

Young Historian Award

Application deadline—June 1, 2017

Background

The Young Historian Award was initiated by a donor to The Santa Cruz Community Foundation in respectful memory of Betty Lewis, Watsonville Historian, Alzora Snyder, Margaret Hayes, Hubert Wyckoff, Bernice Porter and many others who have illuminated our heritage as the foundation of the future for the Pajaro Valley. The donor approached the Pajaro Valley Historical Association (PVHA) about administering this award and the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County about providing for the award from a donor advised fund supported by the donor.

The PVHA expressed interest in administering the award, and agreed to outlining criteria for the award, setting up the application process, and fulfilling other responsibilities

Award Description

The Young Historian Award will be offered annually to an individual or group who has made a significant contribution to the study, conservation/preservation, or enhancement of the history of the Pajaro Valley. The award will be a single award of \$500.

Eligible Activities/Projects

The scope of appropriate activities/projects may include regions adjacent to the Pajaro Valley as long as it is demonstrated how they impact the Pajaro Valley, and may be broadly interpreted to include a variety of efforts, including but not limited to the following:

- research papers, including those that have been prepared as a class assignment from a high school or college/university
- publications/media
- volunteer work for an organization (organization must provide documentation of volunteer hours)
- being a docent
- restoration of objects or sites
- public performance or re-enactments
- art or exhibits depicting local history
- oral histories
- genealogical studies
- digital documentaries

Eligible projects must have taken place or been completed within the last 12 months prior to the application deadline. In the case of volunteer activities, some portion of the service must have occurred in the last 12 months prior to the application deadline.

Applicant Criteria

The recipient of the award shall be an individual or group who:

- meet the age criteria and, in the case of a group project, have a majority of members between the ages of 16 and 25 when engaged in the activity/project
- Did not receive any compensation for the activity or project other than for materials, travel expenses or other out-of-pocket costs related to the activity or project
- Have not received the Young Historian Award in a previous year. However previous applicants for the Young Historians Award are encouraged to re-apply.

Application/Selection Process

Applications must be self-initiated. Applicants must complete and submit an application to the PVHA prior to the deadline. Applications will be available at the PVHA, and also available on website at pajarovalleyhistory.org as well as other locations to be determined.

In addition to the application, the applicant must provide a letter of recommendation from a person or organization that is familiar with the applicant's project or activity.

Selection of the award recipient will be determined by a panel composed of at least three individuals recognized for their knowledge of the history of the Pajaro Valley. The panel will be convened by the PVHA. Panelists may NOT include individuals who have family members among the applicants. Panelists may include individuals who may have written letters of recommendation for the applicants, but must excuse themselves from voting in the selections.

The panel will review all applications and in selecting the winner the panel will place priority on the following considerations:

- How closely the project/activity relates to the Pajaro Valley
- The commitment/perseverance of the applicant to the project/activity
- The quality of the project/activity – especially as it relates to the age of the applicant

Additional consideration will be given to projects/activities that show creativity, initiative, collaboration, and/or innovation.

Application Timeline (2017)

Mid-Late January Applications available

Submission Deadline, June 1 2017

Selection & Notification

- Early May PVHA selects panelists
- Late May Winner selected
- Mid June The winner and other applicants will be notified
- Mid June The media will be informed of the name of the winner.
- Vintage Barbecue Winner honored at PVHA event. Present PVHA check to winner July 1 , 2017

MORE INFORMATION:

[www.PajaroValleyHistory.org](http://www.pajarovalleyhistory.org/)
<http://www.pajarovalleyhistory.org/>

QUESTIONS: Contact the Pajaro Valley Historical Association at info@pajarovalleyhistory.org or phone (831)722-0305, attention Susan Jacobs

The Young Historian Award is made possible by a donor fund at the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County and supported by the Pajaro Valley Historical Association

