FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PATERSON RECEIVES PROMINENT RECOGNITION FOR TEACHER AND SCHOOLS AT NATIONAL HISTORY DAY STATE COMPETITION

26 Student Projects Received Awards at Regional Competition; 2 at State Level

PATERSON, New Jersey, May 7, 2015 – The New Jersey National History Day (NHD) State Competition at William Paterson University on May 2nd proved to be another successful event for Paterson Public Schools. Representing the district were 26 student projects that received awards at the Regional Competition in March.

With this year’s theme focused on “Leadership and Legal in History,” the district’s results were stellar:

- Five School 7 eighth graders were victorious in the website category. The students, Hanifa Ahmad, Zakaria Ahmed, Fahmida Hussain, Majada Hussain, and Michael Torres won for their website on Richard Nixon’s leadership and legacy.
- Peter Echevarria from Rosa Parks High School won for individual performance for Heard it Through the Grapevine: The Legacy of Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers Union.
- Mr. Orlando Pagan, a teacher at School of Government and Public Administration at Eastside, is only one of two in the state of New Jersey to be selected as the winner of the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award (must be a NHD participating teacher). A press release about Mr. Pagan’s recognition is available by clicking here.

District participants were very enthusiastic about this year’s NHD competition. Zak Ahmed, student winner from School 7 proclaimed, “I am so excited to represent my school in Washington. I can’t wait to tell people from all around the country about President Nixon!” Students, teachers, and administrators from Schools 4, 28, Eastside High School academies, John F. Kennedy High School academies, and International High School also competed in this rigorous annual academic competition.

State District Superintendent, Dr. Donnie Evans commented, “Each year I am heartened by the excitement, pride and scholarship the students of our district exhibit during the National History Day competition. Our students immerse themselves in research that fills them with deep knowledge of defining moments from our past, while honing critical skills they will need to succeed in college and beyond. I wish to thank all of the teachers and advisors who are committed to this effort, and I congratulate all of our outstanding student participants.”

A complete list of student winners is available at www.paterson.k12.nj.us under “Students”.

The winners of the State competition are now eligible to attend the Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park in June. For more information, visit http://www.nhd.org/Contest.htm.

Paterson Public Schools is the third largest school district in New Jersey. The school district’s strategic plan focuses on four priorities including Effective Academic Programs.

For more information, contact:
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NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2015 REGIONAL WINNERS

ROSA PARKS HIGH SCHOOL

1) Shakila Gaskins – individual exhibit – Phenomenal Me: The Leadership and Legacy of Maya Angelou
2) Peter Echevarria – individual performance – Heard it Through the Grapevine: The legacy of Cesar Chavez and The United Farm Workers Union
3) Juliana Braka – individual performance for (r) evolution: The Leadership and Legacy of Grace Lee Boggs

SCHOOL 28

1) Pedro Rodriguez – individual documentary – Now You’re Playing With Power
2) Maria Chowdhury, Di’Andre Davenport, & Sarah Huq – group documentary – The Behind the Khadi
3) Aliviyah Goodson, Saraha Sampson, & Brianna Watts – group documentary – Fighting for Equality: A War that Never Ends
4) Emely Disla – individual exhibit – Florynce Kennedy: An Inspiration
5) Emily Cruz, Nishat Hossain, Jesus Ortega, Luis Perez – group exhibit – Living Through Gandhi’s Eyes

INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

1) Luz Martinez and Thalia Marie Perez – group documentary- Robert Johnson: The Godfather of Rock n Roll

EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

1) Ruth Omoyinmi and Belinda Miller – documentary – Shirley Chisholm – Leadership and Legacy
2) Joel Monegro, John Nunez, Josue Rojas, & Oscar Vasquez exhibit- – Dred Scott
3) Alejandra Morante – exhibit- Napoleon: Leadership and Legacy
4) Jaime Gaan – exhibit – El Jefe- The legacy of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo
5) Jessie Cheramy & Marleene Rodriguez – exhibit – Dan Daly – An Unknown Legacy of Honor
6) Yessenia Martinez, Desirae Hazel, & Debra Pacheco – exhibit – Eva Peron: The Legacy Behind Peronismo
7) Gisela Espanal & Leudy Valdez – exhibit – Branch Ricky- True Guts: A Legacy of Change
JOHN F KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

1) Andy Rodriguez, David Santiago, Carolayn Munoz, Asraful Islam, Genesis Diaz – group exhibit – Empress Myeongseong
3) Luis Dominguez, Shadidur Rahman, Shah Rahman, Raqib Quyyum, Jared Martindale – group documentary – Mao Zedong: Father of Communist China
4) Rema Miah, Ashley Greenwood, Sema Miah, & Shahana Monesha – group exhibit – William Shakespeare: The Father of Modern Literature
5) Mariah Conoscienti and Melissa Molina – group website – Donald Henderson: Against the Odds
6) Seren Ozer, Francis DeJesus, and Josephine Sanchez – group exhibit – Dorothy Hodgkin: The Legacy of a One of a Kind Biomedical Leader in X-Ray Crystallography

School 7

2) Fahmida Sultana, Junior Fabian, and Andrea Cadenas – display board - Emperor Shi Huang Di

School 4

1) Isis Eaton, Barbara Matos, & Kyla Reed – exhibit - Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall
2) Yasmir Cooper, Rocky Asencion, Darriel Smith, Marcus Diaz, and Michelle Dilisio – exhibit - Berry Gordy & Motown