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27th Annual Young Historians Conference

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Portland State University Challenge Program

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27th Annual Young Historians Conference



2016 award winners: Rachel McKinnon, Emma Komers, Lena Breda, and Sam Levin

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

April 20, 2017

Young Historians 2017 Schedule

	8:00-9:00WELCOME & BREAKFAST9:00-10:15FIRST SESSIONS10:30-11:45SECOND SESSIONS11:45-12:45LUNCH12:45-2:00THIRD SESSIONS	
	NTAL BREAKFAST SMSU 355 (Ballroom) S PDXScholar: <i>Karen Bjork</i> , Digital Initiatives Coordinator, PSU Library E: Karen Marrongelle, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	
9:00-10:15 FIF	ST SESSIONS: Choose from three sessions	
SMSU 327:	Philosophies and Philosophers Commentator: Professor Desmond Cheung	
Noa Cohen Riverdale	The Aristotelian Influence on Rabbi Moses Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed	
David Bartolome Clackamas	The Notion of Madness in Literature, Philosophy, and Tragedy: Evolving Conceptions of Mental Illness in Athens	
Lauren LittlejohnConfucianism: How Analects Promoted Patriarchy and Influenced the Subordination of Women in East Asia		
SMSU 328/329: Breaking Down Binaries: Queer(ing) History Commentator: Professor Jennifer Kerns		
Tess Waxman Grant	Sappho's Queer Female History	
Maggie Benware Clackamas	Lesbians in the Middle Ages: Bietris de Romans	
Sierra Ha Clackamas	Breaking the Mold: Joan of Arc's Unyielding Individuality	
SMSU 333:	Religious Movements and Ideologies Commentator: Professor Brian Turner	
Jonathan Chang Clackamas	The First Crusade: The Forgotten Realities	
Sophie Koh Lakeridge	An Examination of Franz Edmund Creffield and the Holy Rollers, 1900-1907	
Alisa Folen Grant	Cultural Bias in the European Translations of Thomas More's <i>Utopia</i>	

10:30-11:45 SECOND SESSIONS: Choose from three sessions

SMSU 327:	Fables, Myths, Heroes Commentator: Professor Marc Rodriguez	
Dimitra Fellman Riverdale	The Influence of Hellenism on the Literary Style of <i>1</i> and <i>2 Maccabees</i>	
Kalea Tetsuka Grant	Mo'ikeha's Voyage from Tahiti to Hawaii: A Look into Polynesian Culture	
Katie Woodhouse St. Mary's	Subjective Retelling: the Influence of External and Individual Factors on the Folktales of the Brothers Grimm	

SMSU 328/329:	Activists and Activism Commentator: Professor David Horowitz	
Mary M. Potter Lakeridge	Progressive Era Aftermath- Analysis of Municipal Housekeeping: Bertha K. Landes and Dorothy McCullough Lee	
Maia Insinga Lakeridge	Paving the Pathway for <i>Loving v. Virginia</i>	

SMSU 333: History of Science and Medicine Commentator: Professor Richard Beyler		
Lucy Cummins St. Mary's	Tainted Benevolence: Sources of Funding for the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine from 1898-1915	
Bryan Le Clackamas	Clickbait Science: A Review of Rhetorical Patterns Within the Royal Society	
Rebecca Lumbantobing Riverdale	The Escalation of Human Sterilization in the 1900s	

11:45-12:45

LUNCH

SMSU 355 (Ballroom)

Commentary: Three Things I've Learned from Studying History, presented by Professor Katy Barber, History Faculty

Awards Presentations: Professor Tim Garrison, History Chair

12:45-2:00 THIRD SESSIONS: Choose from three sessions

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SMSU 327:	Religion, Law, and Power in Premodern Europe Commentator : <i>Professor David Del Mar</i>		
Isabel Caplazi Clackamas	The Interconnection Between Law and Christianity in Medieval England		
Christopher Chow Clackamas	The Edict of Milan and the Early Roots of Christianity in the Roman Empire		
Lilian Chan Clackamas	"A Curiosity Which Has Many Eyes:" Ante-Nicene Church Fathers' Attitudes Towards Bathing		

