

A Message about CMHF and COVID-19

To the History Fair community,

In response to the coronavirus/COVID-19 and in accordance with direction from the relevant governmental and public health agencies, the Chicago Metro History Fair is announcing the following for the 2020 contest season:

The Junior Division Metro Regional contests scheduled for March 28 at University of Illinois-Chicago will be converted to a “Virtual” History Fair.

Students will not gather and meet at UIC. Instead, projects will be photographed/recorded and submitted for online viewing by remote judges. All students working on all project categories should continue to work on their projects. **The History Fair is NOT canceled, and all projects registered for regional competition will be judged.**

A decision about the Senior Division Finals, scheduled for April 21 at the Chicago History Museum, has not yet been made.

To be clear, we have no reason to believe that any person directly associated with History Fair is carrying the coronavirus and believe that the risk of transmission remains low. We strongly encourage everyone to follow all relevant guidance from all public health agencies to reduce the possibility of transmission.

I want to thank our community for their patience and understanding as we make and communicate our decisions around this challenging situation.

How We Made Our Decision

- On Thursday, March 12, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot held a joint press conference in which they urged community events drawing over 250 people to cancel or postpone (the Junior Division Metro Regional contest draws over 250 people across a wide range of ages in each of the morning and afternoon sessions);
- University of Illinois-Chicago has suspended all university-sponsored events with more than 50 people until further notice and cancelled most in-person classes;
- Some of our participating Junior Division schools have barred school-related travel or outside events, making their participating in an in-person event impossible.

Additional messaging for students, teachers, and judges will be emailed directly.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding. Stay tuned to our social media channels and website, listed below, for the latest updates.

Sincerely,

Tyler Monaghan



CMHF Manager

www.chicagohistoryfair.org

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This message is only relevant to the Chicago Metro History Fair. For the latest information about the Chicago History Museum, please visit www.chicagohistory.org