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TWO GEORGIA EDUCATORS NOMINATED FOR NATIONAL HISTORY DAY® TEACHER OF THE YEAR

April 11, 2022, College Park, MD—Two teachers from Georgia have been nominated for the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year award. Mr. Zachary Barfield, a teacher at Ola Middle School in McDonough, Georgia has been nominated in the junior division of the National History Day (NHD) National Contest. Mr. Chance Giddens, a teacher at Troup County High School in LaGrange, Georgia has been nominated in the senior division of the National History Day (NHD) National Contest. The award is sponsored by Patricia Behring in recognition of the pivotal role teachers play in the lives of students.

Each of the 58 National History Day affiliates may nominate one high school and one middle school teacher for this award, and Mr. Barfield and Mr. Giddens are this year's nominees from Georgia. Every nominee for the \$10,000 award is a teacher who demonstrates a commitment to engaging students in historical learning through the innovative use of primary sources, implementation of active learning strategies to foster historical thinking skills, and participation in the National History Day Contest. All nominees will receive \$500 as a result of their nominations.

"This award recognizes the very best educators from across the nation and beyond," said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. "These educators are leaders and innovators in the teaching of history, and we are all the more impressed because of the extended difficult teaching circumstances due to the pandemic during the last year. I wish to congratulate both Mr. Barfield and Mr. Giddens on their well-deserved nominations."

The national winner will be selected by a committee of experienced teachers and historians, and announced on Saturday, June 18, 2022, at the National History Day National Contest Awards Ceremony to be held virtually due to COVID-19. Nominees' work must clearly illustrate the development and use of creative teaching methods that engage students in history, and help them make exciting discoveries about the past.

About National History Day® (NHD):

NHD is a non-profit organization based in College Park, Maryland, that seeks to improve the teaching and learning of history. The National History Day Contest was established in 1974 and currently engages more than half a million students every year in conducting

NHD

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original research on historical topics of interest. Students present their research as a documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website. Projects compete first at the local and affiliate levels, where the top entries are invited to the National Contest at the University of Maryland at College Park. NHD is sponsored in part by, HISTORY®, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Park Service, Southwest Airlines, the Crown Family Foundation, The Better Angels Society, the Pritzker Military Museum & Library and the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation. For more information, visit nhd.org.

About National History Day in Georgia

National History Day in Georgia (NHD GA) is a program of Georgia Humanities and LaGrange College, that annually engages over 11,000 middle and high school students from across the state in historical research, interpretation, and creative expression through inquiry and project-based learning. For more information on NHD GA, please visit lagrange.edu/nhd.

About Georgia Humanities

Georgia Humanities is a statewide nonprofit organization working to ensure that humanities and culture remain an integral part of the lives of all Georgians. Serving the citizens of Georgia through cultural and educational programs, grants, and projects, Georgia Humanities encourages engagement with the history, stories, and ideas that inform our lives, so that we can make better decisions for the future. Founded in 1971, Georgia Humanities is the statewide affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and one of the first of 56 humanities councils founded in the nation. For more information, please visit www.georgiahumanities.org.

About LaGrange College

Georgia's oldest private institution of higher learning, LaGrange College is consistently ranked among the South's top colleges by U.S. News & World Report. A four-year liberal arts and sciences college affiliated with the United Methodist Church, LaGrange offers more than 70 areas of study with an emphasis on global engagement and service. For more information, please visit www.lagrange.edu.

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