SMSU 328/329:	On the Margins? Women's Agency and Representation Commentator: Professor Patricia Schechter	
Isabel Pereira	Athenian Women Through the Eyes of Sophocles (But Not	
Riverdale	Oedipus)	
Malia Marshall	"Would to God each town had also a girls' school:" New	
Clackamas	Views of Women's Education from Luther and Vives	
Lilah Abrams	Using "Evil" to Combat "Evil:" The Regulation of	
Riverdale	Prostitution in Renaissance Florence	

SMSU 333:	Russia and Revolution Commentator: Professor Chia-Yin Hsu	
Jessie Radcliffe St. Mary's	Rasputin and the Fragmentation of Imperial Russia	
Benjamin Goldberg Riverdale	<i>The Communist Manifesto</i> : A Case Study in the Class Politics of Industrialization	
Milena Rogers St. Mary's	A Collaborative Work: The Role of University Students and Dissidents in Czechoslovakia's Velvet Revolution	

Abstracts

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9:00 - 10:15	FIRST SESSIONS
SMSU 327	Philosophies and Philosophers
	Commentator: Professor Desmond Cheung

The Aristotelian Influence on Rabbi Moses Maimonides' Guide of the Perplexed

The publication of Rabbi Moses Maimonides' *Guide of the Perplexed*, a documentation of his attempt to bridge the gap between Jewish practice and secular knowledge, prompted controversy among rabbinical scholars of the medieval Jewish community. Many of his readers criticized that his philosophies were based on Greek thought rather than religious scripture. Drawing upon interpretations of Maimonides' philosophy and the *Guide* itself, this paper explores Aristotle's influence on Maimonides' philosophies on intellect and form in his famous work.

Noa Cohen, Riverdale High School

The Notion of Madness in Literature, Philosophy, and Tragedy: Evolving Conceptions of Mental Illness in Athens

It is a basic understanding of modern medicine that mental illness is a disorder of the mind. But from where did this notion originate? In Homer's popular epics, mental afflictions such as madness and depression are described as divine punishments rather than true mental illness. By the Hellenistic Age, Greek medical journals show a rejection of this divine explanation in favor of the mind. What changed in Greece? This paper tracks the Greek's understanding and conceptualization of madness throughout history and unites disciplines of literature, politics, tragedy, and philosophy to argue that modern understanding of mental illness has its earliest origins in the culture and strife of fifth-century B.C. Athens.

David Bartolome, Clackamas High School

Confucianism: How *Analects* Promoted Patriarchy and Influenced the Subordination of Women in East Asia

Analects, compiled by Confucius' disciples, helps historians understand the origin of Chinese philosophy and women's role in society. Analects created a separation of gender that assigned women the domestic role and granted men the authority to handle public affairs. Furthermore, Analects influenced the work of other philosophers who published similarly patriarchal works. Additionally, the subordination of women in Analects, resulted in the practice of female-infanticide, concubinage, and ghost marriages. Analects and the application of Confucianism offers historians an opportunity to study how women in East Asia were treated in the past and helps explain why women continue to be oppressed.

Lauren Littlejohn, Grant High School

9:00 - 10:15	FIRST SESSIONS		
SMSU 328//329	Breaking Down Bi	naries: Oueer(ing	z) History
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Sappho's Queer Female History

Sappho was a queer woman in ancient Greece. Scholars have researched her sexuality, promiscuity, and sexual orientation, often instead of analyzing her works. Sappho's poetry provides historians a rare view into the lives of queer women in ancient Greece, shaping the largely untold female LGBTQ history. She introduces a unique viewpoint; she brings complex ideas, such as the justice of Aphrodite, active versus passive lover roles, and erotic culture. Sappho's distinctly queer poetry is important to explore in an attempt to better understand the past of more people.

