Belarus Competition 2013/2014

The competition "1939 in the Memory of Inhabitants of Belarus" was the first one organised within the framework of the Belarusian Oral History Archive project. It was conducted by the Youth Public Organisation "Historyca" in cooperation with the Public Association "Dyjaryush".

The competition "1939 in the Memory of Inhabitants of Belarus" was announced on the 15th of October 2013. It consisted of two parts:

- 1) The main competition was held till the 15th of May 2014. It was intended for school pupils and college students.
- 2) An additional competition was held from the 6th of June till the 15th of July 2014. It was intended for school and colleges students under 21 years of age. This part of the competition called for creative works (movies, photo stories, etc.), based on the memoirs of eyewitnesses to the events of 1939. Not mandatory was the use of the respondent's questionnaire, including links to the used interview, etc.

The papers were submitted to the competition jury by the 20th of July 2014: 5 papers for the main competition and 5 works for the additional competition. Competition participants came from three regions of Belarus: 5 from the Minsk region, 4 from the Brest region and 1 work from Vitebsk. Only one work was from the regional centre, and there was no work from the capital, although the greatest number of information events were held in Minsk. Four works came from rural areas, the rest from inhabitants of the cities.

The members of the competition jury were: Andrew Kishtymov, Irina Koval, Alexander Kravtsevitch, Igor Kuznetsov, Nina Stuzhynskaya.

By the 15th of August 2014 the decision was made. And the winners were:

Main contest:

1st place: "Western Belarus between 1921 and 1939 and the BSSR reunification in the memories of Kamenetchyna inhabitants" by Gurinovich Polina, Cherutich Anna, "Belovezhskaya high school", agro-town Belovezhski, Kamenets district, Brest region. Supervisor: Gurinovich L.M.

2nd place: "Mahro land and September 1939" by Rozhkovec Alexander "Mahrowskaja high school", v. Mahro, Ivanovo district, Brest region. Supervisor: Romaniuk V.A.

3rd place: "Historical pages of Stolbcy town school education. Polish gymnasium" by Kuyanova Milena, Shainov Roman, Kanatopava Polina, Gymnasium №1, t. Stolbcy, Minsk region. Supervisor: Nazarenko P.S.

Special prize of the organising Committee: "Reunification of the Western Belarus and BSSR in the memories of witnesses" by Olesya Davydenko, School №1, Zhodino, Minsk region. Supervisor: Apanasevich S.M.

Additional contest:

1st place: "From Warsaw to Berlin, the story of a soldier..." by Denis Kravchenko, Vitebsk. **Creative work prize:** "Airplane" Pribysh Christina, v. Zakozel, Drahichyn district, Brest region.

All participants were awarded with special prizes and mementos. In addition, the winners' works are posted in a special section of the web page of the Belarusian Oral History Archive project (http://www.nashapamiac.org/archive/getrubrics.html?rubricId=3), and later will be published in the conference "September 1939 in historical tradition and oral history" proceedings.