

GLOBAL NATURAL HISTORY DAY

BEHRING GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



The Behring Global Educational Foundation Program

Guide
Book



www.gnhd.international

Content

Introduction 3

Mission 3

History 3

Structure 4

Teams 4

Overview 4

Annual Theme 5

Costs 5

Awards 5

Participation 6

Create an Entry 6

Enrollment 6

Retrieve your Password
6

Categories 7

Step by Step 8

Judging 9

Judges 9

Evaluation Process 9

Criteria 9

General Rules 10

Written Material 12

Schedule 13

Contact 13

Introduction

GNHD™, sponsored by Behring Global Educational Foundation, is a well-rounded program for elementary through high school students. Each year, participants select topics which are related to the theme of that year to conduct their own research projects. Participants can take initiative to find primary sources, talking to scientists, curators, librarians, and other sources they can think of. During every level of GNHD™, they will have opportunities to present (or perform) in front of judges who are well-respected professionals and experts from different backgrounds.



The logo of Global Natural History Day©

Mission

Global Natural History Day is designed to inspire elementary through high school students' interest in natural history and science. It engages students in real world learning experiences that challenge and excite them to get outdoors and explore their environment. In the program students develop problem-solving abilities, cultivate leadership skills, improve cross-cultural understanding, and create a sense of awareness of the present and future of the natural world.

History

GNHD™ was launched in 2012 in Shanghai, China. The inaugural theme was 'Biodiversity' and involved more than 500 students. Participation enormously increased in its second year with around 2200 students representing provinces throughout China as well as Hawaii. The theme for the second year of GNHD™ was 'Great Migrations'. In 2014, the theme was 'Adaptability, Resiliency, Sustainability.' GNHD 2015, the theme was 'Nature's Great Events' and in 2016 theme was 'Guanxi: Relationships in Nature.'

In only five years, GNHD continues to expand, with more students from a growing list of cities and countries participating each year. Since 2012, more than 8,539 students have joined GNHD.

In 2017 the international league will be enlarged, as teams from Hong Kong, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, the United States, Myanmar, Vietnam, Philippines and many countries in Southeast Asia region and its neighbors will participate in the program. The theme for 2017 is '**Scales of Nature: From Micro to Macro.**'

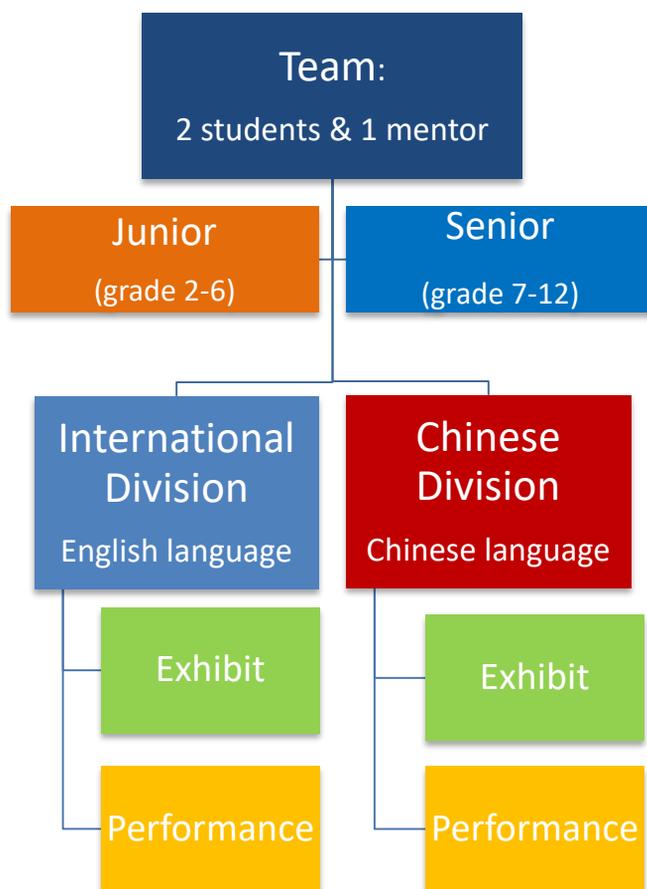


Structure

Global Natural History Day (GNHD) is a program organized by the Behring Global Educational Foundation.

