This National History Day group consists of the twins Sasha and Sawyer Neely. They eventually decided on the topic of Nikola Tesla: forgotten genius who created the future. They first heard of the inventor Nikola Tesla from their mother, who greatly appreciates all of Tesla’s feats. They conducted their research by reading through both primary and secondary source books found at their school and home libraries. Tesla published many of his findings as scientific papers, both for his own use and for the enjoyment of others in national magazines; primary sources were readily available for them to read through. They established their website through the NHD Weebly web page developer, and they separated their topic into four main sections – an overview of Tesla’s accomplishments, Tesla’s in-depth biography, Tesla’s most notable inventions, and Tesla’s main adversaries. Sawyer focused on the overview of Tesla’s accomplishments and his biography (which includes his early life, middle life, and late life). Meanwhile, Sasha focused more on Tesla’s inventions and his competitors.

The topic of Nikola Tesla: forgotten genius who created the future, greatly relates to the National History Day theme of leadership and legacy. Nikola Tesla is not given as much credit as he should for the development of the advanced technology we enjoy in today’s society. He pioneered the effort of making electricity available to the public, and without his Alternating Current system of electricity the luxuries of today such as television and heating in the winter we would probably not have. He developed countless other inventions, such as the x-ray (which is used in countless hospitals around the globe) and the laser (which militaries often use in conjunction with their weapons). Tesla led a revolution of science and technology; his inventions and discoveries boosted the work-ethic of the scientific community and gave way to many more innovations that are still in use today. Nikola Tesla will forever live on in the modern-day developments of wireless technology, and many of the devices we treasure today are because of Tesla’s imagination and willingness to explore what makes the world tick.