



New Jersey History Day | Special Awards 2026

Amistad Commission Award

Presented by: The New Jersey Amistad Commission



The Amistad Award is presented to exemplary projects in any category whose topics relate to African American and/or African Diaspora history.

About the Award Sponsor: The Amistad Commission is dedicated to supporting New Jersey's educators and students through a comprehensive range of resources, programs, and professional learning opportunities. Our mission is to ensure that teachers and administrators are equipped with the tools and knowledge to teach about the transatlantic slave trade, the history of slavery in the United States, and the extraordinary contributions of African Americans whose achievements and legacies have profoundly shaped our nation's history, culture, and ongoing pursuit of equality. Through this work, we aim to deepen understanding, promote historical awareness, and inspire appreciation for the enduring impact of African American experiences on American society.

To Learn More: <https://www.nj.gov/education/amistad/>

Eligible Projects:

Categories	Divisions	Entry Type
All	Junior and Senior	Individual and Group

Prizes Awarded:

First and second place in-kind prize within each division

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Morristown Chapter NSDAR Award

Presented by: the Morristown Chapter, National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, Morristown, New Jersey

The Morristown Chapter NSDAR Award is presented to exceptional projects that address Colonial or Revolutionary American history.



About the Award Sponsor: The Morristown, New Jersey, chapter of the NSDAR was organized on November 12, 1895.. In 1923, the chapter purchased the house once owned by Revolutionary War physician and surgeon, Dr. Jabez Campfield. Chapter members named the property the Schuyler-Hamilton House to remember where the courtship and engagement between Elizabeth 'Betsy' Schuyler and Alexander Hamilton took place. The house is located a short distance from the Morristown National Historical Park, the winter encampment of General Washington during the 1777-1778 winter and again during the 'Hard Winter' of 1779-1780. The chapter still owns and actively maintains the property. Tours are available to the public on Sundays from 1-4pm. Our chapter actively supports the objectives of the NSDAR: Historic Preservation, Education, and Patriotism.

To Learn More: <https://morristownnjdar.org/>

Eligible Projects:

Categories	Divisions	Entry Type
All	Junior and Senior	Individual and Group

Prizes Awarded:

One monetary prize accompanied by an award certificate.

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New Jersey History Award

Presented by: The New Jersey Historical Commission



The New Jersey History Award is presented to exceptional projects in any category that address New Jersey History.

About the Award Sponsor: The New Jersey Historical Commission (NJHC) is a state agency dedicated to the advancement of public knowledge and preservation of New Jersey history. Established by law in 1967, its work is founded on the fundamental belief that an understanding of our shared heritage is essential to sustaining a cohesive and robust democracy. The NJHC receives its funding primarily by legislative appropriation. It fulfills its mission through various initiatives, as well as an active grant program to engage diverse audiences and practitioners in the active exploration, enjoyment, interpretation, understanding, and preservation of New Jersey history.

To Learn More: history.nj.gov

Eligible Projects:

Categories	Division	Entry Type
All	Senior	Individual and Group

Prizes Awarded:

One in-kind prize accompanied by an award certificate.

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National Maritime History Award

Presented by: The National Maritime Historical Society Award is presented to projects that focus on maritime-related topics. To encourage the study of maritime history, the National Maritime Historical Society offers prizes for maritime-related projects in 24 states, including New Jersey.



About the Award Sponsor: : The National Maritime Historical Society is an international organization headquartered in Peekskill, New York. Since 1965, its mission has been to educate Americans about our nation’s extraordinary maritime accomplishments and their continuing relevance for our national prosperity and cultural vitality. Since its beginnings in 1963, the National Maritime Historical Society has been celebrating the sea – raising awareness of our maritime heritage and the role seafaring has played in shaping civilization. To encourage the study of our heritage, NMHS proudly participates in National History Day, and has a long history of involvement in other maritime education initiatives. And to broaden knowledge, encourage partnerships, and keep the study of history current and relevant, the Society supports maritime heritage conferences and events across the country.

To Learn More: <https://seahistory.org/>

Eligible Projects:

Categories	Division	Entry Type
All	Senior	Individual and Group

Prizes Awarded:

Four monetary and in-kind prizes are offered, with a first and second prize awarded in each age division.

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Irish History and Culture Recognition Award

Presented by: The Order of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, Essex Chapter

This award is presented to exemplary projects that explore topics related to Irish and/or Irish American history.



About the Award Sponsor: The Order of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh–Essex Division is an Irish-American cultural and social organization who work to preserve our Irish traditions and heritage and to share them with the community at large. We host a wide variety of charitable events at our clubhouse in West Orange, NJ. The organization is non-profit, non-sectarian and non-political.

To Learn More: <https://essexshillelagh.com/>

Eligible Projects:

Categories	Division	Entry Type
All	Junior and Senior	Individual and Group

Prizes Awarded:

Junior:

- One monetary prize (\$25) and family admission to the FSOS Sports Expo

Senior:

- First place: monetary prize (\$100) and family admission to the FSOS Sports Expo
- Second place: Family admission to the FSOS Sports Expo