

## New Special Award This Year!

Your students' literary and video documentary projects may qualify for a new award this year. The North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame is generously sponsoring a Sports History Award for a project that addresses sports history in North Carolina. Such projects could focus on an influential athlete from our state, a famous sporting event or "first" that took place here, or even a historic sports venue. There are so many possible topics!

You may want to visit [www.ncshof.com](http://www.ncshof.com) to start brainstorming ideas. Remind students that the focus is still on North Carolina history. They will need to put their sports topic into that context and discuss why the person, place, or event is significant.

If you wish for your student's entry to be considered for the special Sports History Award, please check the appropriate box on the THJHA Contest Entry Form that is completed for that project.

## What's This About A Bibliography?



### Annotated Bibliography:

Contest entries should list only those sources that contributed to the development of the entry. Visual materials and oral interviews must be included. The annotations for each source must explain how the student used the source and how it helped them understand their topic. The following is an example of an annotated bibliography:

Miller, Lee. *Roanoke: Solving the Mystery of the Lost Colony*. London, England: Penguin Books Ltd., 2000.

Lee Miller explores different theories about what happened to the Lost Colony. Her book was important because she explained the theory of Simon Fernandez's possible sabotage, and this made me aware of other possible theories as to what happened to the colonists.

### Official Style Guides:

Several standard styles are acceptable. Regardless of the choice, the style must be consistent throughout a contest entry. Other style examples:

Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*

Joseph Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 5th edition.

### Primary and Secondary Sources: What's the Difference?

This Web page can help you decide:

<http://www.nhd.org/images/uploads/AREsearchRoadmap.pdf>



# Adviser Newsletter

North Carolina Museum of History, Raleigh, NC, 919-807-7985

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## Changes Ahead: Read Carefully through New Contest Materials!

The Tar Heel Junior Historian Association has been working to streamline and simplify its annual contests. Last year, we provided a single entry form. This year, you will find many changes in the NEW Contest Rules and Regulations Handbook. Highlights include:

- The addition of an Intermediate Division for students in grades six through eight
- An adviser checklist for each contest

To prepare students for higher levels of learning and competition, we are continuing to require an annotated bibliography for all contests except the Christopher Crittenden Quiz. Additional changes for this purpose are:

- Requiring students to use at least one primary and two secondary sources for most contests
- Requiring a short paper for the Exhibit/Art Contest that documents the historical significance of the subject. This paper is due with the contest entry form

- Requiring students to fill out an artifact analysis form for the Artifact Search Contest
- Providing club advisers with judges' feedback from many of the contests

Other changes that you will see in the new handbook are:

- A reduction in the number of entries per student for the Artifact Search Contest and the North Carolina Historic Architecture Photography Contest
- The suspension of the computer category of the Multimedia Contest
- The widening of Rookie Chapter of the Year eligibility to include second-year clubs
- A new special award for sports history (see page 4)

Please read the new Contest Rules and Regulations Handbook carefully to ensure that you and your students understand all of the rules and requirements for this year's contest entries.

## All contest entries must be postmarked by 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 6, 2009.

The Tar Heel Junior Historian Association *Adviser Newsletter* is published periodically during the school year by the Education Section of the North Carolina Museum of History. It is sent to all THJHA advisers.



**The Museum's Home Page:**  
<http://ncmuseumofhistory.org>  
**THJHA E-mail Address:**  
[thjhaclubs@ncmail.net](mailto:thjhaclubs@ncmail.net)

## In Case You've Wondered . . .

THE MUSEUM STAFF HAS HAD MANY CONVERSATIONS WITH CLUB ADVISERS AND HAS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE EVALUATIONS AND SURVEYS THAT YOU HAVE RETURNED TO US. CERTAIN QUESTIONS SEEM TO COME UP AGAIN AND AGAIN. BELOW ARE SOME OF YOUR **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** AND THEIR ANSWERS.

