

ENTER HOME'S MAINE HISTORY FAIR!

Entry Deadline: Pre-register to participate no later than March 1, 2020.

What is the HOME Maine History Fair?

- **An opportunity for your child to dive deep into a Maine history topic of his or her choice**
- **An opportunity to learn research skills, including the use of primary and secondary sources**
- **An opportunity to show what your child has learned through the choice of several formats**
- **An opportunity for children to share their research with attendees at the annual HOME convention!**

The Maine History Fair is open to homeschooled children between the ages of 6 through Seniors in high school. Age is as of the date of the HOME Convention, March 19, 2020.

All entries at all age levels need to show evidence of the child's original research on a self-selected topic in Maine history. Any aspect of Maine history may be selected. We encourage families to allow their children to choose a topic of deep interest to the child; this will help to ensure that a longer-term project such as this remains engaging to the child.

Encourage your child to be creative, to be historically accurate, and to look at different points of view about the topic they have chosen.

Sample Maine History topic ideas to help you and your family get started on a Maine History Fair project, as well as free resources for teaching children of all ages how to locate and use primary and secondary sources, will be provided on the Homeschoolers of Maine website. You are not limited to the sample topics; they are listed to provide possible ideas.

Some of the entry categories for the HOME Maine History Fair are similar to categories available in the National History Day program (<https://www.nhd.org/>) and the Lowell Milken Center Unsung Heroes competition (<https://www.lowellmilkencenter.org/programs/projects>). If your child is also interested in entering one of these contests using a Maine History topic, please be aware that these contests have separate rules and requirements. You may go to the links above to find more information. National History Day is open only to students in 6th through 12th grades; the Unsung Heroes competition is open to students as young as 4th grade through high school.

RULES AND CATEGORIES FOR THE MAINE HISTORY FAIR FOR HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS

Ages 6 to 9 (at the time of the 2020 HOME Convention):

1. Students may choose, read about, and research any Maine history topic of individual interest. Parents may read aloud books and research materials to the child, but children must research and create the project themselves.
2. Children may work alone or in a group on an entry. Groups should not exceed 4 students, and members must be in the same age range (ages 5 to 8)
3. Students may enter in one of three categories: Exhibit, Shoebox Diorama, or Artwork (any media)
4. Students must use a minimum of two primary sources and two secondary sources when researching their topic (more are encouraged)
5. If dangerous tools must be used to create the entry (such as a knife or mat cutter, saw, etc.) parents should use these tools for the child at the child's direction
6. All entries must include a one-page paper that answers the following three questions:
 - a. How did you select your topic?
 - b. How did you conduct your research?
 - c. How did you create your entry?
 - d. The paper should also list their primary and secondary sources at the end. Parents may help children format their sources correctly in MLA or Chicago format using NoodleTools Express: (<https://my.noodletools.com/noodlebib/express.php>)
 - e. Include a cover page for your paper with your name and age.

Special Requirements for Specific Categories, Ages 6 through 9:

Exhibit:

- A. The exhibit board must be a standard-size exhibit board. These may be purchased at many dollar stores for just \$1.00, or at other stores for slightly more. Use only one exhibit board.
- B. Use quotes, photographs, maps, images, and drawings to help tell your Maine history story!
- C. The exhibit board must use 300 student-composed words or less, including title and subtitles. There is no limit on words from direct quotes you found in your research.
- D. You may use table space in front of your board to add additional items to help tell your Maine History story.

Shoebox Diorama:

- A. Use only one standard-size shoebox. Your diorama must be completely contained in the shoebox.
- B. Use any other materials you need to portray your Maine history event in the diorama.
- C. You may use up to 100 student-composed words as part of your diorama.

Artwork:

- A. You may use any art media of your choice, including paint, sculpture materials, found objects, paper, pencils, etc. to tell your Maine History story.
- B. You may use up to 50 words in your artwork.
- C. Title your artwork.

Ages 10 through 13 (at the time of the 2020 HOME Convention):

Children ages 10 through 13 have three choices. They can create an exhibit; write a paper; or write and perform a play (alone or with other homeschoolers) of up to 7 minutes in length. The exhibits and plays can include up to four homeschoolers in a group entry, or students may create an individual entry. The paper is only an individual project.

Their research should use at least five primary and five secondary sources (more are encouraged), properly cited using MLA or Chicago format. Citations can be correctly formatted in MLA or Chicago format free at NoodleTools Express:

(<https://my.noodletools.com/noodlebib/express.php>) Parents may assist children in learning how to use NoodleTools Express.

All entries must include a one-page paper that answers the following three questions:

- a. How did you select your topic?
- b. How did you conduct your research?
- c. How did you create your entry?
- d. The paper should also attach citations at the end of the paper for the primary and secondary sources they used. Parents may teach children how to format their sources correctly in MLA or Chicago format using NoodleTools Express software: (<https://my.noodletools.com/noodlebib/express.php>) Citations are an extra attachment at the end of the one-page paper and do not count for the one-page requirement.
- e. Include a cover page for your paper with your name and age.

