



Law Day 2023 Essay Contest - “Civics, Civility, Collaboration” San Bernardino County Superior Court

Eligibility

All students in grades 6-12 or the equivalent, attending public or private school, or are home schooled, within San Bernardino County may enter the essay contest.

Prompt

In recent years, tensions in our democratic system have revealed deep divisions in American society. These divisions are aggravated by incivility in public discourse and insufficient understanding among many people about the Constitution and the way American government works. Together, however, we can work to overcome our differences, resolve our disputes, and preserve our democracy and republic.

Choose one of the following concepts and write a 250-500 word essay on what it means to you: civics, civility, collaboration.

Rules

1. Essays must be a maximum of 500 words, typed in Times New Roman, 12 point font, and submitted as PDF or Word files.
2. Essays must be original, and the exclusive work of the student entering the contest in idea, design, and execution.
3. Essays may not include any copyrighted characters (i.e. comics and/or television characters), photographs, magazine or newspaper illustrations.
4. Submissions will not be accepted or eligible if they include any content that contains or appears to contain:
 - Profane, obscene, or inappropriate images or language
 - Any derogatory characterization of any person or group based on age, race, color, gender, gender identity, citizenship, creed, national origin, physical appearance, political affiliation, union membership, etc
 - Any actual or apparent copying or other infringement of another’s intellectual property
5. All expenses involved in preparing and submitting an entry are the entrant’s responsibility.
6. All submissions must include the student’s name, grade, age, teacher’s name, teacher’s email, school name, and school address.

Submission Form

Send the essay to the San Bernardino County Superior Court by email to asingh@sb-court.org by the final deadline on **May 19, 2023**.

Please include the following information in the submission:

Student Name _____

Grade _____ Age _____

School _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Teacher's Name _____

Teacher's Email _____

Awards

One first place winner and two runner ups will be chosen in each grade range: 6th-8th and 9th-12th. The first place winner will receive a personalized prize from the court. The second and third place winners will also be receiving an award.

Selection of winners and runner-ups will be based on originality, creativity, adherence to the theme, and overall quality. With the permission of the winning students, their essays may be published in official court communications (newsletter, website, social media)!

About the Contest

The Essay Contest is sponsored by the San Bernardino County Superior Court. The San Bernardino Superior Court will select winners among the eligible entries that, in the sole discretion of the committee, meet the minimum quality standards and best reflect the theme.

All submissions and related intellectual property rights become the property of the San Bernardino County Superior Court upon receipt and are not returned to the artist, his/her parents/legal guardians, instructor/teacher, school, state, or any other person(s) claiming a right, title, or other interest in the poster.