Mustard

Jeongyun Cho

*Breaking News: The Coup of 12-12 Led South Korea to Have a More Democratic Society Today*

**Bogart, GA**, North Oconee High School

TEACHER(s)

Erin Adamson

### **Second Place**

#28009

STUDENT(s)

Wisdom Enendu

Khalia Romero

*Breaking Down Barriers: Advocating for Equality in the Classroom*

**Augusta, GA**, Davidson Magnet School

TEACHER(s)

Melody Spires-Howe

### **First Place**

#28002

STUDENT(s)

Vanessa Taylor

Excel Omoloso

Uyen Ly

*Where God Lives: The Reaction, Reform, and Revolution of Vietnamese Catholic Refugees after the Rise of Communism*

**Ellenwood, GA**, Elite Scholars Academy School

TEACHER(s)

Lee Wright

## Junior Individual Documentary

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#11001

STUDENT(s)

Anaba Henry

*Reforming Completeness: How Kurt Godel's Incompleteness Theorem Revolutionized More Than Just Math*

**Kennesaw, GA**, Prism North America

TEACHER(s)

Ben Lagrone

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### **Second Place**

#11006

STUDENT(s)

Ari Harper

*The Revolution of Black Hair Products and Tools That Left an Impact*

**Athens, GA**, Hilsman Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Reva Barnes

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### **First Place**

#11007

STUDENT(s)

Ryan Nix

*Two-Note Terror: Jaws and the Power of Film*

**Columbus, GA**, Richards Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Stan Shively

## Senior Individual Documentary

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

### **Third Place**

#21008

STUDENT(s)

Hyomin Lee

*From Workers to Citizens: Dosan Ahn Chang Ho's  
Revolutionary Reforms in Pachappa Camp, America's First  
Koreatown*

**Columbus, GA**, Columbus High School

TEACHER(s)

William Brown

### **Second Place**

#21004

STUDENT(s)

Kingston Johnson

*Running Revolution: How the Technological Innovation of  
Sports Wear Influenced Reform Against Technology*

**Decatur, GA**, DeKalb School of the Arts

TEACHER(s)

Carmella Blackmon

### **First Place**

#21011

STUDENT(s)

Brody Cunningham

*The Atlanta Prison Farm*

**McDonough, GA**, Woodland High School

TEACHER(s)

Melanie Kellam

## Junior Individual Exhibit

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#15009

STUDENT(s)

Zechariah Thomas

*When One Falls: Rwanda's Domino of Destruction and Rebirth*

**Conyers, GA**, Edwards Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Scalf

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### **Second Place**

#15023

STUDENT(s)

Daniela Tarancon

*The Romanian Revolution: The Reaction to Romanian Nicolae Ceaușescu and How a Bullet Reformed their Nation.*

**Mcdonough, GA**, Ola Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

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### **First Place**

#15019

STUDENT(s)

Arjun Mishra

*Gandhi's March: From Salt to Sovereignty*

**Columbus, GA**, Richards Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Stan Shively

## Senior Individual Exhibit

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

### **Third Place**

#25002

STUDENT(s)

Jayden Wojcik

*A Sky Full Of Color*

**monticello, GA**, Jasper County High School

TEACHER(s)

Bonnie Garvin

### **Second Place**

#25019

STUDENT(s)

Jack Plemper

*Bukhara: Despots to Dictators*

**Decatur, GA**, Druid Hills High School

TEACHER(s)

Christoff Murray

### **First Place**

#25018

STUDENT(s)

Braylee Meeks

*Criminalized Survival: Vernita Michelle Smith v. State and the Legal Reaction to Battered Person Syndrome*

**Milledgeville, GA**, Georgia College Early College

TEACHER(s)

Zach Balkcom

## Junior Individual Performance

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#13004

*The Voice of Protest*

STUDENT(s)

Jeraldmi Wright

**Milledgeville, GA**, Georgia College Early College

TEACHER(s)

Dennis Holsey

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### **Second Place**

#13003

*Exclusive Interview With Lester Maddox*

STUDENT(s)

Patton Wright

**Mcdonough, GA**, Ola Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

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### **First Place**

#13010

*Barbara Walters Through the Years*

STUDENT(s)

Natalie Robles Cruz

**McDonough, GA**, Union Grove Middle

TEACHER(s)

Karen Hunley

## Senior Individual Performance

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

### **Third Place**

#23006

STUDENT(s)

Daro Phaen

*The Sounds of Red: The Cambodian Revolution and Impacts of The Khmer Rouge*

**Jonesboro, GA**, Morrow High School

TEACHER(s)

Jennifer Henley

### **Second Place**

#23001

STUDENT(s)

Colin Sanders

*The Hidden Highway*

**Milledgeville, GA**, Georgia College Early College

TEACHER(s)

Zach Balkcom

### **First Place**

#23005

STUDENT(s)

Morgan Walker

*Hazel Scott's Reaction to Segregated Entertainment: The Reformation of the Black Star*

**McDonough, GA**, Ola High School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

## Junior Individual Website

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#17014

*The Steroid Revolution: How Steroids Took Sports By Storm*

STUDENT(s)

