

# CHICAGO METRO HISTORY FAIR 2020 SUMMARY STATEMENT FORM

Attach an annotated bibliography (AB) that is divided between primary and secondary sources.  
Submit two copies of the SS and AB at the competition. *Please type.*

Student name(s): Cooper Komsthoeft

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Title: James "Cool Papa" Bell The Color Barrier

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*Check if applicable (and respond to Question 3):*

This project uses the 2020 National History Day theme: Breaking Barriers

Project Category:

<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Research Paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Media Documentary	<input type="checkbox"/> Performance
<i>Student Composed Word-Count</i>	<i>Student Composed Word-Count</i>	<i>Student Composed Word-Count</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Time</i>
	1484 Words			

## 1. THESIS STATEMENT

Present the project's argument or interpretation in two sentences. If you are using the NHD theme, you might want to make it evident in your thesis statement.

From the moment Cool Papa Bell stepped on the field in 1922, he helped break the barrier that no one thought could be broken, the color barrier. Back then no black men had the chance or choice to be in the major leagues, and with his greatness he helped change that.

## 2. SUMMARY OF PROJECT

Briefly explain your project and its conclusion. Include: How and why did change happened and what was the impact? Why is it historically significant? What historical meaning or importance can we learn from your findings?

James "Cool Papa" Bell played baseball in the Negro Leagues for 25 years while raising attention to African Americans everywhere. At the beginning no one in the Negro Leagues had ever imagined of going into the MLB but with decades of hard work and showmanship, they broke the barrier and got into

the league. This extraordinary event wasn't important only to baseball players, this event would be remembered forever and used as a reference for all African Americans.

### **3. INTEGRATION OF THEME**

Required for projects using the National History Day (NHD) theme: Breaking Barriers

#### **PROCESS**

- A. What historical question did you start off with—and how did it change once you begin doing your research?

What did Cool Papa Bell do to help African Americans get into the MLB? Once I started the project my question didn't really change.

- B. What kinds of sources did you use as evidence to develop your argument (for example, letters, photographs, government documents, interviews, etc.)?

I used Letters, pictures, newspaper articles, and interviews.

- C. Select one piece of evidence that you used and explain how it influenced your argument.

One piece of evidence that I used was an interview where he talked about how and where he can hit the ball. This helped my argument because if people have interviews with him and he is talking about how he can do everything he must have been great.

- D. List libraries (other than school), museums, and other institutions that you visited to do your research. The only other place that I went to was the Chicago History Museum.