National History Day at Rome High School
How did our school get involved in NHD?

- Written into the curriculum in the 1990’s as a way to increase academic rigor and promote interdisciplinary study.
- CPA World and American History students are required to participate.
- All students are invited to participate.
What has been the impact of NHD at Rome High?

- NHD improves research, rhetorical, social, organizational and analytical skills of students.
- NHD competition motivates students.
- NHD promotes interdisciplinary work.
- Success in NHD competition has enhanced the reputation of Rome High and its students in the community.
What is the process for getting students involved in NHD at Rome High?

- Projects are assigned early in the school year.
- Students read NHD student contest guide.
- Students see examples of student work from previous years. *(Generation H)*
- Students try to relate active interests to the current theme when selecting a topic.
- Minnesota and Connecticut NHD teacher’s handbooks are great resources.
- Students should choose an appropriate presentation category for their topic.
- After initial help selecting topics and getting started on their research, students complete projects outside of class.
How do students at Rome High prepare for NHD competition?

- A school-wide competition gives students feedback to improve their projects before district competition.
- Professors from local colleges are invited to critique projects at the school-wide competition.
- Parents and the community are invited to view student projects during the school-wide competition.
Challenges

- Group project issues. (Partner selection, work division, are five students too many for some projects?)
- Plagiarism
- Reports vs. Research Projects (Do they have a thesis? Are they using scholarly sources?)
Challenges

• Time! (Curriculum pacing, standardized tests, increased class loads.)

• Money! (Funding for transportation, entry fees, materials.)

• Skills that the students may or may not “bring to the table.” (Reading, writing, knowing...
But..... it’s worth it!!