### **Why not hold the Annual Convention for two days at Peace College like years ago?**

Because of Peace's graduation schedule, we would not be able to hold the convention on its campus until mid- to late May. This conflicts with end-of-grade testing and end-of-year activities. Also, the cost of holding the convention at Peace College, including what the students must pay for room and board, has nearly tripled since the last time it was done in the 1990s.

### **Why don't we get to choose our club's convention workshops anymore?**

Placing clubs in workshops based on their preferences is a logistical nightmare that takes up important time needed for planning other aspects of the convention. By doing the assignments myself, I can ensure that clubs are in age-appropriate sessions with their peers. I am confident that all of our convention workshops are interesting and worth attending.

### **Why can't all of our advisers and chaperones go into the workshop sessions at the convention?**

Because of limited space, the convention workshops are often held in tight quarters. For this reason we must be very strict about the number of adults in the sessions. After all, each adult in the room takes up space that could be for a junior historian. We allow one adult per ten students in the workshop area. Please do not make appeals to the workshop monitors enforcing this rule; they are acting on my instructions.

Space could be even more of a concern for the 2009 convention because of possible construction related to redesign of the museum's classroom spaces. Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this issue.

### **Why can't the adults get free lunches every year at the Annual Convention?**

The THJHA budget is too small to cover lunch for anyone. Free lunches have been provided for students and adults only when our directors have extra museum funds available. Sometimes there has been enough to cover lunch for everyone; sometimes there has been only enough to cover lunch for students. Free lunch is a luxury and its availability can change from year to year. Free lunch for students and/or adults should not be taken for granted or as a given. When free lunch is not provided, you always have the option to bring your own boxed lunches. No one is required to purchase a meal.

With the current budget cuts that the state is facing, there is a strong possibility that we will not be able to provide lunch for anyone this year. I will let you know as soon as possible.

### **Can the Awards Ceremony have a more respectful tone?**

I have received many comments expressing concern that the Awards Ceremony does not seem to have the dignified tone that many feel it deserves. Examples often cited are cheers that are too loud

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and long (more appropriate for a sporting event) and groups leaving before the ceremony is over. This kind of commotion makes it difficult to hear the next announcement and can cause the ceremony to run longer than expected.

Please take the time to discuss respectful ceremony behavior with your students. I encourage them to show their club spirit and excitement however they wish at the morning roll call. But the afternoon Awards Ceremony should have a different feel, as we recognize individuals and groups for their hard work on projects. Please arrange your travel to allow your club to stay for the duration of the ceremony.

### **Why isn't there seating in the lobby for the Awards Ceremony?**

Because our auditorium holds only three hundred people and seating people in a tent outside is cost-prohibitive, we are using the lobby for the Awards Ceremony. Unfortunately, there is not enough room in the lobby for seven hundred chairs, nor are there that many chairs available to us. That's why we have only floor seating. For those who prefer to sit in chairs, we offer a nearby classroom with a live video feed from the lobby.

### **Can my younger children participate in the Tar Heel Junior Historian Association?**

THJHA is for fourth through twelfth graders. In fourth grade, students in public schools study North Carolina history. Younger students are generally not prepared for the historical processes and thinking skills required for contest projects.

I understand that for child care reasons younger siblings may need to attend meetings and club field trips. But keep in mind that the contests, awards, and the Annual Convention workshops are for students in grades four through twelve.

## Don't Be Shy!

Nominate your club, a co-adviser, or even yourself for an "of the year" award.

The Rookie Chapter of the Year award is now open to first- and second-year clubs. All other clubs qualify for the Chapter of the Year award.

If selected as Adviser of the Year, you will be invited to sit on the THJHA Advisory Board.

**Jessica Humphries,**  
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*\*\*\*Please note the new e-mail address.\*\*\**

## Announcements:

2009 Annual Convention  
 Friday, April 24, 2009

*Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine*

Theme, Spring 2009  
 Primary Sources