



616 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, CA 93454
Smvhsmuseum@outlook.com
www.santamariahhistory.com
(805)922-3130 Hours Tues - Sat, 11 – 4 pm

Santa Maria Valley History Day Art Contest 2026

Celebrating the 250th Birthday of The United States of America

Sponsored by the Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum and the Captain Henry Sweetser Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

Students from the Santa Maria Valley are invited to present their historic research for the possibility of **their work being displayed at The Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum.**

Who? ALL Santa Maria Valley Students! There will be 3 classes of competition: Elementary School, Middle School, and High School. Various winners from each category will have their work presented in The Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum.

What? Think of this as a type of “**History Fair**” where all types of exhibits can be submitted. Posters, paintings, collages, dioramas, photography, sculptures, pottery, papier-mâché, mobiles, videos (3 min), or other types of creative medium that illustrates and explain either a segment of Santa Maria Valley History or history surrounding the American Revolution will be accepted.

When? The Deadline for submissions will be on Wednesday, May 1, 2026 at 4:00 PM to The Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum, 616 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, CA 93454. **AWARD CEREMONY and OPEN HOUSE** on Saturday, June 6th at 1 pm.

Where? YOUR Historic Research and Display **COULD BE** on display at The Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum from June 6th through September 2026.

Why? The Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum wants to engage the young people of the valley in terms of what interests them and then doing research on those topics so as to educate all those who visit The Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum.

How? With the help of your teachers, parents, and friends, come up with a topic of interest, explore what are the most important facts to share about your topic, and then come up with a fun, creative manner in which to illustrate your ideas to a museum audience. Please include an artist statement up to 250 words.

Please read the guidelines and fill out the entry forms that were given to each school district and is on the www.santamariahhistory.com website

This contest will be shared with each school district in the Santa Maria Valley. With hope, your schools and teachers will aid potential historical researchers and exhibitors with what should be an amazing exhibit of work done exclusively by **YOUNG PEOPLE** coming to The Santa Maria Valley Historical Society Museum with opening on June 6th, 2026.

There is no cost to participate.

GOOD LUCK and HAVE FUN!