



Amistad Commission's National History Day Stipend, 2025-2026 School Year

Every year, the nonprofit **National History Day** organization hosts a competition in which students in grades six through twelve (6–12) create original historical projects on topics of their choosing based on an annual [theme](#). After thinking critically about a topic's significance, students conduct extensive research and present their work in one of five categories: **Exhibit, Performance, Documentary, Website, and Paper**. Students enter their projects at local, state, and national levels, where they are evaluated by professional historians and educators.

The Amistad Commission will fund a \$1,000 stipend for one school year to any certified teacher under contract to a school district, to start a **National History Day Group** based on a theme related to African American or African diasporic history.

The funds will be used to compensate a teacher for time outside of contractual hours. The funds will be provided to your school district once all requirements are met. The stipend will be provided for one middle school teacher and/or one high school teacher in a school district.

Each teacher will be required to do the following:

- Review guidelines on the National History Day [website](#).
- Submit a plan, to the form linked below, that outlines how you will recruit students to participate (you need a minimum of 6 projects), a draft schedule of meeting times, location, (must maintain documentation of meetings with students).
- Attend a **“How to start your own National History Day Program”** one is held during the Amistad Summer Curriculum Institute, or the Amistad Commission will provide technical assistance.
- Teachers will be required to have a minimum of **six** projects submitted.
- Each project submission should have an **African American theme or African diasporic theme**.
- Teachers are required to obtain approval by the Board of Education for students to compete in the contest in New Jersey (reach out to your curriculum supervisor).

**If you are interested please complete the [form](#) linked here:
<https://forms.office.com/r/XiFPKV2FHx> by September 30, 2025.**

If you have any questions, please email: amistadspecialprojects@doe.nj.gov or contact us at (609) 376-9137 / 3997

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