

**The FLORENCE DURAN
MEMORIAL/HISTORIC
AMSTERDAM LEAGUE
AWARD IN
AMSTERDAM HISTORY**

\$1000 Dollars

*For the best original research paper
about*

**AMSTERDAM
IN THE
AMERICAN CIVIL WAR**



Miss Florence Duran, 9th Grade graduation picture,
Amsterdam, New York, circa 1933

All GASD seniors and residents of the City of Amsterdam who are seniors in a private, parochial, military, or approved home school who are qualified to graduate this academic year and who have applied or been accepted to an accredited two or four year college or university are eligible.

**Other entry requirements apply
Entries must be postmarked by May 15th**

for more information:

www.historicamsterdam.org

or contact the

City Historian (518) 841-4323 rvonhasseln@amsterdamny.gov

THE FLORENCE DURAN MEMORIAL/HISTORIC AMSTERDAM LEAGUE AWARD IN AMSTERDAM HISTORY

OVERVIEW:

The Florence Duran Memorial/Historic Amsterdam League Award in Amsterdam History awards one thousand dollars (\$1,000) each year to a local student who demonstrates the best understanding of local history through an original research paper.



BACKGROUND:

Florence Duran (left) was born and raised in Amsterdam. Her immigrant mother arrived in America with three dollars in her pocket. Through a devotion to hard work and the value of education, she was able to create a better life for her children. Janet Duran Hayes (right), her daughter, became a much respected school teacher in Amsterdam and elsewhere and created this award to promote the idea that scholarship can open doors to a life of success and to celebrate the city that made it all happen for her family.

OBJECTIVES:

To encourage students to learn about local history, and in particular, to explore the wealth of historical records held in repositories in Montgomery County.

To promote student ability to think critically, research independently, and present effectively, now and in future positions, in business, government, and nonprofit organizations.

To support the development of the next generation of local historians, museum staff, teachers, and librarians.

To increase cooperation between schools and organizations that administer historical records useful for education.

To promote a sense of place and appreciation of Amsterdam.

To add to the general body of Amsterdam historical knowledge.

ELIGIBILITY:

A senior of the Greater Amsterdam School District in good academic and disciplinary standing scheduled to graduate within the current academic year, or

A resident of the City of Amsterdam who is a senior at a private, parochial, or military school, or an approved home school program, in good academic and disciplinary standing, scheduled to graduate in the current academic year, and

Who has applied to or been accepted to an accredited two or four year college or university, and intends to attend within the next twelve months, and

Who is not more than nineteen years old at the time of graduation, and

Who is a citizen of the United States.

SUBMISSION:

One electronic copy and five printed copies are required.

Papers will be formatted in APA, MLA or Chicago Manual style, according to the student's choice.

An annotated bibliography is required for ALL entries. The bibliography should contain all primary (including historical records) and secondary sources used in preparing the entry. Students must list the primary sources used first and then list the secondary sources used in their research. The annotations for each source must explain how the source was used and how it contributed to the project. The bibliography may be as long as necessary. When using Internet sources, students must link to the specific historical record used, not just the general website of the repository. Students are encouraged to work with their teacher or school library media specialist while preparing the annotated bibliography. For guidance on creating an annotated bibliography, visit Purdue University's Online Writing Lab at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01>.

Papers must be typed or computer-printed on 8 ½" x 11" paper, 12-point font and double-spaced with pages numbered and no less than 1,000 words (excludes notes, annotated bibliography, illustration captions, and supplemental or appendix materials). Citations such as footnotes or endnotes are required for all sources.

A substantial portion of the student research must be based on historical records from archives, museums, historical societies, libraries, local governments, community organizations, businesses, families, or individuals.

Submissions must be mailed to the Historic Amsterdam League, PO Box 132, Amsterdam, NY 12010. Entries submitted by email will not be accepted.

TOPICS:

Each year in November the Historic Amsterdam League will announce a general topic for that year's Competition.

THE TOPIC FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR IS: AMSTERDAM and THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR -150 YEARS AGO

THE NATURE OF RESEARCH:

There are many levels of scholastic achievement. Operating within a specific topic, the most rudimentary is the survey. For example's sake, let's assume that this year's topic is "Disease."

The most basic paper would be a survey of the topic overall, describing the major outbreaks of disease in the city over the centuries.

A better paper would look at one particular outbreak and study it in depth.

The best paper would pose and answer a specific question such as “Amsterdam was more exposed to the Flu Pandemic of 1918-19 than nearby cities. Why did it have less casualties per capita than those surrounding cities?”

DISQUALIFICATION:

Projects that do not use primary historical records, contain an annotated bibliography, or a signed entry form will be disqualified.

Plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification.

JUDGING

The Prize Award panel of judges will consist of not less than five nor more than seven judges, who shall be current or former Amsterdam teachers, historians, museum directors, librarians, writers, and archivists. The names of the judges will not be released in advance.

If in the judgment of the panel that no submission rises to the level of the prize objectives no award shall be made in that year.

The decision of the judges in all regards shall be final.

The judges will select the award recipient based on the following criteria:

ACCURACY AND DOCUMENTATION:

- Is the entry historically accurate?
- To what extent has the student used historical records? To what extent has the student used information from these documents?
- Does the entry include an annotated bibliography?
- Does the bibliography display a variety of historical records?

RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY:

- Does the final product answer a research question in depth, using analysis and interpretation of the historical records?
- Does the entry show evidence of creativity and imagination in interpreting and integrating information from historical records with other information?
- Does the paper add to the general body of knowledge of Amsterdam history?

STYLISTICS:

- Is the written material clear and well-organized?
- Is it internally consistent with the style manual chosen by the student?
- Are the grammar, punctuation and spelling correct?
- Is the visual material clear, appropriate, attributed and visually attractive?

TIMETABLE

The yearly topic will be announced at the beginning of the school year, no later than November.

Entries must be postmarked no later than May 15th.

Award winners will be announced at the end of the school year in June.

AWARDS:

Each award consists of a framed certificate and a \$1,000 cash prize.

Certificates of Merit will also be awarded to entries other than the winner that demonstrate an excellence in accomplishing the objectives stated above.

Payment of the award will be made directly to the awardee upon provision of evidence of enrollment in an accredited two or four-year college or university.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Submission constitutes an unlimited permission for the Historic Amsterdam League (HAL) to publish the submission, without any limitation on the author's rights to also publish.

HAL members are available to assist students at all times.

Applicants are encouraged to prepare submissions that also serve as the basis or totality of senior papers, independent study, advanced placement, potential college papers, or other New York State prizes in history.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact the office of the City Historian at (518) 841-4323, or email: rvonhasseln@amsterdamny.gov

2015**FLORENCE DURAN MEMORIAL/HISTORICAL AMSTERDAM
LEAGUE PRIZE IN AMSTERDAM HISTORY****2015****STUDENT INFORMATION**

NAME

AGE

STREET ADDRESS

APT

CITY/STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

SCHOOL

GRADE

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

TITLE of PAPER

REMARKS

CERTIFICATIONS***CONTESTANT:***

I hereby certify that that I have read the rules of the competition and that the attached paper is my personal effort.

DATE: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS:

I hereby certify that the above named student is a senior in this institution in good academic and disciplinary standing and a citizen of the United States.

DATE: _____

PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE: _____

HOME SCHOOLERS:

I hereby certify that the above named student is a senior in good academic and disciplinary standing and a citizen of the United States.

DATE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____