

Here at the National Archives—New York, we maintain Federal records from New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. We have more than 94,000 cubic feet of historical records from the 1680s to the 1990s. Our records are an essential ingredient to successful National History Day entries. Let the National Archives and Records Administration—New York help you achieve your goals.

For more information about National History Day, see the official website at <http://www.nhd.org>

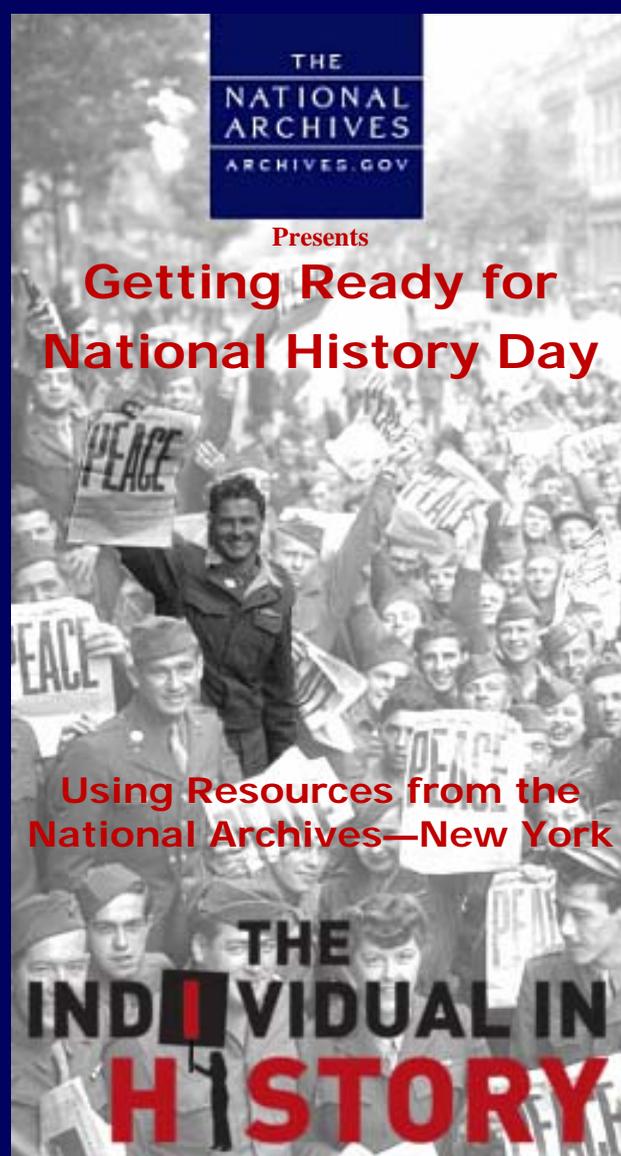
OR CONTACT:

The state coordinator for New Jersey at <http://www.nhd.org/NewJersey.htm>

The state coordinator for New York at <http://www.nhd.org/NewYork.htm>



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Getting Ready for National History Day—2009

Using Resources from the National Archives—New York

Each year, thousands of 6th-12th grade students and their teachers participate in National History Day (NHD). This year-long educational program culminates in a national contest every June. The National History Day program provides a unique opportunity for students to gain first hand experience conducting historical research and producing exhibits, essays, documentaries, media projects, websites, and performances.

Participation in the National History Day program begins at the local level, where regional activities lead to state and national competitions. Students and teachers are encouraged to take advantage of the rich array of local history resources (libraries, archives, museums, historic sites) in their communities to pursue topics of local, regional, national and global interests in conjunction with this year's theme: **The Individual in History: Actions and Legacies.**

NATIONAL ARCHIVES—NEW YORK National History Day Programs

FOR TEACHERS: WORKSHOPS

The National Archives—New York offers short, informational sessions on how to best prepare students for success in the local contests. In these workshops you will:

- Learn more about primary sources.
- Discover how to locate and utilize primary sources from the National Archives' holdings.
- Participate in document analysis activities to increase critical thinking and research skills.
- Understand the research process and the importance of citing records properly.
- Review the "key impact" to determine the relevance of certain primary sources to the research topic.
- Brainstorm issues to share with students for topics relating to the 2009 theme "The Individual in History."

We offer these *free* workshops in the fall and spring. To learn more about upcoming workshops, please call toll-free at 866-840-1752 or e-mail to newyork.archives@nara.gov.

FOR STUDENTS: RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

The National Archives—New York offers a wealth of primary sources that can make your project successful on competition day. The National Archives can show you how to:

- Search our online primary sources related to your topic via the Archival Research Catalog (ARC).
- Properly cite original materials at <http://www.archives.gov/publications/general-info-leaflets/17.html>.
- Research original records at our New York City site from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday.

If you would like to schedule a researcher orientation or talk to our archivists, call us toll-free at 1-866-840-1752 or e-mail newyork.archives@nara.gov. You may also write to us at 201 Varick Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10014.