John Ashley Reese

**Athens, GA**, Hilsman Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Travisa Graves

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### **Second Place**

#17004

*Rebel Roots: The Black Panther Movement*

STUDENT(s)

Kemiyah Mallard

**Columbus, GA**, Baker Middle School

TEACHER(s)

April Allen

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### **First Place**

#17009

*Vaikom Satyagraha: The Struggle Against Untouchability*

STUDENT(s)

Naga Joshitha Thalluri

**Columbus, GA**, Richards Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Stan Shively

## Senior Individual Website

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#27002

STUDENT(s)

Carmen Thompson

*Watergate: Public Reaction and the Collapse of Trust in Presidential Power*

**Fayetteville, GA**, Sandy Creek High School

TEACHER(s)

Sharon Mcmeans-Lukiri

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### **Second Place**

#27010

STUDENT(s)

Brailyn Hill

*Revolution Under Watch: FBI Surveillance of Black Female Activists*

**Milliedgville, GA**, Georgia College Early College

TEACHER(s)

Zach Balkcom

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### **First Place**

#27014

STUDENT(s)

Xindi Yao

*Empress of China: Her Revolutionary Pathway to Changing History*

**Bogart, GA**, North Oconee High School

TEACHER(s)

Erin Adamson

## Junior Paper

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#10013

STUDENT(s)

Cory Ivins

*A Revolution Unfinished: The Reaction to Shays' Rebellion and the Reform of American Government*

**Stockbridge, GA**, Woodland Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Yvette Milligan

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### **Second Place**

#10003

STUDENT(s)

Maddison Dobzynski

*How Ellen Church Revolutionized Female Careers in Commercial Air*

**McDonough, GA**, Ola Middle School

TEACHER(s)

Zachary Barfield

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### **First Place**

#10018

STUDENT(s)

Sarah Bell

*The ADA: The Reaction to Disabled Individuals' Treatment and How it Revolutionized Infrastructure and was the Reformation of How Disabled People Were Thought of.*

**Augusta, GA**, Westminster Schools of Augusta

TEACHER(s)

David McElhannon

## Senior Paper

Rank, Student(s)

Title, City, Affiliate, School, Teacher(s)

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### **Third Place**

#20022

STUDENT(s)

Ismini Vasiloglou

*A Sámi Renaissance: Art as Resistance in the Áltá Conflict, 1978–1982*

**Atlanta, GA**, The Westminster Schools

TEACHER(s)

David Abraham

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### **Second Place**

#20013

STUDENT(s)

Rohan Anand

*Mississippi Appendectomies: Racial Stereotypes, the Forced Sterilization of African American Women, and the Limits of Reform*

**Atlanta, GA**, The Westminster Schools

TEACHER(s)

David Abraham

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### **First Place**

#20004

STUDENT(s)

William Alexis

*The Milk Cans of Memory: How the Oneg Shabbat Archive Revolutionized Holocaust History*

**Glennville, GA**, Georgia Cyber Academy

TEACHER(s)

Sarah Duncan



# 2026 STATE CONTEST SPECIAL AWARDS

**Junior - Outstanding Entry in Military History  
(Sponsored by: Colonel Richard R. Hallock, Distinguished University Chair  
in Military History at Columbus State University.)**

**Presented By:**

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#10016

***STUDENTS***

**Chrisotpher Heekin**

Junior

***SCHOOL***

Paper

**Sacred Heart Homeschool Co-Op  
Fayetteville, GA**

***TITLE***

**Revolution, Reaction, and Reform: How Naval Warfare  
Transformed at the Battle of Hampton Roads**

***TEACHERS***

**Kelly Carney**

**Senior - Outstanding Entry in Military History  
(Sponsored by: Colonel Richard R. Hallock, Distinguished University Chair  
in Military History at Columbus State University.)**

**Presented By:**

#28003

***STUDENTS***

**JACOB THACKER, Paul Park**

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Group Website

**Troup County High School  
IaGrange, GA**

***TITLE***

**Easter Rising: Birth of a Nation**

***TEACHERS***

**CHANCE GIDDENS**

**Junior - Outstanding Entry In Military History  
(Sponsored by: Colonel Richard R. Hallock, Distinguished University Chair  
in Military History at Columbus State University.)**

**Presented By:**

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#18006

***STUDENTS***

**Aiden Jackson, Aiden Whisenant, Cameron Anderson,  
Eliab Videz**

Junior

Group Website

***SCHOOL***

**Ola Middle School  
McDonough, GA**

***TITLE***

**Russian Revolution**

***TEACHERS***

**Zachary Barfield**

**Senior - Outstanding Entry In Military History  
(Sponsored by: Colonel Richard R. Hallock, Distinguished University Chair  
in Military History at Columbus State University.)**

