

2025 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	Emogene Shaw	<i>The Fish Wars: A Confluence of Tribal Rights and Government Responsibilities</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw, Natasha Zimmers
Junior	Individual Exhibit	2nd	Maria Gallegos	<i>Equal Pay Act of 1963</i>	Royal Middle School	Emily Ovenell
Junior	Individual Exhibit	3 rd	Lilian Piper	<i>The Overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani</i>	Royal Middle School	Emily Ovenell
Junior	Individual Exhibit	4 th	Jack Whalen	<i>Kennewick Man: A 20 Year Battle Over 9,000 Year Old Bones</i>	Three Rivers HomeLink	Cheryl Walter
Junior	Individual Exhibit	5 th	Odessa Falaminiano	<i>Filipino Cannery Unionism's Fight Towards Unfair Labor Practice</i>	Meeker Middle School	John Buchinger
Junior	Individual Exhibit	6 th	Anna Mork	<i>Hooverilles and the Great Depression</i>	Explorer Middle School	Haven Borgias
Junior	Group Exhibit	1st	Olive DeGiovanni, Brooklynn Lee	<i>Sequoia National Park</i>	Chief Umtuch Middle School	Beth Doughty, Jon Nesbitt
Junior	Group Exhibit	2nd	Joehl Ameling, James Saldua, Vivian Thompson, Jamin Muller	<i>No Curfew, No Problem: Yasui's Walk That Inspired a Fight for Japanese Rights</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Junior	Group Exhibit	3 rd	Keane Miller, Sean Cai	<i>The Manhattan Project: The Right to End The World And The Ethical Responsibilities</i>	Evergreen School – Shoreline	Dan Gulotta
Junior	Group Exhibit	4 th	Tyler Hong, Palmer Sisko	<i>1929 Market Meltdown Unrestrained Rights Without Responsibilities</i>	Northshore Middle School	Corey Martin, Alan Plummer
Junior	Group Exhibit	5 th	Landon Cornish, Mason Northcutt, Anton Grozev	<i>More Than a Game, Jackie Robinson</i>	Northshore Middle School	Alan Plummer, Corey Martin

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Senior	Individual Exhibit	1st	Bryn Parsons	<i>Makah Whaling</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw, Natasha Zimmers
Senior	Individual Exhibit	2nd	Ye Chan Ameling	<i>Sacred Ground, Scientific Bound: Rights and Responsibilities of Lawetlat'la</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Senior	Individual Exhibit	3 rd	Sixian Zheng	<i>Ethics Under Fire: The Rights and Responsibilities of Whistleblowers Through History</i>	Eastlake High School	Timothy Rodgers
Senior	Individual Exhibit	4 th	Justin Wang	<i>The I-Hotel Eviction: When Urban Development Responsibilities and Housing Rights Clashed</i>	The Overlake School	Chris Kuipers
Senior	Individual Exhibit	5 th	Rebecca Carlson	<i>The Helsinki Accords</i>	Royal High School	Emily Ovenell
Senior	Individual Exhibit	6 th	Giselle Perez	<i>Roe v. Wade</i>	Royal High School	Emily Ovenell
Senior	Group Exhibit	1st	Elijah Macht, Cooper Haymes, Zophia Rosiecki, Leah Shattuck	<i>Dammed and Displaced: How Industrial Ambition Uprooted Native Spirit</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Senior	Group Exhibit	2nd	Jonah Kim, Geethika Burugupally, Shivali Panda, Leanna Dsouza	<i>"Let Me Die": The Debate Over Assisted Dying</i>	Lake Washington High School	Jill Berge
Senior	Group Exhibit	3 rd	Arnav Kaja, Arjun Pai	<i>Morality: The Story of the Hanford Project</i>	Eastlake High School	Timothy Rodgers
Senior	Group Exhibit	4 th	Alondra Farias, Moises Castro, Alex Guillermo	<i>Voting Rights Act of 1965</i>	Royal High School	Emily Ovenell
Senior	Group Exhibit	5 th	Anishka Gogoi, Jayden Chae	<i>Unit 731: Dissecting the Truth of Japan's Hidden Holocaust</i>	Bothell High School	Kim Matthews
Senior	Group Exhibit	6 th	Yahav Yurman, Lavinia Sanders, Libby Shapira, Annabel Seltz, Aashi Khandelwal	<i>People of the Book: Rights and Responsibilities</i>	Lake Washington High School	Amy Sullivan

