



# The South Dakota Historic Preservation Office

announces the

Archaeology & Historic Preservation Month 2023

## 4th GRADE STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST: *“This Place Matters”*!

Celebrated each May, South Dakota Archaeology & Historic Preservation Month was created to acquaint the public with the disciplines of archaeology and historic preservation and to strengthen the enduring bond between the past and the present!

This competition proposes to enable students to achieve a better appreciation of our state's history and historic resources, the stories they tell, and why they should be preserved for future generations. With the theme of “This Place Matters,” students are asked to write an essay about any South Dakota location that is at least 50 years old, why it is a favorite place for them, and why it should be preserved. The place they choose does not need to be a historic site and students do not need to write a full history of the location. The contest is open to any 4th grade student in South Dakota, whether they be in public school, private school, or home schooled.

Entries will be judged on quality of writing, content and theme, and originality of thought. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The 1st place winner will receive a \$200 cash prize, the 2nd place winner will receive a \$100 cash prize and the 3rd place winner will receive a \$50 cash prize. Each place winner will also receive a one-year (\$55 value) family membership to the South Dakota State Historical Society.

The entry must be postmarked no later than March 17th, 2023. Winners will be notified on or before April 14th, 2023.

For more details, including complete guidelines and the entry form, please visit our webpage at <https://history.sd.gov/preservation/archhpmmonth.aspx> or contact Katie Goss at (605)773-2907 or

