

THE ROADRUNNER

Newsletter of the Junior Historians of Texas



Texas State Historical Association, 1155 Union Circle #311580, Denton, Texas 76203

An Educational Program of the Texas State Historical Association in cooperation with the University of North Texas

September 2009

WELCOME BACK!

All of us at TSHA hope that our Junior Historian students and sponsors had a restful and relaxing summer! We kept quite busy in the summer months, travelling to College Park, Maryland for National History Day, spending a week in the Fort McKavett area for our Old Stories New Voices summer camp, driving across the state talking to teachers and administrators at curriculum days, and working tirelessly to encourage more schools to participate in Junior Historians. We received a lot of positive feedback from these conferences, and hope to see many new and revived chapters this fall.

We are also knee-deep into planning this year's 71st Annual Meeting in Austin, March 26-27, 2010. Last year's event was a great success and we were thrilled to see so many chapters attending. We hope for similar success this year. We're also in the final stages of editing and production of the next issue of the *Texas Historian*, featuring papers from our Junior Historians and Texas History Day students. This issue promises to be excellent, with articles featuring both local and international heroes: from Watt Matthews to Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. As soon as the volume is back from the publisher, we'll send it out to all new and renewing chapters and at-large members.

Now is the time to begin thinking about chapter projects. Is there a neglected cemetery in your area that needs to be preserved? Are there people in your community who have stories that could be recorded as an oral history project? Are there buildings in your community that haven't been researched, whose history has not been shared? These are some of the ways that as Junior Historians, you can preserve local history while serving your community. These are just some of the ideas that have been successful projects in recent years, your chapter might be the next to win a chapter project award at Annual Meeting!

September is also a great time to start thinking about your entry for this year's JH History Fair. Especially for those students who are considering the paper category, we have a variety of awards available, including the Thomas Ricks Lindley Memorial Award, which was new to the contest last year. The Lindley Award recognizes students who write on Texas History Topics from 1821 to 1886. Additionally, the Lone Star Leadership Award will be offered again for elementary and junior division entries. This award provides a scholarship to the Lone Star Leadership Academy, sponsored by Education in Action. A full description of the writing awards may be found online at http://www.tshaonline.org/education/jh/writing_awards.html

We would also like to take a moment to encourage students to take a look at all of the education programs that the Texas State Historical Association has to offer. If you are a game-show fanatic and enjoy rapid-fire question and answer, get your fellow students involved in the Texas Quiz Show. Heading off to a Texas college next year? Check online and see if that institution has a Webb Society Chapter; if not, think about the possibility of starting one. And of course, we encourage all students to participate in Texas History Day. If your chapter plans to attend the JH Annual Meeting, your project may translate seamlessly from JH to Texas History Day if it follows this year's theme, "Innovation in History: Impact and Change." More information on our education programs is found online at <http://www.tshaonline.org/education/>.

Have a great school year, and we look forward to seeing you all in Austin this March.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen S. Cure".

Stephen S. Cure
Director of Educational Services

Kate O'Donnell
K-12 Student Program Coordinator

CHAPTER RENEWALS

Make sure you are an **ACTIVE CHAPTER** in 2009-2010. Chapter renewal forms are enclosed for your convenience. They were also distributed electronically to chapter sponsors on August 26. Please return them as quickly as possible.

SUMMERLEE FOUNDATION GRANT

At this time, the Summerlee Foundation grant is nearly exhausted, but some funds remain for 2009-2010. **All** chapters will still receive their **five complimentary subscriptions** to the *Texas Historian*, but other benefits such as complimentary registrations and field trip reimbursements are on hold pending additional funding.

TEXAS HISTORIAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

The *Texas Historian* is in the final stages of editing and will be heading off to the printer shortly. As soon as we have the publication back from our printers we will ship it out to you. We strongly encourage all members to have their own copy of the publication. The *Texas Historian* serves to educate students about history, and to provide them with well researched and well written historical essays by their peers.

THE 2010 JUNIOR HISTORIANS ANNUAL MEETING AND HISTORY FAIR

The 71st Junior Historians Annual Meeting and History Fair will be held March 26-27, 2010 at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin. Please join other chapter members and sponsors as they come together to share their achievements, challenges, and future plans. Meeting activities will take place at the Doubletree Hotel and at surrounding historic sites. Details about the meeting and registration will follow in future issues of *THE ROADRUNNER*. For budgetary purposes, chapters should plan for \$24.75 plus tax per person for overnight lodging and a \$25.00 conference registration fee that includes an awards luncheon.

JUNIOR HISTORIANS CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION

An important way for students to become involved in the Junior Historian experience is by participating in the annual meeting contests. Medals and certificates are awarded to the top four entries in each category listed below in the elementary (4-5), junior (6-8), and senior (9-12) divisions. Medalists in the historical paper and exhibit categories also receive monetary prizes, and some papers are selected for publication in the *Texas Historian*. For historical paper rules, refer to the Junior Historians Writing Contests section on page 4 of this newsletter. Contest rules for each category are also available in the *Junior Historian Sponsors' Handbook* at <http://www.tshaonline.org/education/jh/sponsors/index.html>.

