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Young Historians Conference

Young Historians Conference 2018

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## 28th Annual Young Historians Conference

Portland State University History Department

Portland State University Challenge Program

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# 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Historians Conference



Professor John Ott with 2017 award winners: Katie Woodhouse, Dimitra Fellman, Alisa Folen, David Bartolome, and Mary Potter

Sponsored by Portland State University's  
History Department  
&  
The Challenge Program

April 18, 2018

# Young Historians 2018 Schedule

8:00 – 9:00 WELCOME & BREAKFAST  
 9:00 – 10:15 FIRST SESSIONS  
 10:30 – 11:45 SECONDS SESSIONS  
 11:45 – 12:25 LUNCH  
 12:30 – 1:45 THIRD SESSIONS  
 1:45 – 2:15 AWARDS CEREMONY

8:00-9:00 CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SMSU 355 (Ballroom)  
 WELCOME: Professor Tim Garrison, Chair of the History Department

9:00-10:15 **FIRST SESSIONS:** Choose from three

- SMSU 333:** **Memory, Media, and the Formation of Public Opinion**  
 Commentator: *Professor David Horowitz*
- Maggie Wu**  
 Lakeridge **An Examination of American Isolationism Through Public Opinion, 1935-1939**
- Samuel Hinerfeld**  
 Riverdale **To What Extent Does Aristophanes' *Knights* Reflect Greek Opinion of Cleon and the Peloponnesian War?**
- Lucas Morimoto**  
 Lakeridge **The Rise of Gay Culture and What Makes Portland Different**
- SMSU 338:** **Partition, Segregation, and Alienation**  
 Commentator: *Professor Jennifer Kerns*
- Brock Gjesdal**  
 Lakeridge **African Americans in Portland, A History of Displacement and Exclusion**
- Riley Watkins**  
 Lakeridge **Driving Factors in the Internment of Japanese Americans After Pearl Harbor**
- Lauren Monkewicz**  
 Lakeridge **The United States "Civil" War: The Forgotten Nation of Cherokee People and Their Dynamic Wartime Experience**
- SMSU 327/328/329:** **Servants of a Greater Power**  
 Commentator: *Professor John S. Ott*
- Nanyi Yang**  
 Clackamas **The Pawn of Rome: The Roman Infantryman**
- Lara McLain**  
 Riverdale **The Veiled Exploitation of the Vestal Virgins**
- Maeve Nagel-Frazel**  
 St. Mary's **The Supreme and Fiery Force of a Poor Little Form of a Woman: The Development of the Prophetic Voice of Hildegard of Bingen**

10:30-11:45

SECOND SESSIONS: Choose from three

SMSU 333:

**Literature and Liberation**

**Commentator:** *Professor Brian Turner*

**Rachel Couche**  
Riverdale

**A Battle Cry for Freedom**

**Tiffany Ong**  
Clackamas

**Marie De France's Courtly Love: The Liberation of Women Through Romance**

**Thea Klucznik**  
Riverdale

**Aristotle's *Politics* and Slavery in Ancient Athens**

SMSU 338:

**Historical Representation and Reputation**

**Commentator:** *Professor Desmond Cheung*

**Riona O'Donnell**  
St. Mary's

**The Saint of Orléans: Her Legacy**

**Isabel Williams**  
St. Mary's

**Truth, Fiction, and Image: Napoleon Bonaparte and the Changing Tides of Political Imagination**

SMSU 327/328/329:

**Medicine and Medical Knowledge Between Taboo, Research, and Experimentation**

**Commentator:** *Professor Richard Beyler*

**Chloé Sellers**  
Riverdale

**Galen: The Philosophical Physician**

**Maddie Ott,**  
St. Mary's

**Impure Blood: The Menstrual Taboo in the Christian Church During the Thirteenth Century**

**Kristin Wong**  
Lakeridge

**The Pivotal Role that Race Plays in Medical Research: The Tuskegee Syphilis Study**

11:45-12:25

**LUNCH**

RECAP OF PDXScholar: *Karen Bjork*, Digital Initiatives Coordinator, PSU Library

SMSU 355 (Ballroom)

12:30-1:45

**THIRD SESSIONS:** Choose from three

**SMSU 333:**

**Art, Artists, and Their Influence**

**Commentator:** *Professor Thomas Lockett*

**Mary Krebs**  
Clackamas

**The Compositional Influence of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on Ludwig Van Beethoven's Early Period Works**

