

Tenth Young Historian Award (YHA) (2018-2019)

Given the National Archives interest in the UAE's history and the memory of the nation documentation, it has focused its attention on upholding its mission to preserve the UAE history, culture, and heritage, disseminating them through purposeful projects from which the youth and successive generations would benefit. The school trips competition, which has been going on for 10 years, was one of the early projects. The National Center for Documentation and Research (currently the National Archives) has published the work produced by school students, namely Zayed and Education, Zayed and Women, Zayed and Development, Zayed and the Environment and the Three Emirati Islands, etc.

Pursuant to its ongoing approach in preserving the UAE history, culture and heritage, the National Archives launched and sponsored the Young Historian Award in collaboration with the Ministry of Education in 2009. Thus, the NA is pleased to announce the launch of the Ninth Award for the academic year 2018-2019, trusting the competition will serve its purpose, become widely, and witness a quantum leap in the future.

Award Objectives

- Promoting the sense of belonging, loyalty, and national identity.
- Raising young people's historical awareness and helping them develop their skills in terms of critical analysis.
- Promoting original and creative thinking and expression, and the adoption of innovative approaches in research.
- Encouraging research in the history of the United Arab Emirates through the ages from prehistoric to modern times and making it accessible to successive generations.
- Protecting UAE's heritage by collecting historical documents, oral narratives, poems, lyrics, memoirs, thoughts, old correspondence and photos, as well as other sources that make up the UAE history in all its aspects, and making all the above available to researchers and interested parties.
- Promoting interest in the study of anthropology, tribes, genealogy and the dialogue of civilizations.

Award Themes

- The study of genealogy, tribes, personalities and oral history narratives;
- Poetry, folklore, proverbs and memories;

- Correspondence, photos and old collections
- Handicrafts, and bazars (markets);
- Historic and archaeological sites and traditional architecture;
- Marine life, pearl diving and fishing;
- Folk Medicine;
- Research on the centennial anniversary of the birth of Sheikh Zayed (1918-2018), e.g. Zayed the Founder, Zayed and Women, Zayed and Humanitarian Work, Zayed and Charity, etc.;
- Martyrs of duty and matters related to them in the community;
- Lessons and examples in moral education, highlighting prominent Emirati figures recognized for their wisdom.

Award Categories

Oral history: recording oral history, and studying genealogy and personages in the UAE.

Geographical History: Research on history and geography: UAE historical monuments, figures, and archaeological sites.

Economic History: Research and interviews on UAE handicrafts, handiwork and cottage industry.

Social History: Research into social life in the ancient and modern UAE.

Targeted Educational Stages

1st Group: Cycle Two: For students in Grades 5 to 8

2nd Group: Cycle Three: For students in Grades 9 to 12

Note: Research writing is only intended for the Cycle Three group. However, students from grades 5 through 8 may prepare reports on one aspect of the UAE social, economic or geographic life, provided the report is less than ten pages long.

Participation Procedures

Schools participation is optional. Requirements are as follows:

- 1- Fill an application form for the desired category, namely Oral History, Social History, Economic History, and Geographical History. The proposed annual plan for implementing the competition program should be attached and sent to both the Students' Activity

Department at Ministry of Education and the Education and Knowledge Department. In turn, such departments will pass on the application to the National Archives.

- 2- If necessary, workshops to explain the guidelines of the research projects will be held for supervisors.
- 3- All students' projects must be submitted in two copies: a soft copy on a USB or a floppy disc and a computer printed hard copy.
- 4- Valid ID cards of participants and supervisors must be attached.

Terms and conditions for accepting written research papers and oral interviews

Only works that adhere to the following will be accepted:

1. Organization and Content:

- Cover page: Includes the title of the award as well as organizers and sponsors, full names of team members, school name, educational zone, and school address (both mail and email). The inner cover can be used for writing the address.
- Introduction: A brief summary of the subject.
- Body text or subject matter.
- Conclusions shall be concise, accurate and original.
- Sources, documents and references shall be included in page margins.
- Table of contents pagination.
- Attach with the written work: recording of oral interviews, written transcriptions, and photo and illustrations.
- Submissions must be original, well-researched, using documented sources.

2- Number of Pages:

Cycle Two: (Grades 5 to 8) no less than 10 pages report.

Cycle Three: (Grades 9 to 12) for joint research papers a maximum of 30 – 50 pages, size A4, including bibliography, provided that appendices and documents are included in the page count.

3-Printed Research:

- The research paper shall be printed in Arabic and shall include headings and sub-headings, while adhering to research content and organization.
- The research should be word-processed using Simplified Arabic, font size 14, with double spacing, leaving a 2.45 cm margin on all sides.

Research papers that are hand-written or do not include sources, references or footnotes will not be accepted.

Research papers shall be submitted in both hard and soft copies. If the soft copy is missing, the work will be disqualified.

Projects Acceptance Criteria

1. Each school is entitled to submit more than one work.
2. The number of participants in each project shall not exceed 3 male or female students, provided that no student may participate in more than one project. The prize will be shared equally among the winning team members if they exceed the said number.
3. Only one supervisor shall be assigned to each project.
4. The research must be into the fields specified within the award categories.
5. No more than 20% of the research paper may be copied from a book, the internet or any published source.
6. The research must be an original work that has not been previously published in any citable form.
7. The research must not have participated in any previous competitions and awards in other events or places.
8. The research must be characterized by credibility, documentation, analysis and diversity in sources.
9. The researcher must adhere to the scientific methodology in writing his/her research.
10. 3D models will not be accepted, and the research should be submitted in a hard copy in addition to a soft copy on a USB or CD.
11. Field research must be documented, historical events and archaeological sites must be recorded, and the historical value and authenticity of such personalities and sites should be highlighted, provided that field research and events are recorded in films or pictures.
12. Each participating team must sign the attached declaration and the award participation form for each selected category.

Note: All research papers must be submitted in Arabic only.