



Montana National History Day News Letter

Fall 2008

What's New

It is October already. Montana National History Day is off to our inaugural year. While we expect a small state contest this year, we are laying the ground work for the future. Despite our new status, there is opportunity for you and your students. Given the relatively small competition we expect, your students have a better chance of advancing to the national contest. We have also secured some funding, so if your students advance, we may have some financial support to take them to Washington, D.C. in June. This funding also has created opportunities for teachers (See Teacher Opportunities in this Newsletter). (con't pg. 2)

Montana NHD at the MEA-MFT Conference

If you would like to meet in person, I will be presenting on Montana National History Day at the MEA-MFT conference in Missoula on October 16 and 17. Ann Caunch, the National Curriculum Director for NHD will also be there to provide ideas of painlessly implementing NHD into your curriculum.

Presentation dates and times:

Thursday 10/16 11:00 am
SHS 236

Friday 10/17 8:00 am
SHS 236

See you in Missoula!

Teacher Opportunities

Would you like a little extra money? Who wouldn't! Montana NHD is in the process of putting together a project that would provide a grant where **teachers could earn \$1000** ... (con't on page 2)

NHD MYTH #1

Myth: National History Day means more work for me as the teacher.

Reality: NHD, while taking some time to incorporate into your curriculum, actually makes **LESS** work for the teacher in the long run. Ask me how.
trust@msubillings.edu

2000 Free Primary Documents!!

Every teacher who has a student participate in the 2009 State NHD contest will receive a **FREE** CD-ROM with over 2000 reproducible images of World War I and World War II Propaganda posters. Perfect for the classroom.



Montana National History Day Store Now Open

Montana National History Day now has its own store at www.cafepress.com/MontanaNHD/. There you will find various products with the new Montana NHD logo. Everything from BBQ aprons to T-Shirts is offered at cost to better promote the program. Browse the store to see what tickles your fancy.

What's New (con't from pg 1)

We now also have a logo and a new online store (see above). The logo is a representation of a Crow rock art inscription from north of Billings representing an encounter with the Lewis and Clark expedition, the only known Native American written record of Lewis and Clark.

We will also be putting together a Montana National History Day Advisory Board to help administer and promote the program. If you have an idea of who should be on the board, feel free to contact me.

Teacher Opportunities **(con't from pg. 1)**

... to participate in a study on how NHD affects student performance. If the funding comes through, which it looks like it will, participating teachers will go through a "NHD Boot Camp" for one week, possibly including a paid **trip to the National Contest in Washington, D.C.** Things are still coming together but it appears that we may be able to have discussions with **Smithsonian exhibit designers** about designing exhibits. Participants would also create their own NHD type exhibits to better understand the student experience. Once completed, teachers would implement NHD in their classrooms for three years and measure student performance. In-service Credit may also be available.

Are you interested? Contact Dr. Rust at (406) 657-2891 or trust@msubillings.edu.

Benefits: *\$1000 in your pocket
*Free Trip to Washington, D.C. for you
*Learn about NHD
*Expose your students to an exciting program