

# KentuckyHistoricalSociety

## KENTUCKY JUNIOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY & KENTUCKY HISTORY DAY

The Kentucky Junior Historical Society (KJHS), in cooperation with Kentucky History Day (KHD), is a membership program that connects youth from ages five to 18 to Kentucky's unique past.

KJHS members have the opportunity to participate in activities, academic competitions and service projects throughout the school year and summer. These activities are designed to increase members' understanding of and appreciation for how history can be used to build strong communities, improve the quality of life, develop sound and objective public policy, and develop and inspire the next generation of Kentucky's leadership. Through KJHS, students become advocates for history and for the historic preservation of their communities and the commonwealth.

Kentucky's kids may participate in KJHS as individuals or in groups (called chapters). Chapters may be organized at the school level, as a home school group, in association with a scout or 4-H troop, a local library or historical society may sponsor a chapter, or as family of at least three children.

The KJHS academic year culminates in the Kentucky Junior Historians Conference and KHD contest.

The Kentucky Junior Historians Conference will be held at the Kentucky Historical Society's Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History. This conference is a celebration of members' work and accomplishments throughout the year and an opportunity to share and compete in academic and civic contests with peers from across the commonwealth. At this event, KJHS chapters and members may participate in the Kentucky History Bowl (a quick recall tournament), on-demand writing contests, a history test, elect KJHS board officers and participate in tours, how-to workshops and a variety of games and activities.

KHD is a project-based contest for youth aged eight to 18. In groups or as an individual, participants research a historical topic around an annual theme, learning the skills and techniques used by historians. This research takes place in schools, at libraries, online, and at many of Kentucky's historic sites, museums and archives. Students present the results of their research in one of five categories: performance, documentary, paper, exhibit or website. Projects compete at a school, district and state-level contests. Finally, the first and second place medalists in each category at the state contest advance to the National History Day contest, held at the University of Maryland each June. In addition to medals, students are also eligible to win scholarships and cash prizes.