August 23, 2018

Greetings!

I would like to take a moment and introduce myself. My name is Abigail Cline and I am the new Education Coordinator here at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. For a little bit of background on who I am and where I come from, I was born in Springfield, IL, I received my BA in History and Theater from Monmouth College in 2012 and my MA in Public History from the University of Illinois at Springfield in 2015. I have been with the ALPLM since 2010 working in the theater department and on August 20th made the exciting transition to the education department. I have served as a judge at past IHD state competitions so I am not a complete stranger to the IHD process. Over the past few days I have been attending various NHD webinars for Affiliate Coordinators and am excited to be diving into this wonderful program. As we move forward with the year I look forward to meeting and talking with many of you to make this transition as seamless as possible.

As we move into this coming year there are a few rule changes but nothing too drastic.

- The rule restricting students to submitting only one project each will continue. We are aware that some schools have students create projects in several categories for their school fairs. Students will be required to select only one project to send to the regional and state competitions. They cannot submit in more than one category type or as an individual and as part of a group.

- Last year a rule limiting exhibits to 500 words per exhibit board rule was instituted. This rule will be rolled back and we strongly suggest that the student-composed words should not exceed 2,000. Please note that if the project goes through to the national contest the students will have to cut their words back to the 500 word limit required by NHD.

Please let us know if you have any questions and we will be happy to help out. Thank you to everyone for the great work you do on the Illinois History Day Program. We appreciate everything and could not run Illinois History Day without you.

Sincerely,
Abigail Cline

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