- GNHD is built up from several geo-political divisions (Cities in China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Hawaii, San-Francisco, Myanmar, Vietnam, Philippines, Bhutan, and etc.).
- The Chinese league uses the Chinese language, the international league uses the English language.
- GNHD falls in two categories apart:
 - **Junior (grade 2-6)**
Grade 2-6 (China, United States, South-Korea, Taiwan)
Prathom 2-6 (Thailand)
Primary School 2-6 (UK, Hong Kong, Singapore)
小学校 2-6 (Japan)
 - **Senior (grade 7-12)**
Grade 7-12 (China, United States, South-Korea, Taiwan)
Matthayom 1-6 (Thailand)
Secondary School 1-6 (UK, Hong Kong, Singapore)
中学校 1-3 & 高等学校 1-3 (Japan)
- Students can choose to present their results in an exhibition or a performance.
- A GNHD Team works closely together with museums, educational institutions, partner-NGOs, governmental officials, media and sponsors.

Overview



Teams

A team

- can consist of maximum two students.
- has to be guided by an adult (a teacher, parent or educational specialist).
- has to be registered on the website www.gnhd.international
- can only be registered by an adult.

Global Natural History Day organizes in two levels:

- Regional Selection will be organized
 - in the period March-June 2017.
- Global Finals will be take place
 - At Chongqing Natural History Museum, China;
 - On 19-25 July, 2017.



'Bring Back the 'Crabibat', a Little House of Hermit Crab'
Exhibit at the 2017 Global Finals in Shanghai

Annual Theme

The 2017 Theme is

'Scales of Nature: From Micro to Macro'



The logo of the 2017 Theme of GNHD

Costs

There is no cost to register and participate in GNHD. Travel expenses to the GNHD Global Finals are paid by each participant if they qualify for the Finals.

Awards

All participants in GNHD™ will receive an official certificate of participation.

Winners of the **Regional Selections:**

- Will have the possibility to participate in the Global Finals in Chongqing;
- Will receive official certificates.

Winners of the **Global Finals:**

- Will be awarded medals;
- Will receive official certificates;
- Will receive other non-cash awards;
- Will have the opportunity and receive funding to go on a Kenneth E. Behring Discovery Trip to a location known for its natural history. The winners of 2012 traveled to the United States of America. The winners of 2013 went on a trip to South-Africa, the winners of 2014 went on a trip to either China or New-Zealand, the winners of 2015 went on a trip to Thailand. And the winners of 2016 went to Finland.



GNHD Certificate

Participation

GNHD™ programs are open to all students and teachers without regard to race, sex, religion, physical abilities, economic status, or sexual orientation. GNHD™ does not discriminate against or limit participation by physically challenged students. GNHD™ staff and affiliate coordinators strive to accommodate students with special needs.

Create an Entry

Registration on the official website of GNHD:
www.gnhd.international

Registration > Create an Entry

- Registration information for the **mentor**:
- Registration information for the **students**:
- Participating teams can log in on the official website www.gnhd.international to confirm their participation.

Registration > Entry Confirmation > Enter registration code > Apply

Please pay attention: After the registration the team is only registered. To participate in the competition, the mentor has to enroll the team in the 'Entry Confirmation' section.

Enrollment

After the team is successfully registered, it is possible to enroll for an event.

Registration > Entry Confirmation > Select Semi-final Rounds or Global Finals > Enter the registration code.



Students and mentors prepare their exhibits at the Global Finals in Shanghai

Retrieve your Registration ID

If you have lost your registration ID and would like to retrieve it: Registration > Retrieve Password > Enter your email address

Categories

Students can choose to present the research results in a exhibit or performance.

All official rules GNHD International Division are available in the Rule Book. Materials > 2017GNHD : Rule Book.

PERFORMANCE

A performance is a dramatic portrayal of your topic's significance in natural science and must be original in production. It must be scripted by you based on research of your chosen topic. Your performance should have dramatic appeal, but not at the expense of scientific information.



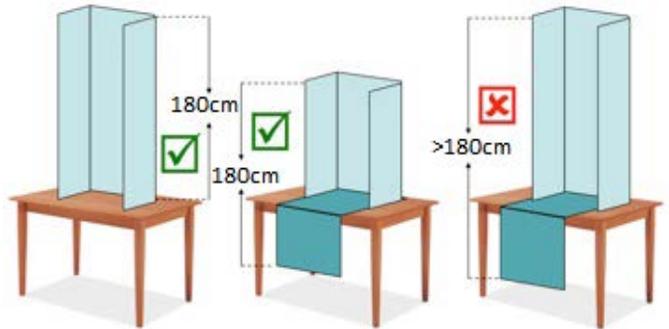
A performance at the Global Finals in Shanghai

Performances may not exceed **8 minutes** in length. Timing starts at the beginning of the performance following the announcement of the title and student name(s). Any other introductory remarks will be considered part of the performance and will be counted as part of the overall time. You will be allowed an additional **3 minutes** to set up and **3 minutes** to remove any props needed for your performance.