Historical Paper/Photographic Essay (Individual Only)

Individual Documentary

Group Documentary

Individual Exhibit

Group Exhibit

Individual Performance

Group Performance

Individual Interpretive Web Site

Group Interpretive Web Site

CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

These awards, based on the chapter reports submitted by sponsors, represent group efforts in researching, discovering, and preserving our Texas heritage. Chapter trophies are given in the elementary, junior, and senior divisions.

- Chapter Project*
- Outstanding Chapter
- First Runner-Up
- Second Runner-Up
- Honor Trophies
- Outstanding First Year Chapter

*Chapter Projects should conform to the guidelines for documentaries, exhibits, performances, or web sites. For guidelines on the interpretive web site category, contact us or check our web site at <http://www.tshaonline.org/education/jh/index.html>. Those chapters considering a chapter performance should be prepared to perform once for the judges and again, if possible, during the awards luncheon.

ADOPT-A-BUILDING AWARDS

Since 1985 Junior Historian chapters have had an opportunity to participate in the Adopt-A-Building preservation program, adopting a building or a landmark in their communities that has not been previously researched. Through media presentations, displays, and outreach programs, Junior Historians share information about their site's architectural and social history. In the process students often develop a new interest in the role that buildings play in the history of their communities and help increase public awareness of the need for historic preservation. The *Junior Historian Sponsors' Handbook* outlines the four phases of the Adopt-A-Building program. Chapters that complete all four phases of the adoption process are recognized at the Junior Historians Annual Meeting and receive a plaque commemorating their adoption.

CHAPTER OPPORTUNITIES

The following list is offered to provide your chapter new outlets for exploring history this year.

- ***Beyond the Bytes Newsletter***
This informative quarterly newsletter brings you up-to-date information about new and exciting resources that can be found on the Portal to Texas History web site, sponsored by the University of North Texas in Denton. The Portal to Texas History offers students a digital gateway to the rich collections held in Texas libraries, museums, archives, historical societies, and private collections. Check out their new projects such as the Texas Digital Newspaper Program and the "A to Z Digitization Project," which intends to provide access to a minimum of 500 additional documents every year. To take advantage of this valuable resource or subscribe to the newsletter, visit <http://texashistory.unt.edu/about/?selection=News>.
- ***Genealogy Projects***
Genealogy is an increasingly popular passion for many as access to historical information and data become more readily available. This type of research is a rewarding experience and can be a thrilling exercise. Often, researching one branch of your family will inspire you to delve into other topics that will enhance your historical research and writing skills. For a step-by-step list of how to get started, visit: <http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/diy/genealogy.html>. Other helpful web sites are: http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgenweb/?cj=1&o_xid=0002530104&o_lid=0002530104, and a complete list of free Texas Genealogy links are found at: <http://www.accessgenealogy.com/texas/>.
- ***The Texas History Day T-Shirt Design Contest*** invites students to submit t-shirt designs that depict the 2010 Texas History Day theme, "Innovation in History: Impact and Change." The winning student's design will be featured on the Texas History Day 2010 t-shirts and sold at the state contest on May 7-8, 2009. The winning design, student name, school, and teacher will be posted on the Texas History Day web site. In addition, the winner receives a free t-shirt and \$50! See the enclosed flyer for details.



JUNIOR HISTORIANS WRITING CONTESTS

For nearly seventy years, countless young Texans have participated in the Junior Historians writing contests, writing the history of Texas from the perspective of their home communities. Many students' papers have been published in the *Texas Historian*. Participants are encouraged to research topics on state and local history so they can have the experience of using many different primary sources.

The following rules apply to all Junior Historians Writing Contests:

1. The deadline for historical papers is March 1, 2010. Please submit FOUR copies of your paper.
2. Entries must be written on a word processor and double-spaced, with each page numbered. Include the writer's name, school, home address, and telephone number on the cover page only.
3. The writer must *document* the paper by using **endnotes** that follow either *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, & Dissertations* by Kate Turabian or the style guidebook of the Modern Language Association (MLA). **Citations cannot appear in parentheses within the body of the paper.**
4. Entrants must avoid *plagiarism*. Quotations from other writers are encouraged but should be used with discretion. Frequently, a well-chosen quote can add interest, color, and authority to a paper. However, when a student uses a direct quote—as opposed to paraphrasing the words of another writer—the words must be enclosed in quotation marks. A paper failing to meet this requirement will be disqualified.
5. Each entry will be judged on the basis of its *organization, originality of the topic, writing style, documentation, and total content of the paper.*
6. Contest papers published in the *Texas Historian* become the property of the Texas State Historical Association and are not returned to the author. Other papers and all photographs will be returned only if a written request is provided by the chapter sponsor and accompanied with return postage.
7. The contest is open to any student who is under twenty-one years of age and is a member of a Junior Historians chapter, or who is a member-at-large. The member-at-large category is for students who are not members of a Junior Historians chapter and who wish to enter papers in the writing contests. A regular subscription (\$7) to the *Texas Historian* is the only requirement for the member-at-large standing.



