

STUDENTS – Talk to Your Social Studies or History Teacher Today to Apply for The Harriet Elizabeth Brown Award

Sponsored by
the Calvert County Commission for Women
for
the 2014 Calvert County History Fair – Junior and Senior Divisions

Consider focusing your History Fair project on Calvert County's own civil rights pioneer, Harriet Elizabeth Brown. This is a perfect fit with the 2014 National History Day Competition theme – *Rights and Responsibilities in History*.

In 1937 – more than 75 years ago – this brave 30-year-old teacher successfully sued Calvert County Public Schools for paying African-American teachers about half of what equally qualified white teachers received. Her 29-year-old NAACP attorney, Thurgood Marshall, later became the first African-American Supreme Court Justice.

Ms. Brown passed away – at age 101 – in 2009, not that long ago. Many of her friends and coworkers are still with us today – *primary sources* you could interview.



The Calvert County Commission for Women is sponsoring the Harriet Elizabeth Brown Award for History Fair Projects from both Middle School and High School students that focus on, for example:

- Her lawsuit and the subsequent settlement;
- Her life and times;
- The equal opportunity issues – overt salary discrimination – in her lawsuit and settlement; or
- Other issues that place Harriet Elizabeth Brown's role in a historical perspective.

Co-sponsors include:

- Calvert County Branch of the NAACP
- Calvert County Heritage Committee
- Calvert County Historical Society
- Calvert Retired School Personnel Association (“Retired Teachers”)
- Concerned Black Women of Calvert County
- Friends of the Old Wallville School
- Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum
- League of Women Voters of Calvert County

Questions about the Harriet Elizabeth Brown Award? Contact Margaret Dunkle, Chair, Calvert County Commission for Women, at mdunkle@gwu.edu

Time Line

January & February 2014 – Calvert County middle and high schools' History Fair contests

March 22, 2014 – Calvert County History Fair competition and awards, Plum Point Middle School

May 3, 2014 – Maryland History Day State competition and awards – University of Maryland, Baltimore County

June 15-19, 2014 – National History Day events, competition and awards – College Park, MD (*Kenneth E. Bebring National History Day Contest*)