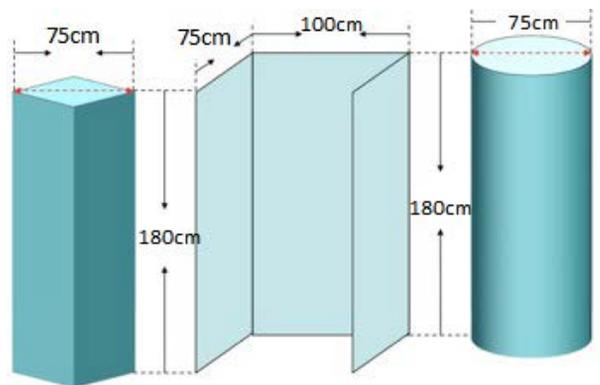
EXHIBIT

An exhibit is a visual representation of your research and interpretation of your topic's significance in natural science. The analysis and interpretation of your topic must be clear and evident to the viewer. Labels and captions should be used creatively with visual images and objects to enhance the message of your exhibit.

The overall size of your exhibit must be no larger than **100cm wide, 75cm deep, and 180cm high**. Measurement of the exhibit does not include the table on which it rests; however, it would include any stand that you create and any table drapes.



Circular or rotating exhibits or those meant to be viewed from all sides must be no more than **75cm** in diameter.



Step by step

1. Choose a Topic

Natural history is a broad field offering endless possibilities for exploration. Feel free to focus your project around any plant, animal, or other living organism of your choice. However, your research and project conclusions must clearly relate to the annual theme of **'Scales of Nature: From Micro to Macro.'** Limiting the scope of a topic will keep research, analysis, interpretation, and presentation tasks manageable.

2. Ask Good Research Questions

Good research is guided by good questions. What do you already know about this topic? What do you hope to learn about your topic? How can you find answers to these questions? Taking the time at the beginning to create a research plan is a big first step toward success.

3. Doing your own Research

At beginning, this involves researching books at the library, seeking out credible information on the Internet, and visiting museums, zoos and botanical gardens. and

Furthermore, you can interview scientists and other experts in this particular area, or start your own experiment.

4. Use Data To Draw Conclusions

What did you determine about your topic's past, present, and future? How has it shown (or not shown) itself to be adaptable and resilient in the past? What discoveries did you make about its current adaptability and

resiliency? What projections can you make about its' sustainability into the future? How can humans use these discoveries to make the world a better place?

5. Report Your Findings

All competitors are required to submit a process paper that includes a description of how you chose your topic, how you conducted your research, how you created your project, and how your project relates to the theme. A list of references that have contributed to your entry is also required.

Materials > 2017GNHD : Written Materials (print)

6. Share Your Discoveries In an Exhibition Or Performance

You may choose to share your findings in an exhibit or a presentation. An exhibit is a visual representation of your research and interpretation of your topic's significance in nature, much like a small museum exhibit.

A performance is a dramatic portrayal of your topic's significance nature and must be original in production. It must be scripted by you based on research of your chosen topic. Your performance should have dramatic appeal, but not at the expense of factual information.



An exhibit team at the Global Finals in Shanghai

Judging

All the official rules for GNHD are available in the 2017 Rule Book.

Materials > 2017GNHD : Rule Book

Judges

Natural scientists, educators, and other experts who possess experience serve as judges in the GNHD.



Judges discussing projects during the Global Finals

Evaluation process

Judges follow a non-numerical, consensus (agreement) process. Each judge completes an evaluation form and is highly encouraged to provide helpful feedback. After reviewing the entries in a set, the judges adjourn to discuss the merits of each entry.

Criteria

1) Natural Scientific Quality

The most important aspect of your entry is its natural scientific quality. You should ask yourself the following questions to help you focus on your analysis:

- a) Is the entry natural scientifically accurate? Is it deviated to Humanity, History or Social Science?
- b) Does my exhibition/presentation demonstrate wide research of my topic rather than draw conclusions from limited materials?
- c) Does my entry demonstrate an understanding of natural scientific context?
- d) Does my entry provide the analysis and interpretation of your own rather than only quoting others' opinions?
- e) How well does my entry demonstrate effective use of resources combined with Written Material?
- f) How well does my entry demonstrate a balanced and comprehensive research content of the topic? Rather than concluding subjectively right or wrong?

2) Relation to the Annual Theme

Your entry must explain clearly the relation of your topic to the annual Global Natural History Day theme. You should ask yourself the following questions to help focus your topic on the theme and its significance.

- a) How does my topic relate to the theme?
- b) Why is my topic important?
- c) How is the significance of my topic in nature related to the GNHD theme?
- d) What impact did the species or phenomenon of my topic have on nature?

