



## Journals from History Day National Competition

June 10-15, 2000

History Day is an exciting co-curricular program that encourages young people in grades 6-12 to explore a historical subject related to an annual theme. The 2000 National History Day theme is "Turning Points in History: Impact, Influence, Change." Students make history come alive with imaginative exhibits, original performances, media documentaries and papers. This year, more than 30,000 Minnesota students participated in the program. Fifty-three of those students are representing Minnesota at the National History Day competition. Learn more about the program and the trip to the University of Maryland at College Park by reading the electronic journals of several History Day correspondents.

Erik Hilgren

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Erik Hilgren is our correspondent covering the first grader perspective. Erik has waited patiently at home while his father, Chatfield teacher Tom Hilgren, has attended the last four National History Days in Washington. This year, Erik got to accompany his dad to D.C. He even made his own exhibit on the Civil War while his dad's students worked on History Day after school. Read about [Erik's favorite thing](#) that he did each day and see photos documenting his big adventure.



Antonio Kuklok is a student at Sauk Rapids High School who did a senior individual media on Malcolm X. When he's not researching for History Day, Antonio drums in his school drum line. He also enjoys meeting [famous movie stars](#).

### Anthony Middle School Teachers



<http://www.mnhs.org:80/school/historyday/HistDayNews/ejournal00.html> Go

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Bob Ferguson, Joe Liberti and Brooke Miller are the teachers accompanying the 13 students from Anthony Middle School in Minneapolis. This is the first year that Joe and Brooke have attended national competition. Although Bob (or Fergie as he is known to his students and the History Day staff) has made the journey out to D.C. numerous times, this is the first time that he has stayed in the dorms. Read about [their adventures](#) as they try to keep track of 13 middle-schoolers and 11 parents, siblings and other well-wishers.



▼ About this capture

### Amanda, Christa, Kristina — Century High School, Rochester



including seeing the White House and staying up all night at least one night. Read about their [adventures](#).

## Staff



With James Brown as the soundtrack, the History Day staff is ready to cheer on and entertain the Minnesota Youth. The Minnesota History Day staff decided to push the button-trading envelope; learn about the powers of floss buttons (and what a floss button is, exactly) in the [staff journal](#).



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Erik Hilgren — First Grader

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Saturday , June 10





Sunday , June 11

The best thing in Washington DC is the linkin minoril (Lincoln Memorial). I liked getsybuge (Gettysburg) too.

<http://www.mnhs.org:80/school/historyday/HistDayNews/erik.html>

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15 Feb 2002 - 27 Dec 2004



Monday , June 12





Wednesday , June 14

I liked the Holocaust Museum. I saw a movie about Daniel and his family.

I liked my Viking shirt from the Natural History Museum.

Hi to Mom, Bailey, and Grandma and Grandpa Hilgren, Grandpa Lee and Mor-Mor.



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# Journals from History Day National Competition

## June 10-15, 2000

### Antonio Kuklok



### Sunday, June 11

Well today is Sunday June Eleventh of the year Two-Thousand. My first day was very confusing and tiring as I had an early flight and I knew absolutely no one. I really wish that my friends Marla and Emily could have been here with me, but I am sure that everything will be all right. I was feeling pretty alone and maybe a little scared. When I arrived I went to Stamp Union on the University of Maryland Campus where I got all of my housing and meal information. While I was here I met a teacher and one of her students. She told me that she taught at South and that her and her group would adopt me. There are no boys whatsoever in this group, so I am winging it. We then boarded a coach bus for a grand tour of Washington D.C. Our tour guide's name was Billy and he did an excellent job of explaining all of the history of the monuments. Of all of the monuments, my two favorites (I had a tie) were the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam memorial, which included an array of soldiers created out of steel and a magnificent wall with the names of all of the soldiers who gave their lives for our country. After this moving, and extremely HOT tour we headed to the Union Depot for supper. At the close of the night we went to our dorm rooms, and got settled in. I slept well this night in the luxurious rooms we were provided with.

### Monday, June 12

Day two began early for me. It was up and at 'em at 8:45 a.m. I got ready and headed back to Stamp Union to get all of my registration information for my competition. I am set to go at 10:40 in the morning on Teusday. It was still blistering hot this morning and I was feeling very energetic. I caught up with my group from South and we sat and talked until about 1. I

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stay cool (literary). Many events made this day absolutely unforgettable, one of which I will explain to the people I know back at home later (I know Marla will love this). The definite highlight of this day was when we headed to the Union Depot for supper. They were filming a movie called 'Hannibal' the sequel to 'Silence of The Lambs.' As I was observing, Anthony Hopkins came and greeted a group of people (including me) who were watching. He shook my hand and we carried on a brief conversation, later I got some pictures. It was so awesome and I know My friends at home won't believe me so I am glad that I have pictures. This was again a tiring day, but I am still pumping with energy and ready to go for tomorrow. I am however missing my family and friends back home. I am sure I will forget the anxiety by tomorrow and have a great time! YEA, HISTORY DAY!

