

# Comal Independent School District

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Comal ISD student Garcia inspired at National History Day competition**

Micaela Garcia made Comal ISD history this summer, as she became the first-ever Comal ISD student to compete at the annual National History Day competition held in Washington D.C.

Garcia, who completed her research paper project in Rodney Carter's Pre-AP U.S. History class at Church Hill Middle School, will be a freshman at Canyon High beginning in August.

The National History Day competition, which celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, was held on the University of Maryland campus. This year's theme was "Innovations in History: Impact and Change."

Garcia qualified with a project titled "Elevating History," a research paper that analyzed the historical impact of elevators with a unique examination and use of primary resources from the New Braunfels area.

Students from around the United States, its territories, and Department of Defense schools around the world were eligible to compete. Garcia competed at the junior level, which included grades 6-8.

While her research paper didn't finish in the top three out of 60 contestants at the event, Garcia said she wasn't disappointed. During her stay, she participated in opening and closing ceremonies, was interviewed by judges, and took a tour of Washington D.C.



“The whole experience was very inspiring,” Garcia said. “We got to see the Lincoln Memorial all lit up at night. I’ve never seen anything like that. Before, history was just something I read in textbooks. This competition and what I was able to see during my trip makes me want to accomplish even more as I continue my education.”

Linda Dreibrodt, Comal ISD social studies curriculum coordinator, said Garcia is an outstanding representative of Comal ISD.

“We’re very impressed by Micaela’s accomplishment,” Dreibrodt said. “This is a great honor for Micaela, her family, and the school district.”

The competition began at the campus level, and the top two finishers in each category at the district history fair advanced to the regional level in San Antonio. After finishing first in the research paper category at the regional level, Garcia’s entry advanced to the state competition in Austin, and then to nationals.

Garcia also qualified for the state competition last year with an individual exhibit display on Audrey Hepburn.

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IN PHOTOS: Micaela Garcia stands in front of the *Statue of Freedom* in the Capitol Visitor Center in Washington, D.C. Garcia, an eighth-grader at Church Hill Middle last school year, participated in National History Day festivities in June.

Comal ISD student Micaela Garcia reads the Declaration of Independence in the Rotunda of the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. Garcia was one of only two middle school students from Texas to participate in the National History Day competition held on the University of Maryland campus this summer.

