

“Breaking Barriers in Medicine: The Mayo Brothers and Mayo Clinic”

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The topic for my National History Day Project is the Mayo Brothers and Mayo Clinic. Growing up, I had an interest in the field of medicine and I want to be a doctor when I grow up. Mayo Clinic and their facilities have always fascinated me. When I began to work on NHD, I knew that I wanted to do something connected to medicine. My parents both work for our Mayo Clinic Health System. Growing up, I would see my mum studying and this would interest me. Since my NHD project is medicine related, I decided to use this as an opportunity to delve into the roots and heritage of Mayo Clinic as they have greatly influenced medicine: They are the Mayo Brothers. The rest is history.

For my research, I searched online for the main facts and what inspired the brothers to venture into the field of medicine. After finding out basics, I encountered the History and Heritage webpage for Mayo Clinic on which I found a timeline of important events in the history of Mayo Clinic. This was one of my most useful websites during my research. Most of the websites I used had related articles which made my research easier. I also read books which helped me understand the Mayo Brothers as individuals and their reasons for everything they did. In conclusion, my research was conducted mostly online and the rest of it through books as this helped me see my research from another perspective.

To create my project, I read through the rulebook first to make sure I wouldn't make any mistakes. Firstly, I began to work on my homepage. I knew that I had many things required on this page, so I looked at what was needed and checked those boxes. At the beginning, I struggled with understanding the NHD platform and how to make my website look the way I wanted it to while still showing good historical quality. After reading tips, having help from my teachers and spending time messing around I gained knowledge about the software that made it easier to create my website. After rereading important notes and deciding what pictures were website worthy, I created my website. To assist me, I contacted Mayo History Social and was provided with many sources. I chose this category because I think it's an interesting way to portray history and make it easily accessible at the same time.

My topic fits this year's theme 'Breaking Barriers in History'. The barriers which have been broken in medicine have solved many problems, saved lots of lives and given hope to the

hopeless. The brothers faced challenges regarding religious differences and underestimation. Because of the hostility they faced, doctors refused to join them because they believed they were doomed to fail. Even though they faced opposition from all sides, the brother's dared to be different: they did surgeries that had never been attempted before. And because of their courage and bravery, they made history.