



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
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## University of Minnesota Retirees Volunteer Center

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

## Minnesota History Day Judging 2024 “Turning Points in History”

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History Day is an inter-disciplinary research project affiliated with the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Historical Society. History Day teaches students (grades 6-12) to conduct in-depth research, use primary and secondary sources, analyze and synthesize information, and write and present historical content.

Students choose a topic that relates to an annual theme, research that topic, and present their research in one of five presentation categories: Research Paper, Exhibit, Documentary, Performance, or Website. Students may then enter their projects into History Day competitions at school, regional, state, and national levels. The 2024 History Day theme is “Turning Points in History.”

#### Details of volunteer duties:

- **In-Person Judging:** Judging in the Documentary, Exhibit, Performance, and Website categories is done on-site at regional events and at State History Day. Judges work in teams to view projects and interview students in-person. Judge teams select top entries and provide feedback to all students. Judges in these categories are required to attend the event for which they are registered and attend virtual training prior to the event.
- **Virtual Judging:** There will be a traditional off-site Research Paper Contest and one Virtual Regional Contest for all other categories. In these contests, students submit digital versions of their projects that History Day will send to judges. Judges will review projects over several days and work with a judge partner to come to consensus on project rankings. Each judge will provide written feedback via ZFairs, the History Day’s contest management system.

## **Dates, Times, (lengths of shifts if applicable), and locations:**

### **Virtual Judging Contests:**

**February 28:** Judging assignments are confirmed.

**March 1:** Judges receive entries. All materials will be distributed to judges electronically.

**March 1-15:** Judges review and discuss projects.

**March 15:** Judges report the ranked order of the top entries.

**March 22:** Judges return comment forms.

### **Regional Events, On-Site Twin Cities Locations:**

**Saturday, March 2,** 8 am - 1 pm at Central Middle School, Eden Prairie.

**Monday, March 4,** 4 - 9 pm at University of Minnesota, West Bank, Minneapolis.

**Tuesday, March 9,** 8 am - 2 pm at Sanford Middle School, Minneapolis.

**Saturday, March 16,** 8 am - 2 pm at Johnson High School, St. Paul.

**Saturday, March 23,** 8 am-1 pm at White Bear Lake High School, South Campus, White Bear Lake.

### **State History Day**

**Saturday, May 4, 2024,** at University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

- First Round and Topical Prize Judging: 8 am - 1 pm
- Final Round: 1-5 pm

### **Volunteer Eligibility and Training Requirements:**

There are no required qualifications to judge a History Day event in the regional stage of competitions. Due to the high stakes of competition at State, all State-level judges should have previous judging experience at any level in the current year, or any previous year. All judges will be expected to complete virtual training in advance of the contests. Training dates will be announced in February.

Judges will have access to online evaluation forms and can submit their online comments via their own laptop or tablet at the contest. Printed comment sheets will be available for those judges who do not bring a device.

**Physical Expectations/Limitations:** Some judge roles require extended periods of either sitting or standing. If uncomfortable in either of these situations, you can be assigned an appropriate role.

**Parking/Transportation:**

On-site parking is available at all venues. URVC will provide free parking coupons for competitions on the University Twin Cities campus.

**Volunteers' food/beverage available:**

Lunch and/or dinner are provided for on-site judges. Some dietary restrictions can be accommodated.

*\*Please indicate at registration whether you are a URVC/UMRA volunteer.*



## **Deadline for volunteer application: Mid-February**

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### **To register for this activity**

Click on the following link:

[2024 History Day Judge Sign Up](#)

**You may also contact the University Retirees  
Volunteer Center,  
by email (preferred) at [URVC@UMN.EDU](mailto:URVC@UMN.EDU)  
or by phone at 612-625-8016**

### **WANT TO LEARN MORE?**

For more information on available  
volunteer opportunities, contact the  
URVC Office at [urvc@umn.edu](mailto:urvc@umn.edu) or  
612-625-8016

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