**Tiffany Wong**  
Clackamas

**Christianity's Influence on Caravaggio's Artwork During the Baroque Era**

**Natalie Ware**  
St Mary's

**The History of British Art and the Burkean Sublime**

**SMSU 338:**

**Permissions and Omissions: The Policing of Societal Mores**

**Commentator:** *Professor John S. Ott*

**Samantha Leahy**  
St Mary's

**Visions of Indecency: The Intersection Between the Church and Prostitution in Augsburg, Rome, and Southwark from the Twelfth to Seventeenth Century CE**

**Helen Rossmiller**  
St. Mary's

**Feminism During the Russian Revolution: A Failure on Multiple Fronts**

**Leah Rosenbaum**  
Lakeridge

**The Influence of the Stonewall Riots**

**SMSU 327/328/329:**

**Economies of Exploitation and Agency**

**Commentator:** *Professor Loren Spielman*

**Fisher Ng**  
Riverdale

**The Influence of Spanish Mines on Roman Victory in the Second Punic War**

**Emma Marek**  
Lakeridge

**Women of the West: Prostitutes and Madams**

**Nina Fletcher**  
St. Mary's

**"If Only I Could Get a Job Somewhere:" The Emergence of British Punk**

1:45 – 2:15

**AWARDS CEREMONY**  
**Presented by: Professor John S. Ott**

SMSU 355 (Ballroom)



# ABSTRACTS

9:00 – 10:15  
SMSU 333

FIRST SESSIONS

**Memory, Media, and the Formation of Public Opinion**

**Commentator:** *Professor David Horowitz*

**An Examination of American Isolationism Through Public Opinion,**

The 1930's saw the widespread use of public opinion polling as a way to inform lawmakers and the general public alike of where the masses stood on issues. These polls, paired with newspapers and magazines from the time period, offer a rich glimpse into 1930's United States. This paper will pull on this extensive pool of primary sources to illustrate the story of the United States' shift from isolationism to interventionism in the era of Nazi Germany, appeasement, and World War II.

**Maggie Wu**, Lakeridge High School

**To What Extent Does Aristophanes' *Knights* Reflect Greek Opinion of Cleon and the Peloponnesian War?**

This paper analyzes the similarities between the works of Greek Intellectuals like Thucydides and Plutarch, and Aristophanes' representation of Cleon and the Peloponnesian War in his early comedy, *Knights*. Aristophanes satires of the Peloponnesian War were extremely popular among Athenian elite— despite this status, his early comedies failed to dissuade the Athenian Assembly from ushering the downfall of Greek power. While Aristophanes' *Knights* was largely ineffective in swaying support for the conflict, it notably provides an accurate representation of the irrational nature of Athen's Demos under Cleon. Through this play, he portrays the Demos as dysfunctional and fickle—supporting policies in the Assembly that increased their personal wealth, while completely jeopardizing the sanctity of the Athenian state. Aristophanes' *Knights* helps form modern understanding of Cleon's responsibility in the conflict and the downfall of Classical Athens, as well as informing modern interpretation of the highly tumultuous state of Athens during this period.

**Samuel Hinerfeld**, Riverdale High School

**The Rise of Gay Culture and What Makes Portland Different**

This paper serves as a short history of the gay movement in Portland, as well as the reasons why Portland's movement was inherently dissimilar to the movements of other major cities. It begins by providing historical context on the movements of some of America's biggest cities, focusing primarily on the 1969 events of the Stonewall Riots in New York, the election and assassination of Harvey Milk in San Francisco, and Seattle's movement for the purpose of comparison. A brief history on homosexuality in Portland's recent past follows, going on then to the influence of "Darcelle's" for the growing gay movement in the late 1970s and 1980s. The election of Portland's first gay mayor, Sam Adams, in 2008 concludes the paper.

