

History Day State Archives Award Winners Showcase Their Projects

Contributed by Mike Saunders, Puget Sound Regional Archivist

Every year the State Archives gives out special awards for outstanding research on History Day projects. This year's winners were honored at a reception in the State Archives Research Room, where they presented their projects on May 25th. There are two awards given in both the Junior (grades 6-8) and Senior (grades 9-12) Divisions. The State Archivist's Award goes to a project in each division making the best use of research and collections of the State Government Archives. The State Archives Regional and Local Research Award goes to a project in each Division most effectively using the collections of Regional Branch Archives or the special collections held by universities, museums and other local heritage organizations.



The **State Archivist's Award in the Senior Division** went to a group exhibit by **Vincy Fok, Lorrin Johnson and Issabelle Hayden** entitled "American Indians Regain Fishing Rights in the Pacific Northwest." Vincy, Lorrin, and Issabelle are from Liberty High School in Issaquah. Their teacher is Joann Olsson. They made particularly good use of sources from the Digital Archives and Legacy Washington.

In the **Junior Division**, the **State Archivist's Award** went to a group exhibit by **Kyra Crosby, Emma McKune and Amber Holmgren** entitled "Moral Choices 1975: Vietnam Refugees Encountering Callousness or Compassion; Exchanging Cultures." Kyra, Emma, and Amber are from Pleasant Valley Middle School in Battle Ground. Their teacher is Irene Soohoo. This project included extensive research in Governor Evans' Papers as well as an interview with former Secretary of State Ralph Munro, who was an active participant in the Governor's efforts to help refugees from Vietnam settle in Washington state in the 1970s. This group also won **6th place nationally** for their project.



The **Award for Outstanding Use of Regional and Local Archives** in the **Senior Division** went to a documentary by **Mercedes Wright** entitled "Picking for Freedom." Mercedes is from Auburn-Mountainview High School in Auburn. Her teacher (pictured with Mercedes) is Erin Hall. Mercedes pulled together information from a number of sources, including the University of Washington and Chicano radio station KDNA to interpret the story of The Bracero Project and the movement to organize farm workers in Washington state.

In the **Junior Division**, the **Award for Outstanding Use of Regional and Local Archives** went to an exhibit by **Natalie Brigham** entitled "Pike Place Market: Evolution Through Exchange." Natalie is from Evergreen Middle School in Redmond. Her teacher is Nicole Kelser. Natalie made extensive use of the resources from the Seattle Municipal Archives, University of Washington's Special Collections and manuscripts, and the Densho Project. Her project interprets the history of Pike Place Market encounters and exchanges that took place between different immigrant groups who sold their produce at the market.



Congratulations to the winners for a job well done!