



ARIZONA  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



949 E. 2nd Street, Tucson, AZ 85719

520-628-5774

[www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 19, 2019**

Media Contact: Susan Irwin, Vice President, Library & Archives, 480-387-5353, [sirwin@azhs.org](mailto:sirwin@azhs.org)  
Lynne, O'Hara, Director of Programs, National History Day, National History Day, 301-314-9739,  
[lynne@nhd.org](mailto:lynne@nhd.org)

**Chandler Teacher Nominated for the MacGregor Teaching Award**  
*National Teaching Award Given Through National History Day Competition*

PHOENIX, AZ — The Arizona Historical Society congratulates Mr. Dave Carras, a teacher at Kyrene de la Mirada in Chandler, Arizona who was nominated for the Hannah E. (Liz) MacGregor Teacher of the Year History Teacher Award. The MacGregor Teacher of the Year award is sponsored by James F. Harris in honor of his sister and is awarded to one middle and one high school teacher annually.

Each of the 57 National History Day affiliates may nominate one middle and high school teacher each for this award. Mr. Carras is the junior division nominee from Arizona. The two \$5,000 awards are presented to teachers who demonstrate a commitment to engaging students in historical learning through innovative use of primary sources, implementation of active learning strategies to foster historical thinking skills, and participation in the National History Day Contest.

The Arizona Historical Society is proud to sponsor National History Day Arizona (NHDAZ). Developed for middle and high school students, National History Day Arizona makes history come alive by engaging them in the discovery of the historical, cultural, scientific, and social experiences of the past. Through in-depth research, project based learning, hands on experiences, and presentations; Arizona students become better prepared to inform the present and shape the future. NHDAZ inspires teachers and students through challenging classroom activities, after school clubs, weekend workshops, and exciting competitions transforming history education and instruction.

“Teachers are one of the greatest resources children have to develop the skills necessary to become critical thinkers,” said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. “The nominees for the MacGregor Award have shown a dedication to teaching that goes beyond the classroom. I congratulate Mr. Carras on his nomination.”

Dr. James F. Harris sponsors the awards in recognition of the pivotal role teachers play in the lives of students. The two national winners will be announced on #NationalHistoryDay, June 13, 2019.

The two national winners will be chosen by a team of teachers and historians. Nominees' work must clearly illustrate the development and use of creative teaching methods that interest students in history and help them make exciting discoveries about the past.

###

### **About Arizona Historical Society**

***Mission: Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.***

Founded in 1864, the Arizona Historical Society (AHS) is the state's oldest and most prestigious historical organization, dedicated to collecting, preserving and sharing Arizona's rich history. The stories of the people, places and events that have shaped Arizona – are told through museum exhibits, programs, events and outreach. The Arizona Historical Society is proud to serve as the steward of Arizona's history. Our collections, housed in AHS museum facilities throughout the state, number in excess of three million objects. Our artifact and manuscript holdings offer opportunities for public programming, educational outreach, and exhibitions, as well as academic and community-based research. AHS is a proud sponsor of National History Day in Arizona, a year-long academic program focused on historical research, interpretation and creative expression for middle school and high school students.

For additional information, visit [www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org)

### **About National History Day® (NHD):**

NHD is a non-profit education organization headquartered in College Park, MD. Established in 1974, NHD promotes an appreciation for historical research among middle and high school students through multiple annual programs. More than half a million students participate in the annual National History Day Contest. These research-based projects are entered into contests at the local and affiliate levels, where the top entries are invited to the National Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park. NHD provides professional development opportunities and curriculum materials for educators of all levels. NHD is sponsored in part by HISTORY®, Jostens, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Park Service, Southwest Airlines, the Joe Weider Foundation, and the WEM 2000 Foundation of the Dorsey & Whitney Foundation. For more information, visit [nhd.org](http://nhd.org).