



## BEFORE JUDGING

- **Breathe**
  - The judges want you to do well
  - Be confident in your work
- **Be on time** (or early!)

## JUDGING

- **Greet**
  - Shake the judges' hands
  - Give judges process paper + bibliography (minimum 1 per judge team)
    - Papers + Websites: should already be included in your project
- **Read**
  - They read your process paper for the who/what/when/where/why
  - They read your bibliography to see what research you did—most important document!
    - **Judges are looking for:**
      - Primary Sources—laws, newspapers, interviews, photos, or artifacts
      - Secondary Sources—biographies, reliable websites, or books
      - Quality over Quantity—did you do all the research you could?
- **View**
  - Documentary + Performance = they will signal when to begin + time you
  - Other projects were viewed ahead of time
  - How are they “grading” you?
    - **60% — Historical Quality**
      - Accuracy
      - Interpret and analyze
      - Place in historical context
      - Shows wide research
      - Strong thesis
      - Balanced—multiple viewpoints
      - Available primary sources used
    - **20% — Relation to Theme**
      - Use triumph AND tragedy
      - Demonstrate why topic is significant in history
    - **20% — Clarity of Presentation**
      - Use of visual images
      - Process paper and bibliography clearly organized
      - Fancy lights or colorful images will not sway judges, focus on your research!
      - Judges will not judge you on the quality of film software or props

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- **0% — Quality of Interview**
  - Interview is meant for you to share more about your process/research
  - Projects stand alone; extra content can give you a competitive advantage. You can share more, but any extra information not in your project will not be judged. Include all of the important information IN your project.
- **Questions**
  - Type and number of questions vary between judge teams
    - **Possible questions**
      - Why did you choose this topic?
      - How does your topic relate to this year's theme?
      - What did you learn in this process?
      - What further research would you want to do?
      - If you advanced, would you change your project? How so?
  - Judges do not know *every* story in history. Be prepared to teach them about your topic

## AFTER JUDGING

- **Breathe**—you did it!
- **Celebrate**—you just presented *your own* research
- **Wait for**
  - Final Round Announcements
    - Depends on your regional size, would only be performance + documentary
    - Depends on size of State contest, will announce for all categories when applicable
  - Awards Ceremony
    - Will announce finalists, alternates, and awards
    - Comment sheets will be sent to your teacher

**NO MATTER THE OUTCOME BE PROUD!  
YOU ACCOMPLISHED SO MUCH THIS YEAR BY BEING HERE!**