**Presented By:**

#27012

***STUDENTS***

**Emily Hernandez**

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Individual Website

**Morrow High School  
Ellenwood, GA**

***TITLE***

**The Pentagon Papers: Ink Over Secrecy**

***TEACHERS***

**Jennifer Henley**

**Junior - Outstanding Individual Entry in Economic History  
(Sponsored by: Edward Jones Investments)**

**Presented By:**

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#15023

***STUDENTS***

**Daniela Tarancon**

Junior

***SCHOOL***

Individual Exhibit

**Ola Middle School  
Mcdonough, GA**

***TITLE***

**The Romanian Revolution: The Reaction to Romanian  
Nicolae Ceaușescu and How a Bullet Reformed their  
Nation.**

***TEACHERS***

**Zachary Barfield**

**Junior- Outstanding Group Entry in Economic History  
(Sponsored by: )**

**Presented By: Edward Jones Investments**

#12003

***STUDENTS***

**Anthony Jimenez, Hector Torres Hernandez**

Junior

***SCHOOL***

Group Documentary

**Putnam County Middle School  
Eatonton, GA**

***TITLE***

**Riveting Revolution: How WWII Women Broke Barriers  
and Shaped a Legacy**

***TEACHERS***

**Mehul Gandhi**

**Senior - Outstanding Entry in Economic History  
(Sponsored by: Edward Jones Investments)**

**Presented By: Edward Jones Investments**

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#25020

***STUDENTS***

**Ayva Times**

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Individual Exhibit

**Morrow High School**

**Jonesboro, GA**

***TITLE***

**Temperance to NASCAR: How the Whiskey Trippers'  
Reaction to the Temperance Reform Gave Birth to  
NASCAR**

***TEACHERS***

**Jennifer Henley**

**Senior - Outstanding Entry in Economic History  
(Sponsored by: Edward Jones Investments)**

**Presented By:**

#25002

***STUDENTS***

**Jayden Wojcik**

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Individual Exhibit

**Jasper County High School  
monticello, GA**

***TITLE***

**A Sky Full Of Color**

***TEACHERS***

**Bonnie Garvin**

**Outstanding Use of the New Georgia Encyclopedia  
(Sponsored by: New Georgia Encyclopedia)**

**Presented By:**

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#22012

***STUDENTS***

Lily Kenney, William deMontfort

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Group Documentary

Houston County High School

Warner Robins, GA

***TITLE***

Georgia's History of Eugenics

***TEACHERS***

Jennifer McDaniel

**Junior - Individual - Outstanding Use of the Digital Library of Georgia  
Resources Special Award  
(Sponsored by: Digital Library of Georgia)**

**Presented By:**

#17005

***STUDENTS***

**Mason Lawrence**

Junior

***SCHOOL***

Individual Website

**Georgia College Early College  
Milledgeville, GA**

***TITLE***

**From Hope to Horror: Mental Health Reform, State  
Control, and Patient Treatment**

***TEACHERS***

**Dennis Holsey**

**Junior - Group - Outstanding Use of the Digital Library of Georgia  
Resources Special Award  
(Sponsored by: )**

**Presented By: Digital Library of Georgia**

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#12010

***STUDENTS***

**Arohi Singh, Clyde Smart, Mariam Ahmed**

Junior

***SCHOOL***

Group Documentary

**Clarke Middle School  
Athens, GA**

***TITLE***

**The Linnentown Revolution**

***TEACHERS***

**Shawn Hinger**

**Senior - Individual - Outstanding Use of the Digital Library of Georgia  
Resources Special Award  
(Sponsored by: Digital Library of Georgia)**

**Presented By:**

#21011

***STUDENTS***

**Brody Cunningham**

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Individual

**Woodland High School**

Documentary

**McDonough, GA**

***TITLE***

**The Atlanta Prison Farm**

***TEACHERS***

**Melanie Kellam**

**Senior - Group - Outstanding Use of the Digital Library of Georgia  
Resources Special Award  
(Sponsored by: Digital Library of Georgia)**

**Presented By:**

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#28002

***STUDENTS***

**Excel Omoloso, Uyen Ly, Vanessa Taylor**

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Group Website

**Elite Scholars Academy School  
Rex, GA**

***TITLE***

**Where God Lives: The Reaction, Reform, and Revolution  
of Vietnamese Catholic Refugees after the Rise of  
Communism**

***TEACHERS***

**Lee Wright**

**Junior - Excellence in a Project on Maritime History  
(Sponsored by: NATIONAL MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY)**

**Presented By:**

#10016

***STUDENTS***

**Chrisotpher Heekin**

Junior

***SCHOOL***

Paper

**Sacred Heart Homeschool Co-Op  
Fayetteville, GA**

***TITLE***

**Revolution, Reaction, and Reform: How Naval Warfare  
Transformed at the Battle of Hampton Roads**

***TEACHERS***

**Kelly Carney**

**Senior - Excellence in a Project on Maritime History  
(Sponsored by: NATIONAL MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY)**

**Presented By:**

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#20022

***STUDENTS***

Ismini Vasiloglou

Senior

***SCHOOL***

Paper

**The Westminster Schools  
Atlanta, GA**

***TITLE***

**A Sámi Renaissance: Art as Resistance in the Áltá  
Conflict, 1978–1982**

***TEACHERS***

**david abraham**