Law Day Poster, Essay and Video Contests

Contest Overview

- The Pennsylvania Bar Association and Pennsylvania Bar Foundation are pleased to announce the Law Day Poster, Essay and Video contests for students. The theme for this year’s entries is “Miranda: More than Words.”
- The winning students will be honored during the PBA’s Law Day ceremony in May 2016 and will each receive a $100 prize for poster and essay entries. For group or class video submissions, the winning class will receive a single $100 prize. The deadline for entry is March 31, 2016.
- A student may submit one entry in the poster contest, one entry in the essay contest and be part of a class entry in the video contest.
- Lesson plans have been provided on the PBA website to coincide with the contest theme. This contest helps schools meet Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Civics and Government across all grade levels as well as Pennsylvania Academic Standards for History.

Poster Contest Rules

1. The poster contest is open to all K-12 students in Pennsylvania.

2. One poster entry per student will be accepted. An entry form must be completed in full and included with the poster. The entry form must be signed by the student artist, the student’s teacher and a parent or guardian of the student. The entry form is available on the PBA website, www.pabar.org/lre.asp.

3. Each poster must be an original art composition created by the student. The entry must be the actual work of only one student. Adults may support the student’s effort with suggestions and other forms of verbal assistance; however, the work produced must be the product of the student’s own effort.

4. The poster must be 8.5 inches x 11 inches. The design may be vertical or horizontal. The “Miranda: More than Words” message may be communicated as creatively as possible using ink, tempera, powder paint, water colors, oil or magic marker. No computer-generated posters will be considered.

5. Entries will be judged by a review panel from the PBA’s Law-Related Education Committee.

6. Judging categories will be grades K-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12.

7. Winning students in each of the grade categories will receive an award during the PBA’s Law Day ceremony in May 2016.

8. All entries must be postmarked by March 31, 2016.

9. All entries, including posters and other submitted materials, become the property of the PBA and will not be returned. Entries may be reproduced by the PBA in any form and for any purpose. The PBA reserves the right to modify any poster for reproduction purposes.

10. Entry in this contest constitutes permission for the artwork and artists to be photographed for publicity purposes without compensation to the students, teachers, parents or guardians.

11. All federal, state and local regulations apply. Void where prohibited by law. Taxes on any prizes are the responsibility of the winners and their families.

Please send your poster and entry form postmarked by March 31, 2016 to:
Pennsylvania Bar Association
Law Day Contest
100 South Street
P.O. Box 186
Harrisburg, PA 17108-0186
Essay Contest Rules

1. The essay contest is open to all K-12 students in Pennsylvania.
2. One essay entry per student will be accepted. An entry form must be completed in full and included with the essay. The entry form must be signed by the student writer, the student’s teacher and a parent or guardian of the student. The entry form is available on the PBA website, www.pabar.org/lre.asp.
3. Each essay must be an original composition, created by the student, that addresses the Law Day theme “Miranda: More than Words.” The entry must be the actual work of only one student. Adults may support the student’s effort with suggestions and other forms of verbal assistance; however, the work produced must be the product of the student’s own effort.
4. The essay may be typed or neatly and legibly handwritten.
5. Entries will be judged by a review panel from the PBA’s Law-Related Education Committee.
6. Judging Categories will be grades K-3; 4-6; 7-9; and 10-12.
7. All winning students in each of the four categories will receive an award during the PBA’s formal Law Day ceremony in May 2016. Winning essays may be featured on the PBA website at the discretion of the judges.
8. All entries must be postmarked by March 31, 2016.
9. All entries, including essays and other submitted materials, become the property of the PBA and will not be returned. Entries may be reproduced by the PBA in any form and for any purpose.
10. Entry in this contest constitutes permission for the essays and writers to be photographed for publicity purposes without compensation to the students, teachers, parents or guardians.
11. All federal, state and local regulations apply. Void where prohibited by law. Taxes on any prizes are the responsibility of the winners and their families.

Class Video Project Contest Rules

1. The video contest is open to all K-12 students and classes in Pennsylvania.
2. One entry per group of students will be accepted. Students may also enter the essay and poster contests.
3. The teacher submitting this entry must have signed permissions/releases from students and their parents/guardians for them to participate in this project. Videos may be played for the public, including through the PBA website. Only the school name, grade and teacher’s name will be used publicly to identify the project. Students’ names will not be published.
4. Classes should compose video projects that communicate what the Law Day theme, “Miranda: More than Words” means to them. Each project must be original and created by the class. Teachers/adults may support the students’ efforts with suggestions and other forms of verbal and technical assistance.
5. The project should be no longer than five minutes and may be as short as 30 seconds.
6. Examples of what is meant by video project include a PowerPoint type presentation, an original rap, a student commercial, etc. Be creative.
7. Entries should be submitted on DVD or thumb drive.
8. Entries will be judged by a review panel from the PBA’s Law-Related Education Committee.
9. Judging Categories will be grades K-3; 4-8; and 9-12.
10. Winning students in each of the three categories may be recognized during the PBA’s Law Day ceremony in May 2016. Winning projects may be featured on the PBA website at the discretion of the judges.
11. An entry form must be completed in full and included with the entry. The entry form is available on the PBA website, www.pabar.org/lre.asp.
12. All entries must be postmarked by March 31, 2016.
13. All entries become the property of the PBA and will not be returned. Entries may be reproduced by the PBA in any form and for any purpose.
14. Entry in this contest constitutes permission for the students and teachers to be photographed and the video to be broadcast for publicity purposes without compensation to the students, teachers, parents or guardians.
15. All federal, state and local regulations apply. Void where prohibited by law. Taxes on any prizes are the responsibility of the winners and their families.