

WHD Special Award Winners (2017)

Alan K. Simpson Institute for Western Politics and Leadership

The Simpson Institute is a program of the American Heritage Center, and sponsors awards for outstanding junior and senior division entries dealing with political history and leadership.

The junior award goes to:

Mikenna Brown, Taylor Mudd, Kadie Brown and Maya Fritz
Title IX
(Junior Group Exhibit)
Tongue River Middle School, Teacher: Robert Griffin

Alan K. Simpson Institute for Western Politics and Leadership

The senior award goes to:

Nile Debebe
Taking a Stand for Diplomacy: The Trials and Tribulations of the Cuban Missile Crisis
(Senior Individual Documentary)
Pinedale High School, Teacher: Rose Robertson

Jurisprudence Awards

Jurisprudence Awards are sponsored by the Wyoming State Bar and recognize the best junior and senior entries on jurisprudence or legal issues.

The junior award goes to:

Magdalena Escudero-Kane
The Molly Hootch Case: Taking a Stand for Self Determination
(Junior Individual Documentary)
Lander Middle School, Teacher: Lezley Simonson

Jurisprudence Award: - Senior Division

The senior award goes to:

Mara Welsh, Hannah Good
Loving v Virginia; Taking a Stand Against the World
(Senior Group Website)
Greybull High School, Teacher: Josh Heinemeyer

Fort Laramie National Historic Site Awards:

The Fort Laramie National Historic Site Awards are for Trans-Mississippi History for the best entry in both the junior and senior categories that integrates the fur trade, emigrants, Native Americans, or frontier military history.

The junior award goes to:

Rebecca Whiting
Washakie, Warrior Turned to Peace: Taking a Stand in History
(Junior Individual Documentary)
Lander Middle School, Teacher: Gayla Hammer

Fort Laramie National Historic Site Award: - Senior Division

The senior award goes to:

Jose Carmona-Sanchez
The Bozeman Trail: A Trail Fueled by Greed and the Stand Against It
(Senior Group Website)
Jackson Hole High School, Teacher: Jeff Brazil

Wyoming Public Employees Association Award:

The Wyoming Public Employees Association Award is for the best entry dealing with labor issues.

The award goes to:

Zoe Griffin
Lewis Hine: Taking a stand Through Photography
(Junior Paper)
Pinedale Middle School, Teacher: Mitch Irrgang

Wyoming State Museum Volunteers Awards:

The Wyoming State Museum Volunteers Awards are for outstanding junior and senior exhibits.

The junior award goes to:

Annika Peacock and Skye Eddy
Operation Vittles: Standing Up to Stop the Spread of Communism
(Junior Group Exhibit)
Jackson Hole Middle School, Teacher: Greg Poduska

Wyoming State Museum Volunteers Award: - Senior Division

The senior award goes to:

Alan Harley and Toni Kerr
Irena Sendler: A Tale in the Garden
(Senior Group Exhibit)
Kelly Walsh High School, Teacher: Inga McCoy

DAR History Award:

The Daughters of the American Revolution Award is for an outstanding entry in the junior division, which focuses on outstanding women in history.

The award goes to:

Kaitlyn Flath and Emerald Jordan
Susan La Flesche Picotte, Against All Odds:
The First Woman Native American Physician
(Junior Group Documentary)
Greybull Middle School, Teacher: Michelle Stebner

Clara Jensen Award:

The Clara Jensen Award is for the best overall entry on Wyoming history and is sponsored by the Wyoming State Historical Society. Clara, a Casper teacher, served as president of the Wyoming State Historical Society and was an early supporter of Wyoming History Day.

The award goes to:

River Gayton
Race, Religion and College Football:
The Black 14 Taking a Stand for Change in the Equality State
(Senior Individual Documentary)
Jackson Hole High School, Teacher: Jeff Brazil

William H. Barton Award:

The William H. Barton Award is also sponsored by the Wyoming State Historical Society and is for the entry that best uses oral history. Bill Barton actively collected oral history interviews from around Wyoming and was an early supporter of Wyoming History Day.

The award goes to:

Sydney Jensen and Reese Noble
Bombs in the Backyard

(Junior Group Documentary)
Pinedale Middle School, Teacher: Mitch Irrgang

American Heritage Center Primary Sources Award:

The American Heritage Center Primary Sources Award is for outstanding use of primary sources in an entry.

The award goes to:

Kristina Macleod
Sophie Scholl and the White Rose: Taking a Stand for Germany
(Junior Individual Exhibit)
Jackson Hole Middle School, Teacher: Greg Poduska

Liz Byrd Cultural Diversity Award:

The Liz Byrd Cultural Diversity Award is for the best entry, which represents an aspect of cultural diversity or human rights. Mrs. Byrd was the first African-American woman to serve in the state legislature and was instrumental in the effort to pass the bill designating the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in Wyoming. She also taught school for many years in Cheyenne.

The award goes to:

Bailey Schupp and Brooke Hornberger
Dorothea Dix: Taking a Stand to Break Labels
(Senior Group Documentary)
Pinedale High School, Teacher: Rose Robertson

Florence Sommers Jensen History Award:

The Florence Sommers Jensen History Award recognizes an outstanding entry on the subject of Wyoming women, homesteading, ranching, or schools. The award is sponsored by Jonita Sommers, a former teacher in Big Piney, who also was the Wyoming History Day Teacher of the Year several years ago.