Special Requirements for Specific Categories, Ages 10 through 13:

Exhibit:

- A. The exhibit board must be a standard-size exhibit board. These may be purchased at many dollar stores for just \$1.00, or at other stores for slightly more. You may use just one exhibit board, or you may put two exhibit boards together to make a taller exhibit.
- B. Use quotes, photographs, maps, images, and drawings to help tell your Maine history story!
- C. The exhibit board must use 400 student-composed words or less, including title and subtitles. There is no limit on words from direct quotes you found in your research. Add a brief credit underneath photos, quotes, maps, or images.
- D. You may use table space in front of your board to add additional items to help tell your Maine History story.

Paper:

- A. You may choose to write a formal research paper about a topic in Maine history. The paper should be between 600 and 1500 words.
- B. The research paper should include either footnotes or parenthetical citations (e. g. "Smith, 1920"), with the full list of citations at the end of the paper, formatted in MLA or Chicago format. NoodleTools Express (<https://my.noodletools.com/noodlebib/express.php>) will help you format the citations correctly). Parents may teach the student how to use NoodleTools Express.
- C. You are allowed to show your paper to your parents or other adults to receive feedback and suggestions for editing, but your writing must be your own.
- D. The paper must be an individual, rather than a group, entry.

Maine History Play:

- A. Your play may be an individual or a group production.
- B. Your play must be based on a person or persons, place, challenge, or event in Maine history.
- C. Your play must be seven minutes or less in length.
- D. The play must be your own original work based on your research about your Maine history topic.
- E. You must write, costume, and act in the play yourself, but you can receive feedback from parents and others as you develop your production.

- F. You will submit your final version of your play as a video before the convention. Winners will be asked to perform their play live at the convention!
- G.

Ages 14 through Seniors in High School (age at the time of the 2020 HOME Convention):

Students ages 14 through the senior year of high school have five formats to select from to share their research: an exhibit, a historical paper, a play of up to 7 minutes in length, a website, or a documentary of not more than 8 minutes.

Research requirements for this age group should use at least 8 primary and 8 secondary sources (more are encouraged), properly cited using MLA or Chicago format. Citations can be correctly formatted in MLA or Chicago format free at NoodleTools: (<https://my.noodletools.com/noodlebib/express.php>)

All entries must include a one- to two-page paper that answers the following three questions:

- a. How did you select your topic?
- b. How did you conduct your research?
- c. How did you create your entry?
- d. The paper should also contain the citations of their primary and secondary sources as an attachment to the one-page paper, using MLA or Chicago citation format.
- e. Include a cover page for your paper with your name and age.

Special Requirements for Specific Categories, Ages 14 through Seniors in High School:

Exhibit:

- A. Exhibit boards may be purchased at dollar stores for just \$1.00, or at other stores for slightly more. You may use just one exhibit board, or you may put two exhibit boards together to make a taller exhibit. You may also create your own exhibit board from materials such as cardboard or wood, as long as the height is not taller than 72 inches.
- B. Use quotes, photographs, maps, images, and drawings to help tell your Maine History story! Add brief credits under each item showing where you found the item.
- C. The exhibit board must use no more than 500 student-composed words, including title and subtitles. There is no limit on words from direct quotes you found in your research.

- D. You may use table space in front of your board to add additional items to help tell your Maine History story.

Paper:

- A. You may choose to write a formal research paper about a topic in Maine history. The paper should be between 900 and 2000 words.
- B. The research paper should include either footnotes or parenthetical citations (e. g. "Smith, 1920"), with the full list of citations at the end of the paper, formatted in MLA or Chicago format (NoodleTools Express (<https://my.noodletools.com/noodlebib/express.php>) will help you format the citations correctly).
- C. You are allowed to show your paper to your parents or other adults to receive feedback and suggestions for editing, but your writing must be your own.
- D. The paper must be an individual, rather than a group, entry.

Maine History Play:

- A. Your play may be an individual or a group production. You can have up to five homeschooleders in the ages 13 to Senior in high school age range in a group.
- B. Your play must be based on a person, place, challenge, or event in Maine history.
- C. Your play must be seven minutes or less in length.
- D. The play must be your own original work based on your research about your Maine history topic.
- E. You must write, costume, and act in the play yourself, but you can receive feedback from parents and others as you develop your production.
- F. You will submit your final version of your play as a video before the convention. Winners will be asked to perform their play live at the convention!

Website:

- A. Create and publish a Maine History website about your topic, using any web creation software available to you (Free website creation web-based software includes Google Sites, Wix, Weebly, and WordPress; depending on your age, your parents may need to register your site in their names. You may also use your own website creation software as long as you publish the site so it can be viewed for judging.)
- B. Your website must be completely "self-contained." You cannot link to any outside websites or pages as part of your site (except for citations).
- C. Incorporate your one-page paper and your MLA or Chicago format citations as a separate page on the website.

- D. You may use up to 1000 student-composed words on your site. Direct quotes do not count towards the 1000 words.
 - E. Use brief credits underneath any photos, images, and quotes you use as part of your site.
 - F. On the entry form, you must include the link to your website so it can be viewed by the judges.
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Maine History Documentary Film:

- A. You may use any software, cameras, and editing equipment available to you to create your documentary film.
 - B. Your film should be seven minutes or less in length.
 - C. Be sure to include in your citations any photos, images, video, and audio that you used to conduct your research and to create your film.
 - D. Include brief credits at the end of your film. (You will give full citations at the end of your one-page paper).
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