**Lucas Morimoto**, Lakeridge High School



9:00 – 10:15  
SMSU 338

FIRST SESSIONS

**Partition, Segregation, and Alienation**

**Commentator:** *Professor Jennifer Kerns*

**African Americans in Portland, A History of Displacement and Exclusion**

Throughout the history of Portland, African Americans living within the city have been subject to discrimination and hardship by the hand of whites living among them, but not willing to live beside them. For this reason, whites enforced housing regulations to concentrate most of the African Americans living in Portland into the Northeast reaches of the city, more specifically the Albina District. However, as African American inequality in Portland gathered more and more recognition, the blunt racism embodied by the restrictive housing covenants that had been imposed upon African Americans for decades became less and less acceptable by the 1950s. This caused the displacement of African Americans to take the form of Urban Renewal projects in the 1950s that were not publicly disclosed as African American displacement, but accomplished the same goal as the covenants of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as their communities and homes were cleared to make room for these projects.

**Brock Gjesdal**, Lakeridge High School

**Driving Factors in the Internment of Japanese Americans After Pearl Harbor**

On December 7, 1941, a Japanese surprise attack struck the American Naval Base at Pearl Harbor. Three months later, on February 19, 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, authorizing the removal and internment of all ethnic Japanese from the West Coast. The path that America took from the first bombs dropped on Pearl Harbor to the establishment of concentration camps was lined with strong opinions, biased reporting, and a lack of rational discussion. Soon after the attack on Pearl Harbor, concerns on the mainland began to grow regarding the loyalties of the embedded Japanese and Japanese Americans living there. Once American media turned against the Japanese Americans, public opinion was quick to follow. By early 1942, prominent voices were encouraging the trend of racial suspicion targeted towards Japanese Americans and pushing the policy of internment. This fanned the flames of racial prejudice in America, resulting in a culture of accusation and discrimination against ethnic Japanese. It was this epidemic of race hysteria that led directly to the tragedy of democracy that was Japanese Internment.

**Riley Watkins**, Lakeridge High School

**The United States “Civil” War: The Forgotten Nation of Cherokee People and Their Dynamic Wartime Experience**

This paper explores the Cherokee Nation’s experience in the American Civil War. It delves into the impact of the Civil War on the Cherokee Nation and vice versa. Beginning with Relocation and traditional customs and ending with Reconstruction, the paper investigates cultural, social, and political changes brought on by the war in the Cherokee Nation.

**Lauren Monkewicz**, Lakeridge High School

9:00 – 10:15

FIRST SESSIONS

SMSU 327/328/329

**Servants of a Greater Power**

**Commentator:** *Professor John S. Ott*

### **The Pawn of Rome: The Roman Infantryman**

Even to this day, the Roman army stands out as one of the most successful military forces in human history. The widespread success of the Roman Empire was in large part due to its armies, who were able to meet challenges with flexible and effective troops. These armies faced all kinds of attacks, from the swift hit-and-run attacks of the Germanic tribes to the crushing cavalry charges of the Parthian Empire. Rome's military might, however, was unrelenting. This paper focuses on the Roman soldier and how he was trained to be adaptable to the variety of enemies and obstacles he would face.

**Nanyi Yang**, Clackamas High School

### **The Veiled Exploitation of the Vestal Virgins**

This paper discusses the political dynamics of the Roman religious systems, specifically the Vestal Virgins. This work seeks to refute the commonly accepted understanding of the Vestal Virgins as an empowering, religious cult and build an understanding of the cult of Vesta as a political tool that was used by the Roman state to maintain power and traditional values. The location of the Temple of Vesta in the Forum, the political epicenter of the Roman Empire, serves as the foundation for this paper's assertion that the Vestals were an essentially political tool. Livy's description of Hannibal's advance towards Rome and the ensuing conviction and execution of two Vestal Virgins confirms the use of the Vestals as a political tool, in this case for the purpose of placating the Roman people. Plutarch and Aulus Gellius' descriptions of the exclusive nature of the Vestal priesthood confirms that Rome's elite families saw the Vestals as an avenue for political advancement. Secondary sources explain and corroborate these primary sources. This paper concludes that Rome was adept at the manipulation of seemingly non-political entities for the purpose of maintaining political and patriarchal power.

