

Process Paper

Why I chose this topic:

In 6th grade, I did a small amount of research on Malala for an example in my Patriot's Pen essay. I thought it seemed really interesting and I knew that there wasn't going to be anyone else with the topic. I like learning about human rights and I thought that this would be the perfect topic to learn about. Malala's name is known world wide but the story behind her being shot isn't.

How I conducted my research:

To start of my research, I read a book made by Malala about the main part of the story I wanted to focus on. Then, I did simple google searches to find out basic information. For example, "What did Malala do?" and "Who is Malala?" These questions lead into ones more like, "What was Malala's first speech?" and "What did Malala's father do to help?" Lastly, I got into more detailed ones like, "Where was Malala shot? What is the name of the Taliban leader? What are the thoughts of the other people that were on the bus with Malala?" This helped me get all the information I needed to know. These searches also helped me find primary sources along with other specific investigations. I was adding primary sources and doing google searches until I submitted my project. There was always more material that could be added in.

How I selected my presentation category and created my project:

I wanted to do something other than an exhibit because I knew a lot of people were going to be executing that. My first idea was to do a paper but all of my friends told me that it would be a mistake and I wasn't really interested in a documentary. My next idea was a website and that was what stuck. It took me a long time to figure out what to do but in the end I think my work carried out. The platform was challenging to use in the beginning, but after spending hours on it, everything started to run smoothly. I'm glad I didn't take the easy way out and decided to do something a little out of my comfort zone; I'm not very good with technology.

How my project relates to the National History Day theme:

This topic is about a young girl that felt as if the education system favored males. She did as much as she could to win over rights for women. The theme this year was "breaking barriers". Malala shows this in all the protesting she did as well as the pain she has had to go through. In the end, she has helped a lot of girls in Pakistan go to school and she travels around the world giving inspiration to others. She broke the barrier of women's rights in Pakistan, which easily connects to the National History Day theme.