5) Set-up

You are responsible for setting up your own exhibit, equipment, or props on Check-in or Judging day. You may have reasonable help carrying them, but set-up must be completed by you and your teammate.

6) Equipment/Supplies

You are responsible for supplying all props and equipment at each level of GNHD™. All entries should be constructed keeping transportation, set-up time, size, and weight in mind (e.g., foam core v. solid oak for an exhibit; folding table v. antique desk for a performance). Power of electricity and the projection screens are available. You will provide any and all other supplies and equipment necessary for presenting your entry.

7) Discussion with Judges

You should be prepared to answer judges' questions about the content and development of your entry. You will not give a formal, prepared introduction narration or conclusion. Let the judges' questions guide the interview. Ultimately, your entry should be able to stand on its own without any additional comments from you. You should be prepared to explain the design, research, and creation of your entry if questioned by the judges. Judges need to know that your entry is the result of your own work.



A student answering questions of the judges at the Global Finals in Shanghai

8) Costumes

Participants in the performance category may wear costumes related to the focus of their entry. Participants in the exhibition category may wear costumes during the time their projects are being judged. The costumes have to relate to their exhibition and chosen research topic.



Students wearing costumes during the presentation of their exhibit at Global Finals in Shanghai.

9) Prohibited Materials

Items are potentially dangerous in any way – such as weapons, firearms, animals, organisms, plants – are strictly prohibited. Such items will be confiscated by security personnel or contest officials and may result in disqualification. Replicas of such items that are obviously not real are permissible. Please contact your teacher and contest coordinator to confirm guidelines before bringing the replica to a contest.

10) Title

Your entry must have a title that is clearly visible on all written materials.

Written Material

- Title Page
- Process paper
- Annotated bibliography

These materials must be typed or neatly printed on A4 paper, and stapled together in the top left corner. Do not enclose them in a cover or binder. You must provide five copies of these materials in order to submit at all levels of competition.

These materials are available on the website www.gnhd.international

Materials > GNHD2017 : Written Materials

Title Page

A title page is required as first page of written material in both categories. Your title page must include only the title of your entry, your name(s), and registration code and category in which you are entered.

The screenshot shows the 'Written Material Title Page' form for GNHD 2017. It includes the following sections:

- Entry Code:** A grid of boxes for entering the code.
- Entry Title:** A text field for the title.
- Division:** Radio buttons for 'Junior' (Grades 2-4) and 'Senior' (Grades 7-12).
- Category:** Radio buttons for 'Exhibit' and 'Performance'.
- Stage:** Radio buttons for 'Regional Semifinals' and 'Global F'.
- Process Paper:** A section with a 1000-word limit and four questions:
 - How did you choose your topic?
 - How did you conduct your research?
 - How did you select your entry category and create your project?
 - How does your project relate to GNHD annual theme?
- Annotated Bibliography:** A section with a 1000-word limit and a table for listing sources. The table has columns for Author, Title of the Book, Publisher, Year, Page, and Date. Below it is a table for 'Other: Title, Journal and Date' with columns for Title, Source, and Date.

Written Materials Form

Process Paper

All entries must include a process paper with the entry. It must describe in 1200 words or less how you conducted your research and created your entry. The process paper must include four sections that explain:

- How did you choose your topic?
- How did you conduct your research?
- How did you select your entry category and create your project?
- How does your project relate to GNHD annual theme?

Annotated Bibliography

An annotated bibliography is required for both categories. List only those sources that contributed to the research, sources that provide usable information or new perspectives. Sources of visual and audio materials and oral interviews must be included. The annotations for each source must explain how you used the source and how it helped you understand your topic.

Format

Use the following format for annotated bibliography:

Book:

Author, *Title of the book* (Publisher, Year) Page.

Journal:

Author, "Title of the article", *Title of the Journal* (Year, edition) page.

Newspaper:

Author, "Title of the article", *Name of the newspaper* (Year-month-date) page.

Others:

including title, source and date.

Plagiarism

You must acknowledge in your annotated bibliography all sources used in your entry. Failure to credit sources is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.

Schedule

Online Registration

From Jan to May, official website “registration” portal opens for Semi-finals Selection.

From Mar – Jun 10th, registration opens for Global Finals at Chongqing Natural History Museum.

Semi-Final Selection

- a) From Mar – May, Semi-Final Rounds
- b) From Mar – Jun 10th, registration open for Global Finals in Shanghai.

Global Finals

The Global Finals will be held in Chongqing at Chongqing Natural History Museum on 19-25 July, 2017.



Contact

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Website

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General inquiries or questions

If you have any questions or you want to have more information, please feel free to contact us:

@: info@gnhd.international

@: www.gnhd.international