Please Note: *Students are always welcome to come in and research, but if they are under the age of 14 they must be accompanied by a teacher, parent or guardian.*

THE INDIVIDUAL IN HISTORY: ACTIONS AND LEGACIES

Sample Topics & Related Records from the National Archives—New York

INVENTORS AND INNOVATORS

- **Alexander Graham Bell: Communication Nation.** The creator of the telephone, Bell's legacy has been tarnished by scandal over who really invented the communication device. Our records include the case *American Bell Telephone Co. v. Globe Telephone Co. and others*. American Bell sued Globe for patent infringement on the design of the telephone.
- **Charles Goodyear: Vulcanizing Rubber.** Either on purpose or by happy accident, Charles Goodyear was able to figure out a way to make natural rubber into a more durable and useful product. Our records include the *Goodyear vs. Day* patent infringement case on the vulcanization process. Goodyear's case was argued by Daniel Webster.
- **Thomas Edison: The Wizard.** The "Wizard of Menlo Park" had his hand in many inventions that made our modern world possible. From the light bulb to film and sound recording, the breadth of Thomas Edison's work prove that genius is 99% perspiration. Our court records include hand drawings, patents, and photos of several of his famous inventions.
- **Henry Ford: Democratizing the Automobile.** Founder of the Ford Motor Company and developer of the first affordable vehicle, Henry Ford literally put Americans on the move. His revolutionary assembly line process increased efficiency and decreased costs to make it affordable for the masses. Our records include various pamphlets, product brochures, manuals, and images from a 1920s court case.
- **James Bogardus: Cast-Iron Downtown.** Walk down the streets of SoHo and Tribeca and you will see the impact of James Bogardus. This mid-19th century architect was a pioneer in the design of commercial and industrial buildings using the cast-iron process. Our records include a case of patent infringement against New York City and Julius Kroel for stealing his concepts.

- **Orson Welles: Creating *Citizen Kane*.** Often considered the greatest American film ever made, *Citizen Kane* is a colossal achievement of narrative, cinematography, direction, and acting. Journalist Ferdinand Lundberg accused writer, director and actor Orson Welles of lifting *Citizen Kane's* story from Lundberg's biography of newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst. Our records include a lengthy deposition from Orson Welles for the case with Lundberg.
- **Wright Brothers: First in Flight.** These famous siblings defied gravity by building the first successful airplane. Our records of the *Orville and Wilbur Wright vs. The Herring-Curtiss Company and Glenn H. Curtiss* case includes photos, statements, and signatures of the famous duo. The Wright Brothers were challenging Curtiss's claim for improving their design.

CIVIL LIBERTIES AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

- **Susan B. Anthony: Suffering for Suffrage.** One of the most important figures of her time, Susan B. Anthony devoted her life to fighting for women's suffrage. Our records include the *United States vs. Susan B. Anthony* case where the suffragist was charged with illegally registering to vote.
- **Stephen Pembroke: Escaping to Freedom.** Stephen Pembroke is one of countless slaves that took abolition into his own hands and made the perilous journey out of slavery. Hiding in New York City with family, Pembroke was eventually captured and brought to trial by his owner Jacob H. Grove. Our records include this case file and several other fugitive slave case files from the mid 1800s.
- **Bayard Rustin: Civil Rights Activist.** As an early civil rights activist, Bayard Rustin was fighting against segregation through non-violent direct action. A pioneer of the movement during the mid-1940s, Rustin

would influence the creation of CORE and SCLC as well as organize the famous March on Washington in 1963. Our records include a case where Rustin challenged Jim Crow laws that prevented him from eating in a segregated dining car.

- **Ignatz Mezei: Denied Rights.** Ignatz Mezei was a noncitizen whose misfortune caught him in the middle of the McCarthy era. While trying to regain entry into the US after visiting his homeland, Mezei was suspected of having communist sympathies. Since other nations denied him entry as well, he literally became a man without a country being detained on Ellis Island for four years. The case set the precedence that noncitizens could be detained indefinitely without a trial.
- **Judge John Woolsey: Judging Wisely.** As a judge for the United States Southern District Court of New York, Woolsey famously ruled in the case *US v. One Book Called Ulysses*. Judge Woolsey decided that James Joyce's masterpiece was not obscene and thus could be printed in the United States. This case laid the foundation for the expansion of free expression.
- **Lenny Bruce: Swearing Under Oath.** Standup comic and social critic, Lenny Bruce was one of the most infamous performers of his time. Most of his jokes cannot be printed here, so let's just say that our records include the landmark obscenity case *United States v. Lenny Bruce*. In this case he argued that his earlier criminal trial in New York City violated his Fourteenth Amendment rights of due process.
- **Roger Baldwin: Protecting Individual Rights.** One of the founders of the ACLU, Roger Baldwin made it his life's work to preserve the individual rights he believed were guaranteed by the Constitution. Our records include evidence from a 1918 case where the ACLU sought an injunction against the NYC Postmaster for not distributing pamphlets concerning freedom of the press, conscientious objection, and the IWW.

- **Curtis C. Flood: Free to Choose.** Curtis C. Flood had a career .293 batting average, won the Golden Glove seven times, and was a part of two World Series teams. More than just those statistics, however, make Curt Flood one of the most important baseball players of the last 50 years. After refusing to be traded to the Phillies, Flood sued Major League Baseball for unfair labor practices. Our records include the *Flood v. Kuhn* case which eventually led to the revolutionary free agency system in baseball.
- **Pete Seeger: Communism Goes to Court.** During the 1950s, musician and activist Pete Seeger's earlier ties with the Communist party brought him to the attention of the famous HUAC investigations into entertainers. Instead of simply pleading his Fifth Amendment right to not incriminate himself, Seeger boldly invoked his First Amendment right of association and was charged with contempt of Congress. Our records are of the *United States v. Peter Seeger* case.
- **Franklin D. Roosevelt: Labor in War and Peace.** The most important President of the 20th century has made a huge impact on all subsequent history due to his overseeing the two seminal events of modern history—the Great Depression and World War II. Always a champion for the common man, our records of various Alphabet Soup programs (WPA, NLRB, NRA, etc) show the creations of a true leader.
- **Marcus Garvey: A Dream Deferred.** As the head of a movement that eventually became the largest black organization in history, Garvey is an enigmatic figure of both promise and controversy. Strong in the belief of instilling racial pride and empowering blacks to gain control of their lives and futures, Garvey is also known for swindling many people out of their livelihoods in the poorly managed Black Star Line. Our records include this mail fraud case of the *United States v. Marcus Garvey*.