Tess Waxman, Grant High School

Lesbians in the Middle Ages: Bietris de Romans

Sexuality, particularly homosexuality, in the Middle Ages was heavily enshrouded by a culture saturated in religious values. Coupled with a lack of voice of women in this time, it is no wonder that evidence of lesbians is sparse. In lieu of this, historian Judith M. Bennett has offered the classification of a "lesbian-like" woman. This paper not only supports her assertion, but also offers the example of author Bietris de Romans as a "lesbian-like" woman.

Maggie Benware, Clackamas High School

Breaking the Mold: Joan of Arc's Unyielding Individuality

During the Hundred Years' War, Joan of Arc became known for her unusual dress, piety, and leadership. While these aspects of Joan's personality have been studied independently by historians, through a comprehensive study of these characteristics, it becomes clear that Joan stood out from her peers because of the strict obstinacy with which she maintained her unique lifestyle. Her mannerisms caught the attention of her English rivals and even the French, whom she fought to protect. Because of the individualistic ways in which she dressed, exercised her faith, and guided others that broke social expectations and the unyielding persistence with which she maintained those practices, Joan of Arc was seen as a threat to her peers in fifteenth century France and England.

Sierra Ha, Clackamas High School

9:00 - 10:15	FIRST SESSIONS	
SMSU 333	Religious Movements and Ideol	logies
	Commentator: Professor Brian Ta	irner

The First Crusade: The Forgotten Realities

In the Middle Ages, Europe saw a great amassing of thousands of lords, knights, and ordinary people for an extraordinary expedition into the Holy Land. This event was called the First Crusade. The First Crusade was one of the more successful crusades, however, this fact is overshadowed by the negatives of the crusades. My paper explores the reasons for how the crusaders were able to be victorious in the First Crusade.

Jonathan Chang, Clackamas High School

An Examination of Franz Edmund Creffield and the Holy Rollers, 1900-1907

This paper outlines the story of a religious cult from Corvallis referred to as the "Holy Rollers" and led by Franz Edmund Creffield. I researched the causes for his followers' behavior from 1900 to 1907, relating the investigation to the press, people, and social roles surrounding the sect. Because his following was dominantly female, hysteria was the popular argument during the early twentieth century. To explore these claims, I researched the possibility of insanity in these women and why they may have agreed to all of Creffield's ridiculous demands, as well as why the public responded the way they did.

Sophie Koh, Lakeridge High School

Cultural Bias in the European Translations of Thomas More's Utopia

Throughout history, the translators of Thomas More's *Utopia* have altered the text to align with their religious, political, or national beliefs. This paper explores how cultural bias influenced the translations and paratexts of *Utopia* using examples from England, Germany, and Poland from the seventeenth century to the twentieth century. It examines the similarities and differences between the original text and the translated text by considering the social, political, and economic context of both. This paper demonstrates how *Utopia* is a powerful unit of analysis to study European cultures during the modern age.

Alisa Folen, Grant High School

10:30 – 11:45 SMSU 327 SECOND SESSIONS Fables, Myths, Heroes Commentator: Professor Marc Rodriguez

The Influence of Hellenism on the Literary Style of 1 and 2 Maccabees

The Jewish people living within Hellenistic Greece experienced great freedoms, and many assimilated into the non-Jewish societies around them. Yet, under the Seleucid King Antiochus IV in the 2nd century BCE, the Jewish people experienced oppression and persecution, which has been chronicled in the books *1 Maccabees* and *2 Maccabees*. At a glance, these books appear opposed to the blending of Hellenistic culture and society into surrounding Jewish communities, but a deeper analysis of both texts reveals that the authors depended on Hellenistic constructs to effectively tell their story. This paper explores the degree to which the authors of *1 Maccabees* and *2 Maccabees* were influenced by Hellenism, specifically focusing on how they incorporated Hellenistic styles of literature and language into their works.

Dimitra Fellman, Riverdale High School

Mo'ikeha's Voyage from Tahiti to Hawaii: A Look into Polynesian Culture

The purpose of this paper was to explore the historiography and significance of Mo'ikeha's voyage from Tahiti to Hawaii. Traced back to around the 13th century, Mo'ikeha sailed from Tahiti to Hawaii using traditional navigational skills mastered by Polynesian voyagers. For years this was merely dismissed as a myth by European scholars, but in 1976 the Hokule'a recreated this trip using the same navigational techniques and traditional boat. Today, Mo'ikeha's story will continue to live on, inspiring movies like Moana and proving the historical and cultural value of Hawaiian oral history.

