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.

The Law Day Poster Art Contest

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 2021 Poster Art Contest Packet, with a detailed description of the contest, eligibility and contest rules.

CONTEST AWARDS

Three prizes will be awarded in each category during the Law Week Ceremony which will be held virtually this year.

First Prize: A plaque of recognition and $750 to the school

Second Prize: A plaque of recognition and $500 to the school

Third Prize: A plaque of recognition and $250 to the school
The Law Day 2021 theme is “Advancing the Rule of Law Now.” The rule of law is a set of principles, or ideals, for ensuring an orderly and just society. Many countries throughout the world strive to uphold the rule of law where no one is above the law, everyone is treated equally under the law, everyone is held accountable to the same laws, there are clear and fair processes for enforcing laws, there is an independent judiciary, and human rights are guaranteed for all.

The rule of law is the bedrock of American rights and liberties—in times of calm and unrest alike. The 2021 Law Day theme—Advancing the Rule of Law, Now—reminds all of us that we the people share the responsibility to promote the rule of law, defend liberty, and pursue justice.

**Contest Rules**

1. Posters must be made entirely by the contestant.
2. Physical 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. Computer generated posters designed by contestants are an alternative to physical posters. Digital entries must be submitted via email.
4. Unless otherwise indicated, each entry must have the following information attached on the back of the poster or included in the email of a digital submission 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 a parent’s email address and phone number; and
   (e) Student’s grade level and age.
5. 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.
6. 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 by mail.

**Contest Timetable**

**Winter 2020:**
Contest Announcement

**March 6, 2021:**
**POSTMARK DEADLINE**
Posters must be postmarked on or before this date to be eligible.

**April 2021:**
Winners notified

**May 7, 2021:**
Law Day 2021;
Awards presented at the annual Law Day ceremony which will be held virtually this year (more information to be provided).

Please mail or email entries to:

YLD c/o Kayla Russell
Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC
110 Oakwood Drive, Suite 500
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
krussell@spilmanlaw.com

Questions If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Kayla Russell, krussell@spilmanlaw.com or Cheyenne Merrigan, cmerrigan@ncbar.org, Staff Liaison to the Young Lawyers Division.