Wednesday , June 14

These past few days have been so much fun. I have seen the ocean and the Holocaust museum. I competed yesterday and had so much fun. I am really enjoying my time with the South [High] kids too. I hope the remainder of my trip is as good as the rest.



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## Journals from History Day National Competition

June 10-15, 2000

Bob Ferguson, Joe Liberti and Brooke Miller — Anthony Middle School, Minneapolis



Sunday, June 11

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Anthony Middle School here. A whole lot of us. Thirteen kids, eight parents, three of us teachers. Six different projects — more than ever before. Three more than it took to shave my head bald like Jesse Ventura (me and my big mouth). Though I have got to admit that this bald head of mine feels cool in this intense heat. We, the whole lot of us, are off to the Holocaust Museum. More tomorrow.

—Bob Ferguson

Monday, June 12

Today all our projects were judged. It was a very busy day because they were all in different buildings at different times. So off we ran. I am very proud of our students and their projects. They were all quite relieved when the judging was finished. It was another blazing hot day. However, we found wonderful relief in the campus swimming pool after the judging. We had good and bad news today. The good news: Chloe Woodward made the final round with her individual performance. She will perform again tomorrow night. The bad news: our group performance and group media, as great as they were, did not make the finals. We will not know about three of our exhibits until the final ceremony. The students are off to the National History Day Dance. I am off to the teacher's social. More tomorrow.

—Bob Ferguson



Bob Ferguson and Chloe Woodward after Chloe's performance on Monday.

Tuesday, June 13

Relief. A cool and cloudy day. We split our crew up into three parts. I stayed on campus with some students and parents and went to Minnesota's Senior High performances and media. Wow. Were they ever great! Two of the performances made the final round. Ms. Miller took some students to the Georgetown area to shop. Mr. Liberti took some students to The Mall to visit more museums. They both used the Metro, which is a great way to travel in Washington, D.C. We just finished a meeting with the Minnesota group. The door-decorating contest is tomorrow night. We did the banana dance. We cheered for Minnesota and had lots of laughs. Here I sit in my wonderful (sort of) dorm room ready for tomorrow. Good night.

—Bob Ferguson

Wednesday, June 14

Two of our students Jessica Dercks and Leslie Kopatz had the honor of displaying their exhibit on the Nelson Act and its effect on the White Earth Ojibwe at the American History Museum this morning. They were very excited and discussed their topic with many museum visitors. After this, the whole Anthony crew made a long trek to the ocean: Rehoboth Beach. We swam, shopped, ate unhealthy food and had the time of our lives. On the way home (it was late) I managed to get lost. An unexpected night tour of downtown Washington! Around and around we went. We got home in time for the room decorating contest and other festivities. The dorm was full of excitement. There will not be much sleep tonight. Tomorrow is the closing ceremony. We are all excited and hopeful. Off to enjoy the last night fun!

—Bob Ferguson





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Amanda, Christa, Kristina -- Century High School, Rochester



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Saturday, June 10

Amanda Beyer

To History Day and Nationals we go!! Today was the first time I've ever flown before. The pilot came back to see me, but they didn't have any wings to hand out. I was a little scared about the flight and all.

By the time we got to campus I was tired and I wanted to go to bed (staff note: we arrived on campus at 3:00 in the afternoon) but instead we went on a tour of D.C.. We were able to meet many people from Minnesota and other states. The next couple of days will give us more chances to explore.

Tomorrow is Sunday and we will set up our exhibit and register for the contest. I never thought we would make it this far!

Kristina Hudson

Day one started off rocky because it ended up to be very hot in Washington D.C.. It was 94 degrees when we got off of the plane. We made a quick stop on campus then we started on our tour. Our bus driver was named Brock and he was accompanied by our tour guide, Billy. The tour was quite the experience. Taking pictures and laughing with others on the bus was a great way to get started on our National History Day week.

Christa Anderson

An Ode to my First Day at History Day

Oh, first day  
You were not gray

We went on a tour  
We saw no manure

I saw FDR (the monument -- he's dead)  
I did not see

Our driver's name was Brock  
He did not carry chalk

We came on a plane  
It was not like a train

I saw a Christmas tree  
It gave me much glee

It was hot  
We liked it a lot

We went to Union Station  
There was a dinosaur creation (named Sue)

Registering was fun  
We liked it a ton

We got a meal card  
Now we can eat lard

I look forward to more  
This is no bore

We love History Day!

