LAW DAY:

THE BACKGROUND

In 1958, President Eisenhower promulgated the first Law Day, U.S.A. as “a day of national dedication to the principles of government under law.” Every year since, the President has officially promulgated Law Day as a celebration of our commitment to the rule of law, “an occasion for rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under the law.” That great commitment is enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, and has been reaffirmed by the words and deeds of great Americans throughout our Nation’s history.

The North Carolina Bar Association and its Young Lawyers Division, through a formal proclamation by the Governor of North Carolina, celebrate Law Day on the first Friday in May.

Intended to be a fun and challenging experience, the Law Day Poster Art Contest offers an opportunity for North Carolina students in third through fifth grades and their respective schools to participate in Law Day and potentially earn rewards in recognition of their efforts.

Enclosed is the 2018 Poster Art Contest Packet, with a detailed description of the contest, eligibility and contest rules.

CONTEST AWARDS

Two prizes will be awarded in each category during the Law Week Ceremony in Raleigh on Friday, May 4, 2018.

First Prize:
$300 and a plaque of recognition [same to school]

Second Prize:
$200 and a plaque of recognition [same to school]
The U.S. Constitution sets out a system of government with distinct and independent branches—Congress, the Presidency, and a Supreme Court. It also defines legislative, executive, and judicial powers and outlines how they interact. These three separate branches share power, and each branch serves as a check on the power of the others. “Ambition must be made to counteract ambition,” James Madison explained in Federalist 51. Why? Madison believed that the Constitution’s principles of separation of powers and checks and balances preserve political liberty. They provide a framework for freedom. Yet, this framework is not self-executing. We the people must continually act to ensure that our constitutional democracy endures, preserving our liberties and advancing our rights. The Law Day 2018 theme enables us to reflect on the separation of powers as fundamental to our constitutional purpose and to consider how our governmental system is working for ourselves and our posterity.

Contest Rules

1. Posters must be made entirely by the contestant.
2. Entries should be no smaller than 8 ½ inches by 11 inches and no larger than 14 inches by 22 inches. Participants are free to use paints, magic markers, colored pencils, or any other medium that is suitable for mailing.
3. Unless otherwise indicated, each entry must have the following information attached on the back of the poster in order to be considered:
   (a) Student’s full name;
   (b) School name, address and phone number;
   (c) Submitting teacher’s name;
   (d) Student’s home address and phone number; and
   (e) Student’s grade level and age.
4. Judges will be chosen by the Young Lawyers Division, and each poster will be reviewed comparatively with the other posters submitted. Judges will look for posters that show creativity, imagination, and thoughtfulness.
5. All entries become the property of the Young Lawyers Division of the North Carolina Bar Association. The first, second and third place posters will be returned to these three contestants on May 4, 2018, at the Law Day Awards Ceremony. All other entries can be returned only if a self-addressed, postage paid envelope is submitted with the entry. The envelope must be of adequate size to hold the poster(s) to be returned.

Contest Timetable

Winter 2017:
Contest Announcement

March 2, 2018:
POSTMARK DEADLINE
Posters must be postmarked on or before this date to be eligible.

April 2018:
Winners notified

May 4, 2018:
Law Day 2018;
Awards presented at the annual Law Day ceremony in Raleigh

Please mail entries to:
YLD c/o Will Walton
wwalton@ncdoj.gov
P.O. Box 629
Raleigh, NC 27690

Questions

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Will Walton, wwalton@ncdoj.gov, or Jacquelyn Terrell jterrell@ncbar.org, Staff Liaison to the Young Lawyers Division.

Eligibility:
The Poster Art Contest is a contest limited to children enrolled for the 2017-2018 year in grades 3-5.