

Guidelines for Celebrate Fremont Oral History Projects

Although an oral history is generally a word-for-word recording or report of a person's personal story, in the interests of time, the Celebrate Fremont Education Team Oral History project will accept entries that are written accounts, videotapes, audio recording or skits that incorporate the real facts of a Fremont resident's life but may be edited for length. Interviewees may be lifelong residents or recent arrivals.

The Celebrate Fremont Heritage Team also is collecting Oral Histories, but those will not be entered into the Education Team Contest. The grade-level divisions for the Oral History contest will be the same as the writing contest. (Fill in details.)

Written interviews should be a maximum of 1,000 words. Recorded interviews and skits should not exceed five minutes.

The Heritage Team has provided the following interview guidelines:

The central theme of the project is Fremont, so the following three questions should be included in every interview:

- How and why did your family come to Fremont?
- How has Fremont changed during the time you have lived here?
- What are your hopes and expectations for the future of Fremont?

Interview tips

Ask the person being interviewed to fill out a general information form before the interview.

- Research the history of the times your interviewee will be discussing.
- Create a set of questions to guide the interview.
- Have the interviewee sign a release form if the interview is to be displayed or published.

Resources

Storycorps.net (On-line question generator)

Dohistory.org (Outlines for an history project)

Release forms, information forms and a sample question guideline are available from the Celebrate Fremont Education Team at 659-2594