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Junior	Individual Documentary	1st	Anika Bhandari	<i>Unfit to Breed: Eugenics and Forced Sterilization in the US</i>	Leota Junior High School	John Moore
Junior	Individual Documentary	2nd	Ziqi Liu	<i>Native American Boarding Schools</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler, Susan Jackson
Junior	Individual Documentary	3 rd	Noah Sawczuk	<i>The Nuremberg Trial: Testing of the Legal Rights and Responsibilities of Trying a Nation</i>	Chief Umtuch Middle School	Beth Doughty, Jon Nesbitt
Junior	Individual Documentary	4 th	Xavier Loria	<i>Schoenberg's Symphony of Rebellion: The Composer Who Redefined Music</i>	Cedarcrest Middle School	Madison Woolery
Junior	Individual Documentary	5 th	Ritisha Srivastava	<i>Empowering the Impaired: A Fight for Rights</i>	Kamiakin Middle School	Marcy Martin
Junior	Individual Documentary	6 th	Owen Eason	<i>Demanded Allegiance: The Question of Loyalty Inside Japanese American Concentration Camps</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Documentary	1st	Hui Xiong, Ada Anderson, Yufei Ye	<i>The Cost of Silence: The Espionage Act of 1917</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kelser, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Documentary	2nd	Aarav Shah, Shashank Seela, Eddy Wang	<i>The Scottsboro Boys Case: A Fight for a Fair Trial</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kelser, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Documentary	3 rd	Nick Tsai, Jeremy Zhang, Michael Xie	<i>One Misstep Away: The Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kelser, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Documentary	4 th	Aayush Shah, Ahan Agrawal, Pratham Koka	<i>Broken Morals: The CIA's Descent into Torture</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kelser, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Documentary	5 th	Maisie Kindred, Elle Gustafson	<i>Legislation to Liberation: The Violence Against Women Act of 1994</i>	St John School (Seattle)	Stephen Bretz

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Senior	Individual Documentary	1st	Victoria Kraeva	<i>Loving v. Virginia – The Right to Love</i>	Bothell High School	Kim Matthews
Senior	Individual Documentary	2nd	Julinna Wu	<i>The Price of Progress: Navigating the Rights and Responsibilities of Atomic Innovation</i>	The Overlake School	Chris Kuipers
Senior	Individual Documentary	3 rd	Ellie Henshaw	<i>The Pentagon Papers</i>	Mt Spokane High School	Luke Thomas
Senior	Individual Documentary	4 th	Colton Hong	<i>Red Scare Reckoning: McCarthyism and the Battle for Rights</i>	Anacortes High School	Ken Welk
Senior	Individual Documentary	5 th	Katie Ng	<i>Hank Adams: Defending Rights, Upholding Responsibilities</i>	Woodinville High School	Kim Matthews
Senior	Individual Documentary	6 th	Yue Xia	<i>The Story of Desmond Doss: From the Fires of War to the Hands of Valor</i>	Eastlake High School	Timothy Rodgers, Emily Bassett
Senior	Group Documentary	1st	Olivia Hansen, Adah Goel	<i>Earth's Last Defense: The Montreal Protocol's Indispensable Impact on Environmental Rights and International Responsibilities</i>	Bothell High School	Kim Matthews
Senior	Group Documentary	2nd	Serissa Gamble, Gagana Rudra Bodala	<i>Born from Ashes, a World of Rights and Responsibilities: The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire</i>	North Creek High School	Cynda Bamberger
Senior	Group Documentary	3 rd	Ryann Peyton, EJ Wallace	<i>The Hanford Green Run: A Unique Case of Clashing Citizens' Rights and Government Responsibilities</i>	The Delta High School	David Blacketer
Senior	Group Documentary	4 th	Yanzhe Yang, Joshua Van Gorkom, Armaan Jhaveri, Zorya Brassard	<i>Lost Voices, Living Truth</i>	Charles Wright Academy	Marshall Davidson
Senior	Group Documentary	5 th	Mira Hirsch, Jackson van Bueren	<i>A Vallen Divided: The Early Winters Ski Resort Conflict</i>	Liberty Bell Jr Sr High	Scott Barber
Senior	Group Documentary	6 th	Ingred Roth, Kennedy Patmore	<i>Between the Lines: How Book Banning Challenged the Right to Read</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale

