

March 9, 2021

MT. ANGEL TEACHER SELECTED FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY SPRING WEBINAR SERIES

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Mrs. Emily Rao, a teacher at Butte Creek Elementary in Mt. Angel, Oregon is one of only 120 teachers selected for a National History Day® (NHD) spring professional development program. This course focuses on using online Library of Congress resources to develop and support historical arguments and is a feature of NHD's membership in the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) Consortium.

The teachers chosen for this honor represent NHD's 58 affiliates across the country and around the world, and the National History Day program in Oregon selected Mrs. Rao. NHD affiliates include all 50 states and the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and international school programs in China, South Asia, and South Korea.

"The skills and strategies Mrs. Rao is developing through this series will benefit her students over the course of their academic and professional careers," said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. "As a Library of Congress TPS Consortium member, NHD is incredibly fortunate to be able to offer this opportunity for teachers, especially now as teachers and students continue to address challenges of non-traditional learning settings required by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic."

For several months, Mrs. Rao works with her peers around the country and National History Day staff to build knowledge for teaching with online Library of Congress resources. Upon completion of the series, she will have demonstrated the ability to share with her students key strategies for researching, supporting, and presenting historical arguments bolstered by these primary sources.

About National History Day® (NHD)

NHD is a non-profit organization based in College Park, Maryland, which seeks to improve the teaching and learning of history. The National History Day Contest was established in 1974 and currently engages more than half a million students every year in conducting original research on historical topics of interest. Students present their research as a documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website. Projects compete first at the local and affiliate levels, where the top entries are invited to the National Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park. NHD is sponsored in part by HISTORY®, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Park Service, Southwest Airlines, The Better Angels Society, Jacqueline B. Mars, and BBVA. For more information, visit nhd.org.

About Oregon History Day

Oregon History Day — facilitated by the Oregon Historical Society — engages students across the state in full-year or half-year project-based historical research

on topics connected to the annual theme. Students present their work in one of five categories — paper, website, exhibit, documentary, or performance — that can be developed independently or in groups of up to five students for all categories (except paper). Open-ended topic selections and student-directed inquiries give participants ownership over their projects and give educators the flexibility to adapt the program to fit their curriculum. Educators can narrow the scope of topic selections to align with themes they are covering in the classroom, such as ethnic studies. As students move through the process, they collect, organize, analyze, and interpret information through a historical lens by evaluating primary and secondary sources, which they use to develop and advance a thesis.

Most Oregon History Day students participate at the school level only, but may also participate in the statewide contest each spring and the national contest in June. Contact History Day at history.day@ohs.org to participate in Oregon History Day.

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