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The**Joseph Webber Teacher of Merit Award** is presented by the State Historical Society of Missouri each year to an outstanding teacher who is a new participant in the **National History Day in Missouri** program. The award is $350.

**Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible, a **teacher must be a new participant in the National History Day program (5 years or less)** and show:

**—Development and use of creative teaching methods that interest students in history and help them make exciting discoveries about the past. Examples could include:**

* Active learning projects, such as mock debates or oral history projects;
* Innovative use of primary sources;
* Integrated communication technology in history research and classroom learning;
* Teaching methods which link history to students’ broader interests (e.g., using interdisciplinary approaches to historical topics or by developing projects which link history to current events, debates, and issues); or
* The use of teaching methods which build a range of skills in students as they study history.

**—Exemplary commitment to helping students develop their interest in history and recognize their achievements. Examples could include:**

* Exemplary support and guidance for students working on History Day projects;
* Assistance in helping students showcase their history projects within the community and/or publish their material;
* Overall commitment to the intellectual development of individual students; or
* Encouragement of students to use their understanding of history to become engaged, informed citizens in their community and beyond.

**Nomination Procedures**

Teachers can self-nominate or be nominated. To apply, you should contact the National History Day in Missouri state coordinator at **n****hdmo@umsystem.edu** by March 16, 2016 and provide:

* 1. A **current resume**.
	2. **Two (2) letters of recommendation** in support of the nomination. The letters should address the criteria provided above and be written by those who know the nominee well and can give specific examples of excellence in history teaching.

The National History Day in Missouri state coordinator will forward materials on to the Webber Award committee at the State Historical Society of Missouri.