

NHD PERFORMANCE - Rules

A performance is a dramatic portrayal of your topic's significance in history and must be original in production.

Rule 1: Time Requirements

Performances may not exceed 10 minutes in length. Timing starts at the beginning of the performance following the announcement of the title and student name(s). Any other introductory remarks will be considered part of the performance and will be counted as part of the overall time. You will be allowed an additional 5 minutes to set up and 5 minutes to remove any props needed for your performance.

NOTE: You should allow several empty seconds in your performance to account for unplanned pauses (e.g. applause, forgotten lines, etc.).

Rule 2: Performance Introduction

The title of your entry and the names of the participants must be the first and only announcements prior to the start of the performance.

Rule 3: Media Devices

Use of slides, tape recorders, computers, or other media within your performance is permitted. You must run all equipment and carry out any special lighting or sound effects.

Rule 4: Script

The script for the performance should not be included with the written material presented to the judges.

Rule 5: Costumes

You may have a costume produced for you, but the design, choice of fabrics, etc. must be your own. Or, you may rent a costume. Remember: simple is best.

Required Written Material

Rule 12: Written Material

Entries in all categories except historical papers must include three copies of the following written material in the following order:

1. A title page as described in Rule 13.
 2. A process paper as described in Rule 14
 3. An annotated bibliography as described in Rule 15.
- These materials must be typed or neatly printed on plain white paper and stapled together in the top left corner. Do not enclose them in a cover or binder.

Rule 13: Title Page

A title page is required as the first page of written material in every category. Your title page must include only the title of your entry, your name(s) and the contest division and category in which you are entered.

NOTE: The title page must not include any other information (pictures, graphics, borders, school name, or grade)

Rule 14: Process Paper

A process paper is a description of no more than 500 words explaining how you conducted your research and created and developed your entry. All categories except historical paper must include a process paper with their entry. The process paper should include the following four sections:

- (1) explain how you chose your topic
 - (2) explain how you conducted your research
 - (3) explain how you selected your presentation category and created your project
 - (4) explain how your project relates to the NHD theme
- Go to www.nhd.org and in the Contest section click on Creating a Process Paper to view sample process papers.

Rule 15: Annotated Bibliography

An annotated bibliography is required for all categories. It should contain all sources that provided usable information or new perspectives in preparing your entry. Sources of visual materials and oral interviews must be included. The annotations for each source must explain how you used the source and how it helped you understand your topic. Annotations of web sites should include a description of who sponsors the site.

For example:

Bates, Daisy. The Long Shadow of Little Rock.

New York: David McKay Co. Inc., 1962.

Daisy Bates was the president of the Arkansas NAACP and the one who met and listened to the students each day. This first hand account was very important to my paper because it made me more aware of the feelings of the people involved.

NOTE: Oral history transcripts, correspondence between you and experts, questionnaires, and other primary or secondary materials used as sources for your entry should be cited in your bibliography but not included as attachments to your bibliography.

Rule 16: The Separation of Primary and Secondary Sources

You are required to separate your bibliography into primary and secondary sources.

NOTE: Some sources may be considered as either primary or secondary. Use your annotations to explain your reasoning for classifying any sources that are not clearly primary or secondary. Listing a source under both primary and secondary is inappropriate.

Rule 17: Style Guides

Style for citations and bibliographic references must follow the principles in one of the following guides:

- (1) Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations.
- (2) Joseph Gibaldi, MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 5th Edition.

Rule 18: Plagiarism

You must acknowledge in your annotated bibliography all sources used in your entry. Failure to credit sources is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.

Performance checklist

- ___ • 10-minute maximum for performance
- ___ • Maximum 5 minutes to set up and 5 minutes to take down props
- ___ • 3 copies (plus one for you) of written materials: title page with required information; 500 word description of the research methods used (a judging team may retain one copy for review)
- ___ • Annotated bibliography, separated into primary and secondary sources
- ___ • Performance addresses the theme
- ___ • All props and equipment are student supplied
- ___ • Only student entrants run equipment and are involved in the performance
- ___ • Extra supplies and materials in case of emergency
- ___ • Entry registered by deadline
- ___ • Prepared to answer judges' questions at the contest (remember that formal narratives are not appropriate responses to questions)