

HISTORY DAY



IN COLORADO

Greetings History Day Parents/Guardians,

Congratulations on your student's win at the regional contest! We appreciate your support for your student's interest in history and their participation in the History Day in Colorado program. As the History Day in Colorado program expands with each passing year, we try to enhance the overall experience of the state contest based upon student and parent comments. This year you will find some of the changes that we have implemented to improve the flow of the contest as well as accommodations to families who come from across the vast state of Colorado.

At this pre-contest stage of History Day in Colorado, the state office is in negotiations with Auraria Campus facilities to make the parking situation easier for commuting contestants. We are attempting to get reduced parking at one of the lots on campus, as well as at the Pepsi Center across Auraria Parkway. We will provide updates on the situation on our website www.coloradohistoryday.org. In the event that we are not able to get the discounted rates, please budget for parking on campus (\$5.50 maximum) for the day. Please note that the parking facilities will charge a separate rate if you drive off campus and return to park. For parents who attended the state contest last year and had a bad experience with this area of the event, the state office apologizes for the inconvenience and we are trying our best to remedy the situation.

If you and your student are planning to stay in a hotel in the downtown area, we have a few hotels suggested on our web site. We have been working closely with the Downtown Denver Residence Inn, which is conveniently located on Speer Boulevard and Zuni Street. This hotel provides customers with a complimentary shuttle to the Auraria Campus and continental breakfast.

This contest year we will also post the final rounds results for ALL categories in the afternoon. Given the vast size of Colorado, we understand that travel is complicated for contestants and their families who live in our northwest, southwest, and southeastern regions. Of course, we strongly encourage all students to stay for the awards ceremony. If your student has applied for a special award (which we strongly encourage all students to do) or is a strong contender for a regional award, they must stay for the ceremony when we announce the winners. The state office will announce the final round contestants in separate areas based upon category, in order to avoid the congestion that we have observed in the past.

One of the unavoidable inconveniences that we are unable to remedy is the lag time in the afternoon. We are in the process of making connections with local groups to provide entertainment during the afternoon lull. We will also have a table available in the Auraria PE/Event Center with brochures and suggestions for activities around the downtown area. Please check for updates on our web site for activity suggestions and planned entertainment for the day.

In order to conserve our budget as best as we can, this year t-shirts and “Proud Parent” buttons will be available only through pre-sale. If you would like to purchase merchandise, please fill out the merchandise section located on the fee form enclosed in your student’s packet. The due dates for orders are indicated on the fee sheet. The items will be available for pick-up on the day of the contest in the PE/Event Center. If you need another fee sheet, we will have them available on our website.

Please remind your students to register for the state competition by March 26 unless your student is competing in the Mountain (Frisco) or Denver Schools competition; in that case, registration materials are due on April 16. Registration fee of \$10 per student is due on those dates as well. While the economic situation has forced state competitions across the nation to raise their registration fees, our state office is committed to maintaining the standard \$10 registration fee. Remember, we will never deny a student the ability to compete in the contest for an inability to pay. Should this be the case, please contact our office immediately.

The state office is committed to making this year’s state contest the best yet! We are excited to see students’ continued interest in History Day and we are trying our best to see the program expand and thrive to new communities throughout the state. Although the economy has hit our state office in a variety of ways, we are doing our best to maintain its survival. We know the program has multiple benefits for your student’s academic excellence and we thank you for your support! As usual, if you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our state office via e-mail colorado.history.day@ucdenver.edu or by phone 303-556-6647. We look forward to seeing you at the state contest!

Sincerely,

Christine Sundberg
State Coordinator

Stacey Pendleton
Assistant State Coordinator