Kalea Tetsuka, Grant High School

Subjective Retelling: the Influence of External and Individual Factors on the Folktales of the Brothers Grimm

Since a first edition of *Children's and Household Tales* was published in 1812, the work of Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm has been read, told, watched, and referenced all over the world. When the Grimms initially set out to construct the famous anthology, they intended to objectively uncover a breadth of traditional German folktales, preserving them in their purest possible forms. These stories, the brothers believed, held the essence of the nation's disappearing culture and collective identity. However, the assumption that the stories of *Children's and Household Tales* holistically represent the genuine German history and dialogue of oral storytelling is inaccurate. This paper explores a variety of factors that influenced what stories were actually published: a reality that may not have aligned with the brothers' initial ideals.

Katie Woodhouse, St. Mary's Academy

10:30 - 11:45SECOND SESSIONSSMSU 328/329Activists and Activism
Commentator: Professor David Horowitz

Progressive Era Aftermath- Analysis of Municipal Housekeeping: Bertha K. Landes and Dorothy McCullough Lee

Municipal housekeeping in America arose from the Progressive Movement. The nation faced political corruption, high crime rates, and civic disarray. Elite clubwomen took it upon themselves to step forward and clean up their communities. In the Pacific Northwest, Bertha Landes and Dorothy McCullough Lee were two of the most influential municipal housekeepers. Bertha Landes was mayor of Seattle in 1926 and Dorothy Lee was mayor of Portland in 1949. Both mayors fought gender bias and prejudice while cleaning up their city's streets and morals. From 1926 to 1949, the fundamentals behind municipal housekeeping did not change, but the public's opinions and beliefs on women's rights and place in the political sphere had. This shift in public opinion determined the success of Dorothy Lee's campaign, and continues to influence female politicians.

Mary M. Potter, Lakeridge High School

Paving the Pathway for Loving v. Virginia

Interracial marriage laws have burdened jubilant couples throughout America's history, making the stories of those that fought against the unjust laws a necessary topic of research. This paper discusses the history of *Loving v. Virginia*, a Supreme Court case that repealed all remaining interracial marriage laws on April 10, 1967, when the Court sided with the Loving couple. The credit of this event cannot be given entirely to the Lovings and their lawyers appeals to the Supreme Court, therefore this paper reviews supplementary events, court cases, research and media influences that paved the pathway to the ultimate decision of *Loving v. Virginia*.

Maia Insinga, Lakeridge High School

10:30 - 11:45	SECOND SESSIONS
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SMSU 333	History of science and medicine
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Tainted Benevolence: Sources of Funding for the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine from 1898-1915

The final two decades of the nineteenth century saw a race among European powers to secure vast tracts of land in Africa for colonization and exploitation. However, the empires of the West soon found that effective occupation of this new continent would not end with a physical takeover. In order to benefit politically and financially from their new territories, colonial governments would have to confront a series of unforeseen challenges, one of the largest of which was the prevalence of so-called "tropical" diseases. Few doctors in Europe had any experience with or understanding of conditions from sleeping sickness to Guinea worm that ravaged settlers and natives alike in the Dark Continent. Thus, in 1898 a new school of medicine was founded in Great Britain with the noble mission of expanding knowledge of this new class of illnesses and saving lives in Africa and other newly colonized regions. Yet over its first seventeen years of operation, the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine continually accepted large donations from individuals whose interests certainly did not lie with humanitarian or scientific gain. This paper examines how the personal investments of the Liverpool School's donors impacted the direction of its efforts, and ultimately tainted its magnanimous aims.

Lucy Cummins, St. Mary's Academy

Clickbait Science: A Review of Rhetorical Patterns Within the Royal Society

King Charles II of England gave birth to the Royal Society and the right for it to publish without interference in the seventeenth century. Out of this society came forth *Philosophical Transactions*, the first ever science journal. The journal, however, was not strictly bound to science. Articles within the journal exhibit a variety of unusual bits of information ranging from making water colors to constructing a bee house. This paper shows that the Royal Society included articles that weren't science but human interest to gather a following for themselves.