**Lara McLain**, Riverdale High School

### **The Supreme and Fiery Force of a Poor Little Form of a Woman: The Development of the Prophetic Voice of Hildegard of Bingen**

The first women granted Papal permission to teach and preach on theological matters, Hildegard of Bingen (AD 1098-1179) was a revered spiritual teacher who accumulated a sphere of influence far beyond most medieval women. However, Hildegard's power derived from a paradox: the only way in which Hildegard was able to gain power was by deliberately diminishing herself as a paupercula femina forma (a poor little form of a woman). This paper explores the paradoxical cultivation of Hildegard's self-image, of a weak woman unwillingly receiving the word of God through debilitating visions, as a means to authenticate Hildegard's work and gain influence within the medieval world.

**Maeve Nagel-Frazel**, St. Mary's Academy

10:30 – 11:45  
SMSU 333

SECOND SESSIONS  
**Literature and Liberation**  
Commentator: *Professor Brian Turner*

### **A Battle Cry for Freedom**

This research paper analyzes Harriet Beecher Stowe's most influential and successful work, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Calling upon excerpts from the novel, correspondence between Stowe and Frederick Douglass, and critiques of the Fugitive Slave law, this paper establishes that there was a direct correlation between the sentiments expressed in the novel and the political use of them in an effort to compel the North to fight.

**Rachel Couche**, Riverdale High School

### **Marie De France's Courtly Love: The Liberation of Women Through Romance**

In the era of ladies and lords, French troubadours sang the tales of the late twelfth-century medieval court. One such poet, Marie de France, documented her stories in her work, *Lais*, a collection of adulterous romantic feats and failures of chivalrous knights. Within her writing, she incorporated aspects of the knight's code of honor into the personalities of her characters. While the knightly code of honor is often perceived as an example of the restrictions placed on medieval women, Marie de France's writing gives an example of women reconstructing their position in medieval life. This paper explores the tales of Marie de France to argue the influence of the knightly code of honor on the empowerment of women through court romance.

**Tiffany Ong**, Clackamas High School

### **Aristotle's *Politics* and Slavery in Ancient Athens**

The relationship between Aristotle's theoretical discussion of slavery in *Politics* and the reality of slavery in ancient Athens is complex and multifaceted. In tandem with *Politics*, which was my main primary source, I also drew on multiple pieces of secondary scholarship on both *Politics* and slavery in Athens to compare the two presentations of slavery. Additionally, I drew on the works of Euripides and Solon. In particular, my paper focuses on the process of manumission, the lack of social mobility afforded to freed slaves, and how slaves were viewed generally. A comparison of these sources reveals that there are significant parallels between Aristotle's theory of natural slavery presented in *Politics* and the practical expression of the institution of slavery in Athens. As a whole, these parallels served to make synonyms of the words 'slave' and 'other.'

**Thea Klucznik**, Riverdale High School

10:30 – 11:45  
SMSU 338

SECOND SESSIONS  
**Historical Representation and Reputation**  
**Commentator:** *Professor Desmond Cheung*

### **The Saint of Orléans: Her Legacy**

Often referred to as Joan of Arc in the anglophone tradition, Jeanne d’Arc – the saint who fought to liberate France during the Hundred-Years War, the convicted heretic who was burned at the stake – never existed outside of history books. These images only superficially resemble the historical figure of Jeanne. Still, Jeanne’s image as an ancient warrior hero, an example of Divine will, or a symbol of French nationalism permeates today’s culture across the western world. How did this historical dynamism manifest in a young woman who was in the public eye for a short two years? This paper examines her incarnations as a savior, violent heretic, feminist, nationalist, and saint during her life and in the years after her death. It finds that these diverse portrayals are solely a function of the time in which they were written and served the purpose of the writer rather than reflecting Jeanne’s person, motivation, and actions. Though the truth of Jeanne’s life is perhaps ambiguous, she remains a compelling figure today because of her ability to transcend cultural differences and inspire future generations.

**Riona O’Donnell**, St. Mary’s Academy

### **Truth, Fiction, and Image: Napoleon Bonaparte and the Changing Tides of Political Imagination**

Despite nearly two centuries having passed since his death, Napoleon Bonaparte still looms large in western political imagery. Napoleon utilized state sponsored art and propagandists like Jacques-Louis David, Antoine-Jean Gros, and Jean Auguste-Dominique Ingres to enhance his public image and promote him as a calm and talented military leader, a dedicated public servant, and even a saint. However, after his defeat at Waterloo, his exile, and death, Bonaparte’s artistic representation shifted to one of a dejected, almost tragic ruler. This shift to a negative and reflective portrayal of the Emperor can be most clearly seen in the works of Paul Delaroche, J. M. W. Turner and Jean-Leon Gerome. Despite the fact that these works were completed more recently it is the positive imagery of Napoleon’s state employed propagandists that endures in the public memory of Bonaparte.

