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For immediate release

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Cab Students Part of National History Day Student Filmmakers Showcase

National Museum of African American History and Culture Selected Student Films to be Showcased by Smithsonian Learning Lab

Wilmington, DE: The Delaware Historical Society is proud to announce that a ten-minute documentary about the experiences of Hollywood's first Chinese Movie Star Anna May Wong by students at Cab Calloway School of the Arts is one of 35 selected nationally to be part of an online showcase presented this week by National History Day® (NHD), the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), and the Smithsonian Learning Lab.

The films were produced by middle and high school students competing in the 2020 NHD National Contest and were screened and selected by NMAAHC staff.

The student films will be available to stream online for one week via the Smithsonian Learning Lab at s.si.edu/NHDShowcase2020, from Wednesday, June 17 through Wednesday, June 24. The documentary showcase was originally planned to be screened in the Oprah Winfrey Theater of the NMAAHC but will now take place online because of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

To be selected for the showcase, students needed to address topics and stories in their documentaries consistent with the mission of the NMAAHC. The films also reflect the 2020 NHD theme, *Breaking Barriers in History*.

"This is an incredible honor for these students and their *Breaking Barriers in History* films to have been selected by the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, a barrier-breaking institution in its own right," said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. "Months and years from now, they will think back fondly on this week when their documentaries were viewed and experienced by people around the world visiting the Smithsonian Learning Lab and the documentary showcase."

Cab students Shareen Qazi and Kylie Leung produced "The Actress Who Died a Thousand Deaths: Anna May Wong and Racism in Hollywood" under the guidance of teacher Erin Sullivan, whose students have frequently taken part in Delaware National History Day and been selected for national recognition.

"We are always grateful to Ms. Sullivan and her colleagues for participating in the History Day contest, especially this year when COVID-19 forced us to move the event from a day-long showcase to one online," said Rebecca Fay, Director of Education at DHS. "We are very proud of the students' work and all the Delaware national entries."

About the Delaware Historical Society

The Delaware Historical Society owns and operates the Delaware History Museum; the Jane and Littleton Mitchell Center for African American Heritage; a nationally recognized Research Library; Old Town Hall; Willingtown Square, four 18th-century houses surrounding a picturesque urban courtyard located in downtown Wilmington; and the National Historic Landmark Read House & Gardens located in New Castle. For more information, call (302) 655-7161, email deinfo@dehistory.org, or visit www.dehistory.org.

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About National History Day Delaware

National History Day Delaware is a year-long history education program that challenges students in grades 6 through 12 to engage in historical research, analysis and interpretation, and creative expression through project-based learning. National History Day Delaware promotes civic, career, and college ready skills necessary for the 21st century. National History Day Delaware has been sponsored by the Delaware Historical Society for more than 20 years.