



**For Immediate Release**

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**Canada's Young Historians Share Digital Stories of the Past**  
*Canadians Invited to View the Videos and Vote for their Favourites*

The Spanish flu epidemic. The first French-Canadian woman to become a doctor. The history of treaties in Canada. Immigration stories and experiences, from the Vietnamese “boat people” to Syrian refugees. Tales of courage and liberation from the Second World War.

These are just a few of the topics explored by students taking part in the 2018 Young Citizens program — a national contest that sees young Canadians create engaging and inspiring history videos, while vying for a trip to Ottawa to attend the Canada's History Forum.

Participants are selected from the thousands of students who each year take part in Heritage Fairs across the country. These students are invited to create a short video about an aspect of Canada's past, covering everything from the arts, sports, politics, war, science, immigration, famous people, community heritage, and more.

Visitors to **YoungCitizens.ca** can vote for their favourites from among the 80 videos submitted.

“The level of research and inquiry behind these projects is impressive,” said Janet Walker, president and CEO of Canada's History Society. “The students' curiosity, depth of knowledge and flair for the dramatic make the stories of the past come to life for online viewers.”

Voting begins June 12 and runs until June 22. The online vote will make up part of a student's final score. Following the vote, judges will review the videos and select four recipients, who will travel to Ottawa in the fall for the Canada's History Forum.

**Visit [YoungCitizens.ca](http://YoungCitizens.ca) ([JeunesCitoyens.ca](http://JeunesCitoyens.ca)) to view the videos and vote for your favourites!**

***Canada's History will check with families before providing contact information to media. To arrange an interview or for more information, please email or call:***

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## **Backgrounder:**

### **About Heritage Fairs and Young Citizens**

Give students a camera and a chance to explore Canada's past, and they will come up with moving, funny, clever, thought-provoking videos that enlighten others as well as themselves. That's the premise of Young Citizens, a program run by Canada's History Society. Now in its seventh year, Young Citizens showcases the work of students from Heritage Fairs all over the country who have been given the opportunity to expand their projects by telling their stories on video. The students must be in Grade 4 through Grade 11 and participate in a local or regional Heritage Fair. The Heritage Fair program is undertaken by a network of volunteer teachers and community history organizations. Heritage Fairs began as a pilot community project in Winnipeg in 1993 and have grown to involve more than 100,000 students each year in schools-based and regional exhibitions in more than 100 communities across Canada.

### **About Canada's History Society**

Canada's History Society is a national charitable organization devoted to popularizing Canada history. In addition to presenting the Governor General's History Awards and publishing *Canada's History* (formerly *The Beaver*) magazine, and *Kayak: Canada's History Magazine for Kids*, the Society also produces educational and online programs to encourage more discovery, celebration, and understanding about our rich history and culture. For more information, please visit [www.canadashistory.ca](http://www.canadashistory.ca)