**Isabel Williams**, St. Mary’s Academy

10:30 – 11:45  
SMSU 327/328/329

SECOND SESSIONS

**Medicine and Medical Knowledge between Taboo, Research,  
and Experimentation**

**Commentator:** *Professor Richard Beyler*

**Galen: The Philosophical Physician**

Analyzing the works of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, this paper reveals the specific influences each of the three had upon Galen's medical practice, asserting that the influence of philosophy was ultimately responsible for distinguishing Galen from his contemporaries. Drawing from various primary sources, including Plato's "The Apology," Timaeus and The Republic, as well as Aristotle's Physics, and comparing them to Galen's works, "The Art of Medicine" and "A Method of Medicine to Glaucou," numerous similarities are revealed between the works of Galen and those of the philosophical trio. By evaluating these many connections among the works, as well as using secondary sources to affirm them, the influence of philosophy on Galen's work is indisputable. Although many would argue that it was Hippocrates who most significantly influenced Galen and his medical practice, this paper asserts that the power trio from Classical Athens- Socrates, Plato and Aristotle- was most responsible for Galen's success and legacy, lasting for nearly fifteen centuries.

**Chloé Sellers**, Riverdale High School

**Impure Blood: The Menstrual Taboo in the Christian Church During the Thirteenth Century**

The Curse of Eve—or the menstrual process—was a topic widely stigmatized and perpetuated in the thirteenth century. With the publication and translation of classic Greek and Roman texts, the misconceptions and stereotypes were influenced by not only the publications of historical texts, but also the authoritarian rule of the Roman Catholic Church. The social position of European women in the thirteenth century dictated that women were physically and emotionally handicapped by the menstrual cycle. The discrimination against women in the medieval church was largely dictated by the perception of female menstrual blood compared to the "purity" and cleanliness of the male body and functionality. The taboos associated with menstruation were systemized and immortalized in Christian Europe, specifically during the thirteenth century due to the rise of scholasticism and influence of writers like Albertus Magnus and the Fourth Lateran Council. Due to lack of knowledge, and systemic sexism a stigma of impure blood was created.

**Maddie Ott**, St. Mary's Academy

**The Pivotal Role that Race Plays in Medical Research: The Tuskegee Syphilis Study**

This research attempts to answer the question, "To what extent was race or racial bias a factor in the conception and execution of the Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male?" The goal is to reevaluate the degree to which the Tuskegee Syphilis Study (TSS) was driven by the racial bias in the face of modern counternarratives. This has been done by examining events such as the Oslo Study and the Rosenwald Demonstration Project, organizations such as the Public Health Service and Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and primary and secondary sources including interviews, a collection of newspapers and Congressional hearings, and several books. Upon examination of these, it becomes evident that the TSS was racist, but even if it wasn't, its reception by the public was so strong that its semifiictional influence in minority culture was more important than whether or not the people were personally racist.

**Kristin Wong**, Lakeridge High School

12:30 – 1:45  
SMSU 333

THIRD SESSIONS  
**Art, Artists, and Their Influence**  
Commentator: *Professor Thomas Lockett*

### **The Compositional Influence of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on Ludwig Van Beethoven's Early Period Works**

In the early period of Ludwig van Beethoven's life (1770-1802), his compositions exhibited the Classical style and showed hints of the expressivity to come in the Romantic Era. His music was no doubt influenced by many musical figures around him at the time, including Joseph Haydn, Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach, and Beethoven's own father, Johann van Beethoven. But who exerted the strongest influence on Beethoven's early period works? An analysis of Beethoven's studies and his Sonata No. 5 in C minor offers compelling evidence pointing towards Beethoven's role model, a fellow Classical composer: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

**Mary Krebs**, Clackamas High School

### **Christianity's Influence on Caravaggio's Artwork During the Baroque Era**

Both art and church are deeply interwoven during the Baroque Era. Following the Counter-Reformation, art commissions from the Roman Catholic Church for the artists were meant to convey a single message: to convert the wavering and the unfaithful to Christianity. This paper seeks to explore a prominent artist during the time period, Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, and his paintings to understand the techniques employed to glorify Jesus, and the Roman Church's involvement and attempt in Baroque art to convert people to Christianity.

