



**MEDIA ADVISORY
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Areas of Interest: Schools, education, state, features

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**O. HENRY MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS
INAUGURAL TEXAS QUIZ SHOW**

AUSTIN, TEXAS, APRIL 29, 2006 — Austin's O. Henry Middle School topped the competition at the first **Texas Quiz Show** history tournament at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum today.

O. Henry's team of seventh-graders Michael Booth, Riley Brands, James Harrigan, and Julian Hendler bested Round Rock's Deerpark Middle School in the seventh and final match of the day. Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson awarded medals and commemorative Texas maps to the winners at the Texas History Day awards ceremony in the University of Texas Recreational Sports Center after the final match. The O. Henry team was coached by history teachers Ryan Hopkins and Paul Stearns.

A total of six Central Texas schools competed in half-hour matches; the other schools fielding teams were Fulmore Middle School (Austin ISD), Hill Country Middle School (Eanes ISD), Hopewell Middle School (Round Rock ISD), and Murchison Middle School (Austin ISD).

The Texas Quiz Show State Tournament is co-sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association and held in conjunction with Texas History Day, a yearlong education program that culminates in an annual state-level history fair for students in grades six through twelve sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association.

Texas Quiz Show host and founder Bill Crawford deemed the event a great success. “The teams not only know Texas history, but they were all wonderful sports. Even the losing teams were winners. We hope to build on the great energy from this first year’s event to expand the competition to include more schools in 2007.”

Robert Riger, vice president for Quiz Show sponsor Spark Publishing at Barnes & Noble, said, “It was extraordinary. Bill had this incredible vision for the Quiz Show, and today’s competition proved that with the right venue, students, and teachers, this type of event can be a huge success.”

The Texas Quiz Show tournament was videotaped by Public Access Community Television (PACT) and AISD video production unit and will be aired on Time Warner Cable’s AISD channel. DVDs of the event will also be available from the Texas Quiz Show website, www.texasquizshow.com.

Sponsors of the Texas Quiz Show include Barnes & Noble, Sparknotes, the Texas General Land Office Save Texas History Program, the *Texas Almanac*, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Six Flags/Fiesta Texas, the University of Texas at Austin (which developed The Texas Quiz Show website in coordination with the Texas State Historical Association). Additional support is provided by Bob Daemmrich Photography, Cynthia Hughes Literary Management, and videographer Tom Taylor.

For more information, please visit the Texas Quiz Show website www.texasquizshow.com.

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To arrange interviews with Texas Quiz Show organizers or participating students and teachers and to obtain photographs, please contact Cyndi Hughes at Cynthia Hughes Literary Management at cyndi.hughes@hughesliterary.com or 512.627-7910.