The award goes to:

Martha Olson
Barbra "Happy" Weston – A Supporter for Disabled Rights in Wyoming
(Junior Paper)
Jackson Hole Middle School, Teacher: Greg Poduska

Fred & Flossie Graves Homestead Award:

The Fred & Flossie Graves Homestead Award is for the best entry featuring an aspect of homesteading. The award is sponsored by Linda Graves Fabian and Tom Hill.

The award goes to:

No Nominees

Adventure Dodge of Laramie Creativity Award:

The Adventure Dodge of Laramie Creativity Award is for the entry demonstrating outstanding creativity.

The award goes to:

Maggie McStay, Aidan Slider and Taryn Seabolt
Taking a Chance – The Revolution of Veteran Support
(Junior Group Documentary)
Dubois K-12 School, Teacher: Rosemary Graff

Colonial Dames Heritage Awards:

This award is sponsored by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America and goes to the best entry on family history.

The award goes to:

Kristina Macleod
Sophie Scholl and the White Rose: Taking a Stand for Germany
(Junior Individual Exhibit)
Jackson Hole Middle School, Teacher: Greg Poduska

Wyoming Humanities Council Giving Voice Award:

The Wyoming Humanities Council Giving Voice Award goes to the best entry related to giving voice to underrepresented voices/untold stories.

The award goes to:

Bailey Schupp and Brooke Hornberger
Dorothea Dix: Taking a Stand to Break Labels
(Senior Group Documentary)
Pinedale High School, Teacher: Rose Robertson

Bill Nye Historic Newspaper Awards:

The Bill Nye Historic Newspaper Award is sponsored by the Pedal House Bike Shop to honor the contributions of Bill Nye, who served as the first editor of the Laramie Boomerang from 1880 to 1883. The award is for an outstanding junior division and senior division entry, which effectively integrates and utilizes historic newspapers in his/her research.

The junior award goes to:

McKenzie Ferguson
To Stand "Upon a Firmer Foundation and Hold a More Brilliant Torch"
(Junior Individual Website)
Wheatland Middle School, Teacher: MaryJo Birt

Bill Nye Historic Newspaper Award

The senior award goes to:

Aspen Waldron
E.T. Payton's Work: Standing Against Abuse and
for New Treatments in the Wyoming State Hospital
(Senior Individual Exhibit)
Jackson Hole High School, Teacher: Jeff Brazil

Roger Williams International History Award:

The Roger Williams International History Award is sponsored by the UW History Department and is named for Roger Williams, a former department chair. The award recognizes the best entry dealing with international issues.

The award goes to:

Reilly Wade
José María Castro Madriz: The Prioritization of Education in Costa Rica
(Senior Individual Paper)
Jackson Hole Community School, Teacher: Cheryl Katz

UW History Department Award:

The UW History Department Award honors an entry, which exemplifies outstanding research.

The award goes to:

Hazel Homer-Wambeam
Taking a Stand by Taking the Stage:

Harry Belafonte's Fight for Civil Rights and Human Equality
(Senior Individual Paper)
Home School in Laramie, WY, Teacher: Laurie Homer

Gerald and Jessie F. Chambers Awards

The Gerald and Jessie F. Chambers Award is sponsored by the late Jessie Chambers, a long time Wyoming teacher. Mrs. Chambers has been a generous supporter of Wyoming History Day at the American Heritage Center and many other worthwhile programs.

The junior award goes to:

Theresa Bautz
The Ludlow Massacre and Change Through Journalism
(Junior Individual Exhibit)
Lander Middle School, Teacher: Gayla Hammer

Gerald and Jessie F. Chambers Award: - Senior Division

The senior award goes to:

Sam Roubin
Lewis Hine, Using Images to Stand Against Child Labor
(Senior Individual Exhibit)
Jackson Hole Community School, Teacher: Cheryl Katz

Wyoming State Historical Society Scholarship:

The Wyoming State Historical Society Scholarship is awarded to a junior or high school senior competing in History Day who plans to attend a Wyoming community college or the University of Wyoming.

The scholarship, in the amount of \$1500 goes to:

Alan Harley and Toni Kerr
Irena Sendler and A Tale in the Garden
(Senior Group Exhibit)
Kelly Walsh High School, Teacher: Inga McCoy

American Heritage Center/University of Wyoming Scholarship:

The American Heritage Center and the Office of Academic Affairs at the University of Wyoming have provided a \$1000 scholarship for a History Day student who will attend the University of Wyoming.

The winner of the \$1000 scholarship is awarded to ...

Lynora Anderson and Aisha Auradou
Love and Sacrifice:
Estelle Ishigo's Stand Against Japanese American Internment During WWII
(Senior Group Performance)
Pinedale High School, Teacher: Rose Robertson

Taco John's International Scholarship Special Award:

Taco John's International, Inc., based in Cheyenne, began operation in 1968 with one restaurant in Cheyenne and today has more than 400 restaurants across the country, has agreed to provide a \$3,000 scholarship to a History Day student who will attend a Wyoming community college or the University of Wyoming. A plaque with the names of all the winners will be displayed at the Taco John's International, Inc. headquarters in Cheyenne.

And the scholarship goes to:

Lynora Anderson and Aisha Auradou
Love and Sacrifice:
Estelle Ishigo's Stand Against Japanese American Internment During WWII
(Senior Group Performance)
Pinedale High School, Teacher: Rose Robertson

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