

American History Committee

Leslie Stair, KS State Chair
3468 CR 3900, Independence, KS 67301
lesliestair@gmail.com
620-330-1717

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the American History Committee is to promote American history throughout the year by honoring significant historical people, places, dates, and events. It does this in several ways including the American History and Patriots of the American Revolution Essay Contests, recognition of women in American History, the Excellence in American History DAR Award, and through programs on American history for chapter meetings.

American History Essay Contest (grades 5 – 8) 2024 – 2025

“Enjoying a new kind of Tea Party” Question: In the 1770’s there was a movement of protest from the Colonists against the British due to taxes and laws. Along the eastern coast a growing number of patriots held “tea” parties. The Boston Tea Party was on December 16, 1773, and the Charlestown, SC Tea Party and the Chester Town Tea Party followed in 1774. In October 1774, 51 women in Edenton, North Carolina, decided to refuse to buy tea from the British because of their high taxes and laws. In 1775, women in Wilmington, North Carolina, burned their tea for the same reasons. Imagine you are one of these women boldly participating in one of these Tea Parties in North Carolina. Give details of either the Edenton Tea Party or Wilmington Tea Party, describe the tea party, and why you would choose to join them. Then explain if you think it, was a good decision.

Please read the American Essay Contest Form (AHC-1000) carefully as the rules for submission have changed.

One essay from each grade should be selected by your chapter for judging team as the chapter winner. Judging sheets are found on the NSDAR website (AHC- 1001) One essay at each grade level will be selected as state winners and will be sent on to jurisdiction competition.

Patriots of American Revolution DAR Essay Contest (grades 9 – 12) 2024 -2025

High school aged students are encouraged to choose a person from the era of the American Revolution (1773-1783) and discuss how that person influenced the course of the American Revolution. Chosen figures may be any person, regardless of sex, age or prominence, who supported the American Revolution. Essay subjects must have been actual participants, i.e., not fictionalized. Students are Encouraged to use primary sources (letters, diaries, news reports etc.) for their research. Essays are to be 800-1200 words in length.

Please read the American History Essay Contest Form (AHC-1002) carefully as the rules for submission have changes this year.

One essay should be selected by your chapter judging team as the chapter winner. Judging sheets are found on the NSDAR website (AHC-1003). One essay will be selected as the state winner and will be sent on to jurisdiction competition.

American History Video Contest (grades 5 – 12) 2024 – 2025

2024-2025 Essay Title: “Enjoying a new kind of Tea Party!”

Question: In the 1770’s there was a movement of protest from the Colonists against the British due to taxes and laws. Along the eastern coast a growing number of patriots held “tea” parties. The Boston Tea Party was on December 16, 1773, and the Charlestown, SC Tea Party and the Chester Town Tea Party followed in 1774. In October 1774, 51 women in Edenton, North Carolina, decided to refuse to buy tea from the British because of their high taxes and laws. In 1775, women in Wilmington, North Carolina, burned their tea for the same reasons. Imagine you are one of these women boldly participating in one of these Tea Parties in North Carolina. Give details of either the Edenton Tea Party or Wilmington Tea Party, describe the tea party, and why you would choose to join them. Then explain if you think it, was a good decision.

Length: Up to 3 minutes. The timing of the video begins when the first visual image appears, or the first sound is heard. timing ends when the last visual image or sound ends, including source credits. The student must announce only the title of the video and the student(s) name(s) before starting the video, which does not count for the 3 minutes.

Please note that the entire video must be an original work written and created by the student(s). If professional photos, film/media clips, images, recorded music or

anything that is copyrighted is used in the video, they must be properly cited in source credits at the end of the video. The entire video must be the student(s) original work and not by a parent, teacher, tutor, AI, or other helper. Each video must include a completed Title Page (AHC-1008)

One essay at each grade level category is selected as the chapter winner.

The winner's video, title sheet found in forms, and three judges' sheets also found in forms, should be emailed to the State Chairman American History for state competition.

Women in American History

The emphasis of Women in American History is on the role of women, past and present, in American History. Chapters are encouraged to select a notable woman from their state or community to honor. March is officially "Women's History Month," so chapters may wish to use this occasion to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of the woman of their choice.

Chapters are encouraged to choose a woman to honor for this recognition by taking into consideration women who have made a contribution or a difference in their communities. She could be a historical entity or currently alive and worthy of recognition. Look for women who are, or have been, intellectual, educational, social, religious, political, scientific, or cultural innovators. The woman or women being honored may be DAR members, prospective DAR members, or non-members. You may select more than one woman to honor.

Each chapter honoring a woman is asked to prepare a report about her, up to 100 words, with a photo, if available using the form from the NSDAR website (AHC-1006). These reports may be sent throughout the year to the state American History chairman, but the final deadline to be included in the 2024-25 listing is March 15th. Please note that reports completed and submitted by December 31, 2024, can be counted in the chapters 2024 CMR report.

American History Essay Contest

- Information: AHC-1000
- Judging: AHC-1001
- Contest Submission Form: AHC-1009
- Due Date: December 21, 2024
- Winners: One per grade (5-8)

Patriots of the American Revolution Essay Contest

- Information: AHC-1002
- Judging: AHC-1003
- Contest Submission Form: AHC-1009
- Due Date: December 21, 2024
- Winners: One

American History Video Contest

- Submission Form 2024 – 2025 Grades 5 – 12 ([AHC-1008](#))
- Cover Sheet and Signature Form ([AHC-1009](#))
- Chapter and School use ([AHC-1010](#))
- Title Page 2024-2025 (AHC-1012)
- Judge's Scoring Sheet ([AHC-1011](#))
- Winners: One per grade (5 – 12)

Women in American History

- Chapter Report Form: ACH-1006
- Due Date: March 15, 2025 (to be included in the 2024-25 listing), encouraged submission by December 31, 2024

Excellence in American History DAR AWARD

Chapters may recognize an outstanding student of American History (separate from participation in one of the American History Essay Contest or the Patriots of the American Revolution DAR Essay Contest) through the presentation of a certificate of award and/or a bronze medal. The Chapter may determine eligibility and criteria for this award for any student in any grade.

Outstanding American History Teacher

Every year since 1982, the National Society has honored teachers of American History and related fields for their service. To recognize a teacher for outstanding service in American History, please forward their information to KSDAR State Historian Sherrie Smith by November 11, 2024.

All entries must be submitted electronically this year.

For more information check out the American History Committee page on the NSDAR website or contact me.

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or 620-330-1717