Students should avoid, whenever possible, relying too heavily upon books and magazine articles written on their topic. *Using local primary materials is one of the major objectives of the Junior Historians.* However, students who do not have access to primary materials should not be discouraged from entering the contest. Many excellent papers are based on secondary sources.

Photographs, maps, or illustrations should accompany each paper. It is often difficult for the *Texas Historian* staff to locate images to illustrate an article on local history being considered for publication. Students should therefore submit visual materials to illustrate their papers. **Black and white** glossy prints are preferable, but color prints of good quality are acceptable. Student authors may submit copies of illustrations from books or pamphlets **only** with the written permission of the publisher. Copies of illustrations are acceptable, providing the originals are available to the *Texas Historian* staff, if requested.

The Texas State Historical Association announces

THE LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION AWARD

*In Honor of an Outstanding History Teacher
at the Middle School, High School, or College Level*



The Mary Jon and J.P. Bryan Leadership in Education Award is given annually to recognize an outstanding history teacher or professor in Texas. Middle school, high school, and college teachers are eligible for the award. The winning teacher for 2008 will be presented a certificate and a check for \$5,000 at the Association's Annual Meeting in March 2010.

Any individual may nominate a full-time teacher or professor presently teaching history in a Texas school or college. Letters of nomination sent to the award committee must be postmarked on or before December 7, 2009. Supporting details may include the nominee's resume or vita, a list of activities and accomplishments, awards or honors, publications, descriptions of programs the nominee has created, and other materials. The letter and supporting details cannot exceed seven pages.

Should the committee decide that no entry meets the requirements, they may withhold the award at their discretion.

Please submit your nomination and supporting materials to:

Chairman
Mary Jon and J. P. Bryan Leadership in Education Award
Texas State Historical Association
1155 Union Circle #311580
Denton, TX 76203-5017

FALL EVENTS OF INTEREST

Texas Council for the Social Studies 57th Annual Conference

This year's TCSS focuses on the topic, "From Prairie to Prosperity" and will be held October 30- November 1 in Dallas. Sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency Dallas and will feature excellent speakers, TEKS review for all grade levels and the Jean Lantz Awards Luncheon. A special evening is planned Saturday with a tour of the Holocaust Museum. Don't forget to visit the TSHA exhibit table and meet our staff. For more conference information, visit www.txcss.org

Texas Book Festival

The annual Texas Book Festival will take place at the State Capitol on October 31- November 1, and this year's event proves to have something for everyone. Mark your calendar and plan to attend the panel discussions, readings and book signings by featured authors. The children's booths will have a myriad of book-related activities to take straight to your classroom. Proceeds from the sale of books and merchandise benefit Texas public libraries. To learn more, visit www.texasbookfestival.org

National Council for the Social Studies 88th Annual Conference

On November 13-15, 2009, the NCSS will come together in Atlanta at the Georgia World Congress Center and Omni Hotel for their annual conference themed "Dreams and Deeds: The Civic Mission of Schools." The conference will highlight the central role of social studies in our schools: preparing young citizens to make a better world. For more information and a conference schedule, visit www.socialstudies.org/conference

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2009	Texas Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference, Dallas
Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2009	Texas Book Festival, Austin
Nov. 13-15, 2009	National Council for the Social Studies Conference, Atlanta, GA
January 2010	<i>Roadrunner</i> sent to sponsors with Junior Historian Annual Meeting & History Fair information
March 1, 2010	Deadline for Junior Historian History Fair papers, entries, fees, and chapter reports
March 4-6, 2010	Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting, Austin
March 26-27, 2010	Junior Historian Annual Meeting and History Fair, Dallas
May 7-8, 2010	Texas History Day, Austin



2010 Texas History Day T-Shirt Design Contest



Texas History Day encourages *all* students to submit a t-shirt design for the Texas History Day 2010 theme: “The Individual in History.” The winning design will be featured on the 2010 t-shirt and sold at the 2010 state contest. The name of the winning student, school, and teacher will be posted on the Texas History Day web site. In addition, the winning student will receive a free t-shirt and \$50.

Contest Rules:

1. All entries must be received by *Friday, December 18, 2009*.
2. All designs must be original art.
3. All designs must be limited to three colors.
4. Designs are not limited to one side. You may include front, back and sleeve elements.
5. Designs will be used on short sleeve t-shirts and *possibly* on 1-1/4” round buttons.
6. If you submit an electronic design, also print and mail it to the address below. If your design is selected, the Texas State Historical Association will request a TIFF version.
7. By submitting an entry, you grant the Texas State Historical Association permission to use the design, to post it on the Texas History Day web site, and to modify the design as necessary.
8. The winner will be announced by *January 31, 2010*

Submit entries to:

T-Shirt Contest
Texas State Historical Association
1155 Union Circle #311580
Denton, TX 76203-5017

Please Include:

- Original art
- Student’s name
- School’s name
- Teacher’s name, telephone number & e-mail address
- A self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like your entry returned

Please contact the TSHA Educational Services staff at (940) 369-5200 if you have any questions.