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Division	Category	Place	Student(s)	Title	School	Teacher(s)
Junior	Individual Performance	1st	Aurelia Carreon	<i>The Fair Labor Standards Act: Creating Child Labor Rights and Holding the Government Responsible for Our Youth's Safety</i>	House Middle School	Dean Smith
Junior	Individual Performance	2nd	Jerry Qu	<i>Mapp v. Ohio: A Historic Supreme Court Case of Rights and Responsibilities in the Fourth Amendment</i>	Skyview Junior High School	Nicole Malecki, Patricia Sundt
Junior	Individual Performance	3 rd	Izabelle Chen	<i>Women's Forgotten Voice: Ethel Smyth's Advocacy for Women's Rights</i>	Leota Junior High School	John Moore
Junior	Individual Performance	4 th	Myles Sansoni	<i>A Theft and a Donation: The Lasting Impact of the Donation Land Claim Act of 1850</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw, Natasha Zimmers
Junior	Individual Performance	5 th	Anushka Garg	<i>Who Gets Rights? A Journey through Equality, Power and Exclusion through the Ages</i>	Independent Competitor	
Junior	Individual Performance	6 th	Katie Piercy	<i>Nuremberg Trials</i>	Royal Middle School	Emily Ovenell
Junior	Group Performance	1st	Noelle Kalanquin, Lizah McCarthy, Mila Wellnitz	<i>Helen Prejean's Impact on the Death Penalty</i>	St John School (Seattle)	Stephen Bretz
Junior	Group Performance	2nd	Smriti Sudarshan, Adya Kidambi	<i>Education or Erasure</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Performance	3 rd	Shuhui Meng, Miriam Klee	<i>Decree 770: A Generational Trauma</i>	Kamiakin Middle School	Marcy Martin
Junior	Group Performance	4 th	Alisa Khisamutdinova, Adelaide Swearingen, Delaney White, Mila Davis, Juliet Sink	<i>Women in War isn't WACK: The Women's Army Corps</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Junior	Group Performance	5 th	Sophie Webb, Ashley Litzinger, Florence Paré	<i>Exposing the Island: Nellie Bly's Fight for the Rights of Asylum Patients</i>	Northshore Middle School	Alan Plummer, Corey Martin
Junior	Group Performance	6 th	Milana Lee, Tensaye Tesafaye	<i>Miranda v. Arizona: The Forgotten Rights of the Accused</i>	Evergreen School – Shoreline	Dan Gulotta

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Senior	Individual Performance	1st	Olivia Smasne	<i>Breaking the Code of Silence: Joan Little and the Anti-Rape Movement</i>	Prosser High School	Kila Salyers Smith
Senior	Individual Performance	2nd	Shoshanna Ryan	<i>Rights and Responsibilities in the New Deal Era</i>	Emerson K-12	Alexis Hulet
Senior	Individual Performance	3 rd	Ethan Nguyen	<i>John Brown: American Hero or Domestic Terrorist?</i>	Bothell High School	Kim Matthews
Senior	Individual Performance	4 th	Jaidin Summers	<i>The Hays Code: Rights and Responsibilities within the Film Industry</i>	The Delta High School	John Keaney
Senior	Group Performance	1st	Akanksha Revuru, Kaylin Moon, Vivian Gu	<i>Rights, Responsibilities, and Racism: How the 1907 Pacific Coast Race Riots Shaped United States History</i>	Independent Competitors	
Senior	Group Performance	2nd	Paulina Dhanens, Olivia Brouwer, Danielle Pinson	<i>Ships, Sparks, and Sexism: How the Kaiser Shipyards Changed the Workforce</i>	Vancouver iTech Preparatory	John Zingale
Senior	Group Performance	3 rd	William Kiefer, Orlo Parkinson	<i>Decline of Dominion: The Boston Revolt of 1689</i>	Liberty Bell Jr Sr High School	Scott Barber
Senior	Group Performance	4 th	Margaret Galbraith, Madison Smith	<i>The Gilded Age: How Its Laissez-Faire Policy Ultimately Fueled the Rise of Labor Unions and Created a Balance Between Workers' Rights and Employer Responsibilities</i>	Prosser High School	Kila Salyers Smith
Senior	Group Performance	5 th	Neel Khilnani, Sam Boyer	<i>Five Days That Shook Seattle: Workers' Rights vs. Government Responsibilities</i>	Inglemoor High School	Alan Plummer, Corey Martin
Senior	Group Performance	6 th	Karan Khanolkar, Devinity McCray, Veer Shah, Gavin Lekutai	<i>The Aztec Translation</i>	Lake Washington High School	Jill Berge

