

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

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## **For Immediate Release**

Contact: Robert Herman  
Public Information Officer  
(559) 733-6606 – office  
(559) 303-8568 – cell

**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **Tulare County History Day Projects Wrap Up Most Successful Year Ever**

At the Tulare County Office of Education's History Day event in March, 104 students submitted 47 projects for competition. Forty of these students and their 19 projects were eligible to move on to the California State History Day Competition, although not all competed.

On May 10, 2008, 35 Tulare County students competed at the state level in Sacramento with 15 projects. The students represented Tulare County very well. At the state level, Tulare County brought home four special awards: *The Burton-Phillips Award, the Children's Voice Award, the Civil Liberties Award, and the People's Choice Award*. In the poster division, which does not compete at the national level, Tulare County had one winning project and another that was named a runner-up.

From the California competition, two Tulare County projects were eligible to move on to the National History Day event. After a great deal of fund-raising and help from the Tulare County Historical Society, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak and many local businesses

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and private individuals, five students arrived at the University of Maryland on June 15, 2008 to compete. “These projects – both from Kings River Elementary School in Kingsburg – competed against the best in the country and did very well,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

The Tulare County projects entered at the national competition included a Junior Group Exhibit entitled *Exposing Manzanar Inside and Out: Ansel Adams and Toyo Miyatake*, and a Junior Group Performance entitled *A Chain That Cannot Be Broken: The Ultimate Compromise of Anne Frank and her step-sister Eva Geringer-Schloss*.

Amanda Jost and Holly Wilson won the *Outstanding Entry Award* for the state of California, as well as the Best of State, for their Junior Group Exhibit, *Exposing Manzanar Inside and Out: Ansel Adams and Toyo Miyatake*. The Outstanding Entry Award goes to one project from each division in each state, and the Best of State Award goes to one project for the entire state.

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