Bryan Le, Clackamas High School

The Escalation of Human Sterilization in the 1900s

The sterilizations of over 200,000 Americans is an often forgotten part of Western science's not so distant past. Sterilization was proposed as a eugenic solution to combat societal issues attributed to genetics, such as criminality, pauperism, and feeblemindedness. Sterilization laws were implemented in several American states. However, it was not until the 1920s that eugenics advocates E.S. Gosney and Paul Popenoe created the Human Betterment Foundation to introduce the complex conjecture of eugenics to the layman. Drawing upon the original publications by the HBF, *Sterilization for Human Benefit* and "Human Sterilization Today", and their contemporary reviews, this paper explores the extent to which the documents impacted the sterilization movement. This paper posits that Gosney and Popenoe's publications, *Sterilization for Human Benefit* and "Human Sterilization of sterilization as a eugenic solution, nationally and globally, by generating credible and accessible analysis of California's sterilization successes to destigmatized human sterilization.

12:45 – 2:00 THIRD SESSIONS	
SMSU 327 Religion, Law, and Power in Premodern Euro	Dpe
Commentator: Professor David Del Mar	

The Interconnection Between Law and Christianity in Medieval England

In England, the influence of Christian morals and beliefs grew rapidly during the medieval era. Religious beliefs were evident in literature, laws, as well as social hierarchy. The extent of religious influence on medieval English law is undeniable, however historians have yet to attain a full understanding of religious reach because of institutionalized relativism -- the concept that varying environments affect how social regulations are established in their area. This paper discusses two of the most prominent ways Christianity influenced medieval English law -- through direct influence on laws themselves as well as religious impact on the individual administrators of law -- while taking into consideration the undermined concept of institutionalized relativism.

Isabel Caplazi, Clackamas High School

The Edict of Milan and the Early Roots of Christianity in the Roman Empire

With the Christian religion becoming so widely accepted and dominant today in the Western world, it is easy to forget the journey that the religion went through to reach its current state. It was once a heavily persecuted religion, yet it took the Roman Empire by storm and became the backbone to the Catholic Church. Christianity's spread was no accident. This paper will examine some of the factors regarding Christianity's early roots to identify what led up to its success in a heavily dominated Pagan culture.

Christopher Chow, Clackamas High School

"A Curiosity Which Has Many Eyes:" Ante-Nicene Church Fathers' Attitudes Towards Bathing

Ancient Rome was known for its extravagant public bathhouses. However, as medieval values began to emerge in Ante-Nicene Rome, the Church Fathers condemned the public and mixed-gender nature of these bathhouses. The bathhouses were declared unchaste, immoral, and unhealthy. These reasonings revealed the stringency of the Ante-Nicene Church towards even long-held traditions. However, these reasonings go beyond religious implications and also provide insight into the medical knowledge and sexism in Ante-Nicene Rome.

Lilian Chan, Clackamas High School

12:45 – 2:00 THIRD SESSIONS SMSU 328/329 On the Margins? Women's Agency and Representation Commentator: Professor Patricia Schechter

Athenian Women Through the Eyes of Sophocles (But Not Oedipus)

Ancient Greece was known for its achievements in democracy, new technologies, and, above all, artistic expression. The works of poets and playwrights in this time period not only reflected the culture and society, but also impacted it. Sophocles, arguably one of the most well-known playwrights in Greece in the 5th century BCE, wrote pieces that provide us with a strong commentary on what life was like for the people of Greece, particularly highlighting the roles that women played, or were expected to play, in society. This paper focuses on the lives of women in ancient Athens, one of Ancient Greece's most prominent cities, and how their lives were both reflected in and impacted by the works of Sophocles during Athens' Golden Age.