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Junior	Individual Website	1st	Mia Stewart	<i>Yellowstone National Park: Transforming Environmental Rights and Government Responsibilities</i>	Northshore Middle School	Corey Martin, Alan Plummer
Junior	Individual Website	2nd	Nishka Parikh	<i>Rights and Responsibilities: The Legacy of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Tragedy</i>	Leota Junior High School	John Moore
Junior	Individual Website	3 rd	Mihir Pachava	<i>The Ludlow Massacre: Rebellion in the Rockies</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler, Susan Jackson
Junior	Individual Website	4 th	Eric Schuette	<i>Henrietta Lacks: The Fight for Biorights and Informed Consent</i>	Northshore Middle School	Corey Martin, Alan Plummer
Junior	Individual Website	5 th	Jamie Zhu	<i>Gerrymandering in Shaw v. Reno: Examining Redistricting Rights and the Responsibilities of the Government in Upholding Fair Voter Representation</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler, Susan Jackson
Junior	Individual Website	6 th	Caleb Moon	<i>Sputnik 1: Rights and Liabilities</i>	Explorer Middle School	Haven Borgias
Junior	Group Website	1st	Sophia Li, Satvika Kannappan	<i>A Promise on Paper: The UN and the Creation of Israel</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Website	2nd	Zoltan Romocsa, Darren Tse, Calvin Chen	<i>The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938: Revolutionizing the Rights of Workers</i>	Northshore Middle School	Corey Martin, Alan Plummer
Junior	Group Website	3 rd	Liam Chang, Pranav Sharma	<i>You Have The Right to Remain Silent: How Miranda v. Arizona Solidified Suspect Rights</i>	Leota Junior High	John Moore
Junior	Group Website	4 th	Ryan Alejo, Miles Anderson	<i>The Fall of the Berlin Wall: The Rights of Civilians Restored</i>	Northshore Middle School	Alan Plummer, Corey Martin
Junior	Group Website	5 th	Reyansh Rastogi, Vihaan Dev, Shivam Chowdhary	<i>Spying on America: The Tragic History of COINTELPRO</i>	Evergreen Middle School	Nicole Kesler, Susan Jackson
Junior	Group Website	6 th	Reese McKeirnan, Reid McKeirnan, Rylie McKeirnan	<i>West African Ebola Outbreak: Increasing the World's Responsibility and Overcoming Barriers to Healthcare Rights</i>	North Central High School	Paula Korus

