

# 2021 HAYS ARTS COUNCIL FAMOUS FIGURES PROJECT

## Ellis County Finals - Final Competition details to be confirmed!

### Project Information:

\* "Famous Figures" is a competition open to 5th grade students in Ellis County. Students present themselves in character and costume as a famous person in history. The character can be living or deceased, but NOT fictional – and, the “Famous Figure” is to represent character traits of a **POSITIVE** role model.

\* **This program promotes thinking in a creative manner, the use of research skills, writing, organization, awareness and appreciation of the qualities of positive leadership, as well as developing acting and public speaking skills. *\*\* utilize the included judging form to prepare and direct student skills and development.***

\* At this time, we are working on how it this year’s project will culminate. With gathering restrictions & COVID-19 protocols in place at FHSU through the end of May, we will NOT be able to hold our traditional final competition in Beach/Schmidt. We are exploring the option of recording each school’s finalists at individually scheduled times, using the same location & conditions for all contestants. With that uniformity, judges could evaluate & compare contestants in a fair and equitable manner. Following the results of judging, ALL finalist performances would be uploaded to our website for public viewing . . . and of course, for you to share in your schools!

\* Schools are allowed two (2) contestants for each 5th grade classroom - to be determined however you choose (by the students, teachers, judging panel, etc.). ***\*\* An equal number of finalists DO NOT have to come from each 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom . . .finalists can indeed be chosen from the collective 5<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment, as long as long as the number of finalists is equivalent to 2 per the number of classrooms.***

\* Each presentation will be made in costume, performing as the character she/he has chosen to portray. Any historical character is eligible - many instructors tie the choices to a particular class project: famous authors; early American history; local history; United States presidents/leaders; religious, military, civil rights, medical & scientific leaders; musicians, actors, artists; etc. Fictional characters are NOT eligible. Encourage students to think creatively and to select someone whose personal attributes, characteristics & accomplishments **they admire.**

\* The performance is to be approximately three (3) minutes (*deduction if under 2 or over 3 ½ minutes*). \* Minimal props are allowed if needed. The Hays Arts Council will have available two (2) chairs, small table, and an easel available (*students are responsible for anything else*).

\* Since students will not be performing “live” in front of judges, there will be NO impromptu question component.

\* Each entry is to be one person performing as one character - no duet performances are eligible (ex. – the Wright Brothers as one entry)

\* Deadline for the submission of the two (2) classroom entries is **4:00pm Wednesday, April 28.** BUT, we also ask that you contact us by April 1 with a confirmation as to whether you plan to participate or not. The Hays Arts Council number is 625-7522 – or you can email to [bmeder1038@aol.com](mailto:bmeder1038@aol.com).

\* The times for the video recordings will be scheduled for your school’s student finalists for sometime during the week that begins May 3. Judging and announcement of winners will take place during the *following week.*

\* All county-final contestants will be awarded engraved medals with the 1st through 5th place finishers also receiving trophies. Medals & trophies will be delivered to schools (or can be picked up) by Friday, May 14.

*This project is supported annually by the Hays Rotary Club  
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