October 2, 2015

Dear Teacher,

I would like to invite your school to participate in the Fifty-fourth Annual Northern Illinois Regional History Fair at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb on **Saturday, February 27, 2016**.

History Fair plays a crucial role that encourages the study of history among our youth and is one of this state's truly unique educational events. The History Fair is an educational opportunity for students to share their research with each other and the community. It is also an excellent teaching tool to meet Common Core.

Each year students in grades 6-12 from the northern region participate in the Fair by writing research papers, designing websites, creating projects, and performing original skits that deal with topics of Illinois history. We invite your school to submit research papers, websites, exhibit boards, documentaries, and/or student performances. Research papers and website entries are due Friday, January 8, 2016, and projects will be evaluated on the morning of the fair, Saturday, February 27, 2016. Last year we had over 450 students from 28 schools participate in the Northern Illinois Regional History Fair.

We would be pleased if you would honor the Fair with your school’s participation. Each school will be recognized in an announcement that will be made available to hundreds of students, parents, teachers, and visitors. Teachers can also earn 4 Professional Development Hours by volunteering as judges.

For more information and regular updates, please visit the following websites:
Northern Illinois Regional History Fair - http://www.niu.edu/clasep/fairs/history/index.shtml
Illinois State Expo - http://state.il.us/hpa/illinoishistoryfair.htm
National History Day - http://nationalhistoryday.org/Contest.htm

If you are interested in having your school participate and/or would like to learn more about the Northern Illinois Regional History Fair, please call (815) 753-5200, e-mail HistoryFair@niu.edu, or return the enclosed registration form.

I hope to hear from you soon!

Sincerely,

Anne M. Petty Johnson
Director