

## **ECSD NEWS RELEASE**

Kim Stefansson, ECSD Public Relations Coordinator

[kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us)

[850 469-6219](tel:8504696219) (Office)

[850-393-0539](tel:8503930539) (Cell)

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### **ECSD Student Historian Takes First Place at National History Day**

Last week five students representing Escambia County competed in the National History Day Competition. Parker Beverly in Sr. Individual Documentary; Carolyn Hagy and Lauren Hagy in Sr. Group Documentary; Max Mateer in Sr. Individual Performance; and Graybill Partington in Sr. Historical Paper all attend Pensacola High School.

Max Mateer won first place in the Senior Individual Performance with his entry entitled, "Pushing the Pawn from the Purchase to the Pacific," a play in which Max used the game of chess as a metaphor for the strategic diplomacy of President James K. Polk. Max is an experienced National History Day competitor having won first place in 2017 and 5<sup>th</sup> place in 2016 while in middle school in the Junior Individual Performance category. Max also was selected to attend National History Academy in 2019.

National History Day® presented the awards for the national finals of the 2018 National History Day Contest. More than a half-million students around the world entered the contest at the local level, with the top entries advancing to state contests.

The top two entries in each category were invited to the National Contest at the University of Maryland, College Park. Competitors represented the 57 affiliate members, including every state, Washington, D.C., American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and international schools in South Korea, South Asia, and China. More than 3,000 middle and high school students presented documentaries, exhibits, papers, performances, and websites related to the 2018 theme Conflict & Compromise in History.

"The competitors at this level are some of the hardest working students of their generation," said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. "The competition at this level is tough. Each of these students has spent hours researching, revising, and preparing their entries. It takes a truly dynamic project to win at the National Contest. Congratulations to the winners of the 2018 National History Day Contest."

The full list of winners is provided below and online at: [nhd.org/winners](http://nhd.org/winners)

Photos attached: Max Mateer with his award and a three shot of Graybill Partington, Carolyn Hagy, and Parker Beverly

Any questions, can be directed to Kim Stefansson, ECSD Public Relations Coordinator,

[kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us), [850-393-0539](tel:8503930539) (cell).

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