

**Press Release – Thursday May 14, 2020**

**From: The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, 204 S. Main**

**RE: MUSEUM Presents Awards to Young Historians**

### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Historians Awards**

The Museum celebrates the achievements of the area's young historians with awards recognizing those who have placed in state and national competition through National History Day. Awards will also be presented to those who have created NHD projects related to local history in Sedgwick County. Through the generosity of the DeVore Family Foundation, the Museum will present awards for essays guided by the theme "Breaking Barriers in History": "The Monrovians vs. Ku Klux Klan: White Nationalism Faced Head-On by Local All-Black Baseball Team," Robinson Middle School; "Wichita and Wichita Students' Efforts to Support the Difficulties of Desegregation: The Dockum Drug Store Sit-In," Derby North Middle School. These essays to be soon published on the Museum's Website.

Awards and other recognition are given for exhibits, essays, videos, websites and performance.

**HONORING YOUNG HISTORIANS** - The Historical Museum celebrates young historians! We partnered with Friends University to sponsor the regional National History Day competition. This national competition engages young people by challenging them to interpret history through various mediums including exhibits, video, website design, essay and performance. Students choose historical topics related to the national theme of "Breaking Barriers in History." Nearly 300 area students participated this year.

For students, nothing brings academics into focus like reflecting on one's own history and heritage. The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum, acting as a conduit to the past, does this more effectively than any other educational institution. In support of our mission, the Museum encourages participants to use local history as a basis for their NHD projects. This begins early in the year with an Essay Contest sponsored by the DeVore Family Foundation. The essay is a warm-up or follow-up exercise for their projects and challenges students to approach the theme with a local perspective.

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The Historical Museum is supported in part by The City of Wichita & The Sedgwick County Kansas Board of Commissioners.

*OUR VISION: To provide a world class Museum experience, advancing the understanding and exploration of the rich historical and cultural heritage of Wichita and Sedgwick County Kansas.*