Isabel Pereira, Riverdale High School

"Would to God each town had also a girls' school:" New Views of Women's Education from Luther and Vives

In the early 1500s, Europe went through a time of rapidly changing ideas as a result of the rise of the humanist movement and Protestant Reformation. What did leading humanists and reformers believe about women's education? More importantly, how did their writings change the way Europeans viewed women's education? By examining the writings of humanist Juan Luis Vives and reformer Martin Luther, this paper argues that while both men countered misogynistic ideas of the day in support of women's education, Luther separated himself from humanist educators by suggesting that both women and men needed to be educated for their salvation, laying a positive groundwork for the future spread of women's education out of spiritual necessity.

Malia Marshall, Clackamas High School

Using "Evil" to Combat "Evil:" The Regulation of Prostitution in Renaissance Florence

In accordance with the general opinions towards women at the time, the establishment of the Office of Decency (known as the Onestá) in Florence, Italy during the Renaissance served to dehumanize the women participating in the profession. While many argue that the Florentine Onestá was established to preserve the city's image, the ultimate intention of the ordinances was to use women as tools to regulate male behavior. Drawing on the remaining ordinances established by the Onestá as primary source material, this paper identifies the utilization of prostitutes to restrict the defiling of "virtuous" women by men through regulations on attire and residence, as well reduce homosexual behavior by encouraging the exploration of heterosexual desires through available prostitution. With the dissolution of the Onestá in the seventeenth century and the resulting criminalization of prostitution, the negative societal beliefs associated with prostitution have persisted into modern day.

12:45 – 2:00 THIRD SESSIONS	
SMSU 333 Russia and revolution	
Commentator: Professor Chia-Yin Hsu	
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Rasputin and the Fragmentation of Imperial Russia

In 1917 the Romanov Dynasty ended as did Imperial Russia. Faced with years of political, social and economic instability tracing back to the Revolution of 1905, it was only a matter of time before everything fell apart. This paper analyzes the role Gregory Rasputin played in further polarizing the many faucets of Russian society and priming the country for the Revolution of 1917.

Jessie Radcliffe, St. Mary's Academy

The Communist Manifesto: A Case Study in the Class Politics of Industrialization

Karl Marx is among the few historical figures whose influence was not fully apparent until after his death. When he penned his best-known work, *The Communist Manifesto*, "communism" was little more than a vague boogeyman employed by the political establishment of Europe to discredit movements among industrial laborers, but after he had long since passed, the students of his works, in the midst of World War I, seized power from the Tsar of Russia. Why the revolution occurred but the expected workers' paradise failed to follow has been the subject of much debate. Opinions range from the White Russian view that toppling the Empire had been a mistake from the start to the neo-Bolshevik perspective that only western capitalist imperialism kept the red banner from flying over the whole world. By analyzing the underdeveloped and disorderly nature of World War I-era Russia through its disproportionately agricultural populace, the political chaos prompted by the fall of the Tsar, and the need for the Bolsheviks to support a modern war machine to maintain a hold on power, researchers see an image of a Russian Revolution that was held back not by the nature of the revolution, but by the nature of Russia.

Benjamin Goldberg, Riverdale High School

A Collaborative Work: The Role of University Students and Dissidents in Czechoslovakia's Velvet Revolution

The 1989 Velvet Revolution is fairly unknown against the tumultuous historical backdrop of the Communist controlled Eastern Bloc in the second half of the twentieth century. However, it is arguably one of the most important events in the history of Czechoslovakia and remains as a powerful testament of the power of the people. This paper explores the collaboration of university students and established intellectuals in the forty years that Czechoslovakia was controlled by the Soviets, and examines how a bloodless uprising removed one of the world's greatest entities in a peaceful transfer of power.

Milena Rogers, St. Mary's Academy

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

> Don Gavitte, Grant High School: PSU HST 104, 105, 106 World History

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

PSU Challenge History Faculty

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

Other Participating History Faculty

Richard Beyler Desmond Cheung David Del Mar David Johnson Marc Rodriguez Patricia Schechter

Jury of Graduate Students in History

Taylor Bailey Alexander Clarke-Ritter Tanya Monthey Benjamin Wand

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

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Next year's Young Historian Conference: Wednesday, April 18, 2018