



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rick Stoddard
rick@nhd.org
P. 301.405.0536

4511 Knox Road
Suite 205

College Park, MD 20740

M. 301.314.9739

F. 301.314.9767

www.nhd.org

facebook.com/nationalhistoryday

@nationalhistory

ESSEX EDUCATOR NOMINATED FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY® TEACHER OF THE YEAR

WASHINGTON, D.C. and ESSEX, MISSOURI—Mrs. Rebecca Arnold, a teacher at Richland Elementary School in Essex, Missouri, was nominated for the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year award. The award is sponsored by Patricia Behring, widow of the late Kenneth E. Behring, who previously sponsored the National History Day National Contest for many years.

Each of the 58 National History Day affiliates may nominate one middle school teacher for this award, and Mrs. Arnold is the junior division nominee from Missouri. Every nominee for the \$10,000 award is a teacher who demonstrates a commitment to engaging students in historical learning through innovative use of primary sources, implementation of active learning strategies to foster historical thinking skills, and participation in the National History Day Contest. All nominees will receive \$500, each, as a result of their nominations.

“Teachers are among the greatest resources children have to develop the skills necessary to become critical thinkers,” said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. “The nominees for the Behring Award have shown a dedication to teaching that goes beyond the classroom. I congratulate Mrs. Arnold on her well-deserved nomination.”

Patricia Behring sponsors this award in recognition of the pivotal role teachers play in the lives of students. The national winner will be selected by a committee of experienced teachers and historians, and will be announced on June 18, 2020, at the National History Day National Contest Awards Ceremony held at the University of Maryland, College Park. Nominees’ work must clearly illustrate the development and use of creative teaching methods that interest students in history, and help them make exciting discoveries about the past.

About National History Day® (NHD):

NHD is a non-profit organization based in College Park, Maryland, which seeks to improve the teaching and learning of history. The National History Day Contest was established in 1974 and currently engages more than half a million students every year in conducting original research on historical topics of interest. Students present their research as a documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website. Projects compete first at the local and affiliate levels, where the top entries are invited to the National Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park. NHD is sponsored in part by, HISTORY®, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Park Service, Southwest Airlines, the Crown Family Foundation, The Better Angels Society, and the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation. For more information, visit nhd.org.

About National History Day in Missouri:

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HISTORY DAY

4511 Knox Road

Suite 205

College Park, MD 20740

Voice (301) 314-9739

Fax (301) 314-9767

www.nhd.org

facebook.com/nationalhistoryday

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Launched in 1980, National History Day in Missouri is the state affiliate of the National History Day educational program, which has half a million participants annually. Over 5,000 students compete in the Missouri program, with 600 advancing to the state competition. National History Day in Missouri is sponsored by the State Historical Society of Missouri. Visit: nhdmo.org

About The State Historical Society of Missouri:

Founded in 1898 and established as a trustee of the state a year later, SHSMO is the premier center for the study of Missouri state and local history. Through its education program, the Center for Missouri Studies, SHSMO collects, preserves, and publishes materials that enhance research and support learning opportunities in the study of the Midwest at six research centers around the state, with headquarters on the University of Missouri campus. Visit: shsmo.org.

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