Sunday June 1 1, 2000

Amanda Beyer

Today is Sunday as you all can see by the date. Today all of us basically got settled in our rooms. and man is it hot. Other than that just the registered with our projects and all that fun stuff. Also a lot of site seeing went on again. We are craving pizza, but the places are closed. Once again too bad Mr. Robinson couldn't be here to see how we are doing! That's all for now other than I miss my mom and Jason! See you all soon.

Love ya lots,  
Amanda Beyer

Another day of roaming around the student center; getting registered and setting up our projects. At about 11:00 we went to the Washington Monument and the Holocaust Museum. I have to say, it was a sad museum.

Christa Anderson

Memoirs of the "second" day at History Day. It is Sunday. Today we got to register. We got a neat-o History Day pin for registering. The line was indeed long, but the History Day staff were very speedy and well organized. Thank you, History Day staff. Then we went touring for the day. Oh, look at all these sites! Then we had pepfest for the happy junior division that's getting judged tomorrow. I could tell about the pep fest, but then I'd have to kill you. It's kind of an inside club. We don't like to share. But, I will say there was an uncanny performance by some masked bananas. Good luck, junior division!

Monday June 12, 2000

Amanda Beyer

Hi all what is happening? Everything's cool here, just seeing more sites today. The best was the changing of the Guards at Arlington National Cemetery. That was really cool, because the people had to be totally silent and we saw a school place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers, it was great.

We also went shopping at the Pentagon city Mall. I bought lots of cool stuff.

Tomorrow will be even more fun! PS. We went swimming twice at Kristina's parents hotel. Man did it feel good. And we spent the night also.

Well gotta go for now.

Love ya all lots. See ya soon,

Amanda

Kristina Hudson

It was a hot one out. Walking around Arlington Cemetery seemed like three days of heat. Today was the Junior Judging day and boy were they nervous. Tomorrow is our (Christa and Amanda's) judging. I hope we get through it. We went to bed early to get enough sleep for the next day.

Christa Anderson

Interview from Monday.

Katie Couric: Hello, History Day participant. This is quite the accomplishment. National History Day.

History Day Youth: Well, I've been collecting pins all week and I finally got all the states. My favorite is that floss one from Minnesota. Also tonight is the hoppin' History Day dance where I plan to meet all the other groovy History Day chums.

Katie Couric: Well, sounds like Monday is quite the day for you history buffs. Have a great time.

Commercial.

Tuesday June 13, 2000

Amanda Beyer

Today is Tuesday! Yeah, only two more nights and we are coming home. Today we just hung out and waited for the big moment for our judging. It was at 11:45 this morning. That would be 10:45 Minnesota time. We got judged it went good, I thought. We are all braiding our hair in little braids. First we braided Christa's hair, then Kristina's, then mine. Tomorrow we are going to the White House for a tour. And other than that nothing much.

Well gotta go. Love ya lots.

Amanda

PS. See you all soon. Love you, Mom and Jason.

Kristina Hudson

Today was a fun day. My group was judged, and it went well and hope we make it to finals. After that we bought about \$20 of candy and chips. The best part was braiding each other's hair. Tonight we are going to have pizza and stay up all night and go to the White House tomorrow.

Christa Anderson  
Captain's Log 6392-4

Tuesday: a day to remember. Well, today is judging day for Senior Division folks. Since I'm in the Senior Division, that's me. My group, however, had the coolest judges and lots of fun. Also, looking through all exhibits and some media today, I noticed that all were superb. Congratulations! In other news,... There will be another rockin' Minnesota meeting tonight which all are looking forward to. Finally, all Minnesota scholars are also preparing their rooms for the big decorating contest tomorrow. The inside scoop is judges are looking for bribery. Very important.

Wednesday , June 14

Amanda Beyer

of the White House, but you couldn't take pictures so Kristina and I bought packages of postcards of the White House. Anyways, one more day in these stinky, old dorms and we will be going home. This was a wonderful trip, but IÕve gotta go to a Minnesota Meeting at 10 p.m. So love, ya all, lots! See ya soon! Love ya, MOM. See you soon, Jason.

Kristina Hudson

We had an all-nighter last night. We were up from 8 a.m. Tuesday to 1 a.m. today. We finished braiding each otherÕs hair and we stood in line at 5:30 a.m. to get tickets to the White House. Our tour was at 10:40 a.m. It was a fun tour, especially getting pictures in front of the White House. Then we came home and slept from 1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Then we got up and ate a bag of chips and cookies for supper, went to the meeting, then packed ourselves away so that we can take D.C. home with us in memories and in pride. Today was the last day of our trip. It was a tired trip, but very fun. Always, Kristina Hudson.