**Tiffany Wong**, Clackamas High School

### **The History of British Art and the Burkean Sublime**

*A Philosophical Enquiry into the Beautiful and the Sublime* by British philosopher Edmund Burke, published in 1757, proposed a concrete definition of the aesthetics concept of the sublime. This definition solidified the place of the sublime in the minds of British artists and philosophers from the Baroque period onward into the current contemporary art culture. The sublime has periodically been embraced, redefined, or even claimed as fatal to art itself. As British artists have struggled to grapple with the sublime throughout the centuries, the works that they've created out of this discourse have become emblems of the sublime controversy and definition in each respective period of British art.

**Natalie Ware**, St Mary's Academy

12:30 – 1:45  
SMSU 338

THIRD SESSIONS

**Permissions and Omissions: The Policing of Societal Mores**  
**Commentator:** *Professor John S. Ott*

**Visions of Indecency: The Intersection Between the Church and Prostitution in Augsburg, Rome, and Southwark from the Twelfth to Seventeenth Century CE**

The following research paper endeavors to present and enhance knowledge of the relationship between the Roman Catholic Church and prostitution across Italy, England, and Germany from the 12th to the 17th century CE. The paper traces the Church's opinion of reluctant tolerance prostitution to openly condemning it and argues that this ecclesiastical shift can be traced to various syphilitic breakouts that occurred in association with the Columbian Exchange and the growing popularity of Prostitute Reform Houses. The paper argues that these aspects of European history, in conjunction with the increased influence of Protestant Reformers in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, expedited the progression of prostitution from an essentially ignored profession dictated necessary by the Church, to an outlawed and criminalized occupation by the 17th century CE. It considers primary works such as those of St. Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, and Martin Luther to construct a narrative of prostitution during this time and to reveal the differing and nuanced attitudes towards the profession throughout the Middle Ages.

**Samantha Leahy**, St Mary's Academy

**Feminism During the Russian Revolution: A Failure on Multiple Fronts**

Although not always acknowledged for their contributions, women were not only a significant force in the Russian Revolution, they were the impetus behind it. Although their contributions were essential, feminist policies and progressive dogmas that many women revolutionaries campaigned for were abandoned before even reaching peasant or working-class women. Feminist ideals were neglected by the new Soviet government and whatever feminist policies or ideals existed were reduced to mere illusion. Although female liberation was a central goal for most female revolutionaries they were unable to accomplish it in a lasting and universal way. Nevertheless, an understanding of the Russian revolution without an acknowledgment of the influence of both aristocratic and working-class women who joined the Revolution would be incomplete. Women such as Nadezhda Krupskaya, Inessa Armand Catherine Breshkovsky, Alexandra Kollontai and Maria Spiridonova were essential leaders and spokespeople for a revolution that could not have been accomplished without them.

**Helen Rossmiller**, St. Mary's Academy

**The Influence of the Stonewall Riots**

For decades, the rights of the members of the LGBTQ community were oppressed without major objections from the American public, until June 28, 1969. The Stonewall Riots in Greenwich Village, New York marked the beginning of a radicalized movement for equal rights within the LGBTQ community. Newspapers nationwide, printed articles about the riots, some condemning the participants, and others praising the men and women for standing up against the police. On the one year anniversary of the riots, the first gay pride march happened in various cities across the country.

**Leah Rosenbaum**, Lakeridge High School

12:30 – 1:45

THIRD SESSIONS

SMSU 327/328/329

**Economies of Exploitation and Agency**

**Commentator:** *Professor Loren Spielman*

### **The Influence of Spanish Mines on Roman Victory in the Second Punic War**

The idea that one factor can win a war seems preposterous, yet Rome's acquisition of the Spanish mines turned the tides of the Second Punic War in their favor. While most scholars agree Rome's conquest of the Spanish mines was a step in defeating Carthage, there is no consensus that the mines directly influenced the war. The accounts of ancient Roman historians Titus Livius and Pliny the Elder, as well as Greek historian Diodorus, attest to the unparalleled amount of precious metals the Spanish mines produced--treasure capable of stimulating Roman economy. Modern scholarship agrees controlling precious metals sources allowed Rome to cripple Carthaginian economy, pay its soldiers, expand its treasury, and prevent economic collapse. Because the Roman Republic depended on the Spanish mines to fund their campaigns against Carthage, Roman ownership of the mines was the single decisive factor that contributed to Rome's victory in the Second Punic War.

