

Swedish Eustory – 2009/2010 history competition

We launched our second history competition at our first award ceremony on the 29th of May 2009. The topic for this competition was “local heroes”. Leaflets with information on this competition were sent out to schools before summer holidays. We also sent a reminder to the schools at the beginning of September. During the fall we presented the history competition in some local schools together with lectures on the topic “hero”.

The information about the second history competition was of course also available on our website: www.svenskaeustory.se

On our second history competition we wanted the theme to be broader than on our first competition that’s why we choose a rather open subject – local heroes. This meant that the students could write about almost any person they considered to be a hero – a person who was famous nation wide or a person who was famous in perhaps just a small village. The idea was that they should focus on why this person could be considered a hero.

When we reached the deadline for the competition, on the 25th of January, we could count 41 contributions – 11 more than last year. The contributions came from schools all over Sweden but with the main focus on the southern part of the country. Eleven of these essays were chosen for the finals and the jury could eventually pick three award winners who stood out among the others.

Like last year the winner this year, Sofia Hansen, also came from Hässleholm and she had written about Wilhelm Wendt who founded a very important vinegar factory in Perstorp. The essay which came second was also written by a student from Hässleholm, Patricia Drougge-Cervin. Her essay focused on the filantropic work of Anton Andersson. The third award winning essay was written by Linn Bendahl from Kristianstad and she focused on a local priest in the 19th century, Carl Abraham Bergman. The three winners were invited to the award ceremony at Kristianstad University College on the 4th of June. They received books, diplomas and flowers for their outstanding work. Sofia Hansen also received a sum of money and was chosen to take part in the Youth Academy in Switzerland together with other European award winners.

During the award ceremony we also launched our third history competition – this time we choose the topic “Rebels and Revolutions – Movements of resistance and protest in a local perspective”. With this topic we hope to receive even more contributions than during our previous competitions.