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Senior	Individual Website	1st	Anya Guhan	<i>My Way IS the Highway: The Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956</i>	Redmond High School	Siobhan Flanagan
Senior	Individual Website	2nd	Angie Wang	<i>A Fight for Rights and a Push for Responsibilities: The Washington State Fish Wars</i>	Mercer Island High School	Jaime Pannone
Senior	Individual Website	3 rd	Ila Lu	<i>The Wild Lily Student Movement: A Bloom in Taiwan's Democracy</i>	Eastlake High School	Timothy Rodgers
Senior	Individual Website	4 th	Ankita Datta	<i>Echoes of the Sea: Cultural Morality of Makah Whaling</i>	Eastlake High School	Timothy Rodgers
Senior	Individual Website	5 th	Aishani Agrawal	<i>The Grand Coulee Dam: Trading Tradition for Progress</i>	Bothell High School	Kim Matthews
Senior	Individual Website	6 th	Sanika Kabbur	<i>The Boldt Decision</i>	Bothell High School	Kim Matthews
Senior	Group Website	1st	Ayaan Yadav, Neev Ansel	<i>From Rebellion to Repression: The Stono Rebellion and Negro Act of 1740</i>	Lake Washington High School	Amy Sullivan
Senior	Group Website	2nd	Venkatram Chandra, Edward Zhang, Ihsan Lishar	<i>The Little Rock Nine: The Push for Educational Rights with Government Responsibility</i>	North Creek High School	Cynda Bamberger
Senior	Group Website	3 rd	Tanvi Varangaonkar, Pratham Balaji, Anika Shah	<i>Colonial Control During the Spanish Conquest and the Indigenous Struggle for Rights and Responsibilities</i>	Lake Washington High School	Amy Sullivan
Senior	Group Website	4 th	Ingrid Venable, Nova Gehring	<i>The Road to Reproductive Rights</i>	Liberty Bell Jr Sr High School	Scott Barber
Senior	Group Website	5 th	Tyler Fields, Penelope Dunnells	<i>ASPCA: Fighting for Society's Responsibility to Protect Animal Rights</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw, Natasha Zimmers
Senior	Group Website	6 th	Kayla Galle, Caroline Bergo	<i>Nuremberg's Lasting Impact: Shaping International Justice and Human Rights</i>	The Delta High School	David Blacketer

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Junior	Paper	1st	Terence Zhang	<i>The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire: Raising Expectations for Owners' Responsibility and Workers' Rights</i>	Northshore Middle School	Alan Plummer, Corey Martin
Junior	Paper	2nd	Scarlett Gilbert	<i>The Pen is Mightier: How Muckraking Journalism and Social Reform Exposed Corruption of Rights in American Monopolies</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw, Natasha Zimmers
Junior	Paper	3 rd	Kaia Knight	<i>"Three Generations of Imbeciles Are Enough" The Court Case that Led to Involuntary Sterilization in the Name of Eugenics</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw, Natasha Zimmers
Junior	Paper	4 th	Sarah Bucher	<i>The Dred Scott Decision: How He Fought for His Right for Freedom</i>	Northshore Middle School	Alan Plummer, Corey Martin
Junior	Paper	5 th	Manraj Uppal	<i>Frederick Douglass: The Escaped Slave Who Took the Responsibility to Give Back the Rights of African Americans</i>	Cedar Heights Middle School	Wayan Morales
Junior	Paper	6 th	Natalie Ho	<i>A Step Toward Racial Equality: Affirmative Action in Higher Education Admissions</i>	Leota Junior High School	John Moore
Senior	Paper	1st	Harjot Dhillon	<i>Queering the Court: One, Inc. v. Olesen: Recognizing the Responsibility of Guaranteeing Queer Press Rights and the Liberties of Free Speech for Gay Americans</i>	Kentridge High School	John Buchinger
Senior	Paper	2nd	Alice Zhang	<i>The Pentagon Papers: How They Sowed Distrust and Imposed Responsibility</i>	The Overlake School	Chris Kuipers
Senior	Paper	3 rd	Declan Hong	<i>The Bluesman Behind Bars: The Fight Against Injustice Through Song</i>	Anacortes High School	Ruth Masters
Senior	Paper	4 th	Sarah Lei	<i>Half the Sky: Marxist Feminism and its Impacts on the Rights and Obligations of Women in Chinese Society</i>	Eastlake High School	Timothy Rodgers
Senior	Paper	5 th	Mia Hutton-Jimenez	<i>Cold War Diplomacy in the JFK Administration</i>	Camas High School	
Senior	Paper	6 th	Adam Graham	<i>McCarthyism: The Fear Over Freedom</i>	Sky Valley Education Center	Sabrina Shaw, Natasha Zimmers