**Fisher Ng**, Riverdale High School

### **Women of the West: Prostitutes and Madams**

During the late 1800s, the institution of prostitution flourished unlike ever before as America fulfilled its "Manifest Destiny." Amidst predominantly male industries, women found prostitution a unique opportunity to survive in the developing and wild western society. The topic of this paper addresses these women, this under celebrated group, and their contribution to the development of the American West. This paper will argue that during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, prostitutes and madams contributed immensely to the economic, social, and legal developments of the Western Frontier. Brothels became integral for the economic discourse of businessmen. Their dually criminal and civil position in society was economically exploited by cities and courts, leading to the enlargement of institutions. Separate industries benefitted from the business prostitutes wrought and madams' charitable contributions. Socially, their mere existence paved the way for the creation of future legislation and moral precedent across the country's entirety.

**Emma R. Marek**, Lakeridge High School

### **"If Only I Could Get a Job Somewhere:" The Emergence of British Punk**

In the seventies, Great Britain was crippled by a widespread recession during which more than a million people were out of work and the inflation rate rose to above 18 percent, a stark contrast with the generally prosperous economy of the sixties. The conditions of this difficult decade would result in lasting social and cultural developments — including, of course, punk rock in all its loud, cynical, and spiky-haired glory. This paper examines the economic origins of the punk movement and argues that it was, at heart, the unique product of a generation raised in times of hardship and scarce opportunity. As the members of the Clash said themselves in a 1976 interview with *The Times*: "If there were jobs, we'd be singing about love and kisses."

**Nina Fletcher**, St. Mary's Academy



### **The Truth and Tale of Lady Jane Grey: An Honest Demeanor in the Midst of Ruthless Ambition**

In the midst of the political bloodbath of Tudor England, one individual remains steadfast. Known as the “Nine-Days Queen,” Lady Jane Grey is infamous for her short nine-day reign before she was promptly executed by Queen Mary. Because of Grey’s stance in her unfortunate circumstances as the object of the royal family’s political ambitions, Grey remains a distinguished figure in English history despite her minimal role and influence.

**Sarah Kim, Clackamas**

### **The Philosophy of the Stoics: Embracing Death in Greek and Roman Civilizations**

In sharp contrast to modern-day perspectives on death, ancient Greece and Roman civilizations did not fear death. At such a time, Stoic philosophy flourished in society and advocated for the principle of apatheia, which propelled its followers to disregard all matters beyond one’s control. It would be the foundations of apatheia which would influence its followers to regard death as an inevitable force, in turn causing its followers to choose calmly-conducted suicide over other means of death.

**Nicole Zhen, Clackamas**

**Thanks to all those who make The Young Historians Conference possible:**

**Challenge Program Instructors**

**Megan Balzer & Peter Pommer,**  
Clackamas High School Humanities:  
PSU HST 101, 102 Western Civ/PSU ENG 107, 108 World Lit

**Karen Hoppes,** Lakeridge High School:  
PSU HST 201, 202, 203 History of the US

**Laura Keldorf,** Riverdale High School:  
PSU HST 101, 102, Western Civ; WR 222 Writing Research Papers

**Matt Vannelli,** St. Mary's Academy:  
PSU HST 102, Western Civ

**Betsy Thornewood,** Sunset High School:  
PSU HST 203 History of the US

**PSU Challenge History Faculty**

Tim Garrison, Department Chair  
John S. Ott, Young Historians Coordinator  
David A. Horowitz  
Jennifer Kerns  
Thomas Lockett  
Brian Turner

**Other Participating History Faculty**

Richard Beyler  
Desmond Cheung  
Loren Spielman

**Jury of Graduate Students in History**

Johanna Murphy  
Jordan Norquist  
Caitlin Pala  
Benjamin Wand

**PSU Librarians**

**Special thanks to  
Friends of History  
and all the students who were part of the day**

To read abstracts go to our website at: <http://www.pdx.edu/challenge-program/young-historians-conference>