Christa Anderson

Hallelujah! It finally cooled off which is fortunate since a certain someone kicked my fan out the window. Maybe the perpetrator was one of my group members. Hmmmm. We stayed up all night long and went to the White House this morning. To stay active in the White House, there were impressive dramatic readings with interpretive dances to the backyard wildlife survival guide booklet. Audiences were very enthusiastic. IÕm going to sleep some more now.

Thursday , June 15

Kristina Hudson

The time has come to say good bye and leave the past as past and make this trip history and look back on it as history. We got 5th in our judging room. IÕm looking forward to going home, but I will miss D.C. It was a great experience for me and others. This will be something I will never forget. It is time to check out of the dorms and now time to check out from writing e-journals. So, good luck in the future and remember the past is the past, the future is to come, and you can relive the past, but take the future one step at a time and make everyday worthwhile.





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### Staff



Saturday , June 10

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The Minnesota History Day staff is ready for fun at National History Day. This crop of scholars promises to be particularly fun, so the staff is ready to be entertained. The Minnesota History Day contingent is breaking ground in the button-trading market by trading floss buttons. Read the staff's journal to learn exactly what floss buttons are.

National History Day 2000 is off to a flying start. All travel arrangements have gone smoothly — no four-hour waits on the runway or lost projects to deal with. The Minnesota group has been demonstrating herd-like tendencies and we did not lose any strays on our big bus tour of Washington, D.C. Highlights of the tour included the White House, Union Station and the Korean, Lincoln, Vietnam, and FDR memorials.

There is one thing for certain about D.C. tour guides — you can count on them to be interesting characters. Our guide, Billy, was no exception. As we wandered through various monuments and historic sites following behind Billy and his umbrella, he would always remind us to, "Walk quickly, safely, and with love." The staff has decided that these are truly words to live by.

Our last stop at Union Station provided the necessary nutrition to our tired crew. Then it was back to the dorm for check-in. Minnesota is serving a one-year exile from the only air-conditioned dorm on campus, so we checked into the steamy confines of Hagerstown dormitory. The youth busied themselves with door signs and unpacking as they settled in to their pastel colored, concrete block rooms with the tan plastic-covered mattresses. The staff has convinced them that heat is only a state of mind,



The first morning at History Day is always exciting for the staff. Exhibit students scurry around making last-minute adhesive fixes and getting their exhibits vertical in the Colony Ballroom of the Stamp Student Union. Once the students registered, they scattered to all corners of D.C. Some of the staff ventured to D.C. to visit with friends, and an old staff member relived old memories with the staff remaining at College Park. But there was one mission for all — somehow make the pictures from the regular camera appear on the e-journal web page. The digital camera decided not to work in the D.C. heat and humidity, so the staff worked to find a solution to this problem. And find one we did. Luckily, a Ritz Camera store was able to develop the film and put the pictures on a CD for our use. Ritz Camera did have one problem — their printing machine was unable to print out the pictures, but that was not a setback for the crack Minnesota History Day staff. We only needed the digital images. And get them we did.

Monday, June 12

Neither late nights nor last-minute student glitches have undone the History Day staff. In fact, we're likely having too much fun. Of course, this year's trip might be subtitled: "Adventures in Exploring The Capital Region's Airports." Our fearless staff member, Anna Horning, was stranded in Pittsburgh on Sunday night. When she finally got to BWI this morning (after supposedly arriving at Reagan National on Sunday night), her baggage was nowhere to be seen. Needless to say, it takes more than airport tribulations to get us down, especially with all the Minnesotans in the junior division strutting their stuff today. Nothing did more to pump us up than all the great presentations and exhibits. We saw off every student, and proudly claimed them (along with parents and teachers) when they emerged from their 95-degree judging rooms. Besides weathering the weather, they showed that all that hard work paid off. And the student dance showed how Minnesotans can strut their stuff on the dance floor as well as academically. The S.P.A. contingent did a James Brown impression that will long be remembered (and talked about) by History Day types around the nation. Soul Brother No. 1 himself would be proud.

Tuesday, June 13

The staff had another exciting day running around, encouraging and helping all the great Minnesota students in the senior divisions. Every single one did the Minnesota herd proud. Any judge, student or teacher that took part in History Day this year was well represented. Unfortunately, Mr. History was called to far-off North Dakota for a family emergency. But with Sara designated as the new "Queen of Minnesota History Day," things are moving along smoothly. Our fearless leader will return tomorrow, just in time to see our young scholars rock the nation in the big Thursday morning award ceremony. Our senior students starting that rocking today, as they moved all around campus, showing off their exhibits, performances, documentaries, and papers. Everyone did their best — which was pretty dang good. We also gathered the herd for the



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