



# 2017 Courtroom Artist Contest Information and Rules

## About the Courtroom Artist Contest

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The *Courtroom Artist Contest* is open to high school students, to allow artistically talented students the opportunity to participate in the mock trial program. Artists observe trials and submit sketches that depict actual courtroom scenes. Participants can be part of a team or enter on their own. The top 8 finishers from the qualifier contests will be invited to participate in the state mock trial competition.

## Participation

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- ✓ **Registering with a mock trial team:** Each mock trial team may register one courtroom artist per team (up to three courtroom artists per school). A team does not have to have a named artist at the time of registration, but when the team submits their roster, they must list the artist. An artist who participates with a team will still compete solely on their own efforts and will NOT be considered as part of their school's team in terms of advancing or not advancing to the state competition.
- ✓ **Registering separate from a mock trial team:** Up to three students may compete from any high school, even if the school does not have a mock trial team.
- ✓ **Advancement to the state competition:** Eight artists will advance to the state competition. The Center for Civic Values will cover the lodging for the artist and (for artists who are not part of a mock trial team only) a chaperone whose school is more than 50 miles from Albuquerque.

## Important Dates

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Mark these dates on your calendar:

- ✓ **Thursday September 1, 2016:** 2017 Registration Begins
- ✓ **Saturday, December 31, 2016:** Registration Deadline
- ✓ **Friday and Saturday, February 17-18, 2017:** Qualifier Competition in Albuquerque
- ✓ **Friday and Saturday, March 17-18, 2017:** State Competition in Boise
- ✓ **Thursday to Saturday, May 11 to 13, 2017:** National Competition in Hartford, CT
  - The state champion team usually travels the Tuesday before Nationals

## Procedures and Rules

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- ✓ Students from schools who do not have a mock trial team must complete and submit the entry form and have a teacher sponsor from their school. Artists who are competing as part of mock trial team **DO NOT** need to submit a separate entry form.
- ✓ Up to three students per school from schools that do not have a mock trial team may enter the *Courtroom Artist Contest* by filling out and submitting the entry form which can be found on the CCV website [www.civicvalues.org](http://www.civicvalues.org).
- ✓ Once submitted, students will receive a confirmation of their entry along with a *Code of Ethical Conduct Form* and a permission slip authorizing the reproduction and publication of their work that must be signed and returned prior to the date of the qualifier competition in which they choose to participate.



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- ✓ All submissions become the property of the Center for Civic Values and may be used for any purposes deemed appropriate, including, but not limited to reproduction and dissemination.
- ✓ Artists must supply their own materials. As it is not likely that artists will have a hard surface to draw on, it's suggested they carry a clip board or hard backed sketch pad.
- ✓ On the day of the competition, artists who are not part of a mock trial team will check in with mock trial staff and receive an artist's badge that they must wear during the day. Artists who are part of a mock trial team will have their badge in the team packet.
- ✓ Submitted drawings must be on 11" x 17" paper, drawn in a horizontal format. Artists may use any dry medium (e.g., pencils, charcoals, color pencils, pastels), but if using charcoals or pastels, some type of spray sealer to reduce smudging must be used.
- ✓ Sketches must depict an actual courtroom scene observed during a trial. Artists may make as many draft sketches as they wish, but may only submit one sketch.
- ✓ Because pictures may be reproduced, they need to have a strong enough line and shading value to be seen clearly once scanned.
- ✓ On competition days, artists will create sketches during the first two rounds of competition at qualifiers and, for those who move on to state, during the first two rounds.
- ✓ Those artists competing with a team, will be with their teams during competition rounds. Those artists not competing with a team will be randomly assigned to a court room.
- ✓ At the beginning of each round, artists will introduce themselves to the court and then seat themselves in the jury box or the front row of the gallery.
- ✓ Once seated, artists may not have contact with anyone else. Artists must create their drawings completely independently.
- ✓ During the final round of competition artists will be in designated rooms where they can complete their drawings.
- ✓ Artists must place a filled out entry label, provided by mock trial staff, on the back of the submitted work of art. Artists must not sign the front of their entries or the entry will become ineligible.
- ✓ Prior to leaving the competition, artists must turn in their work to designated mock trial staff.
- ✓ Entries will be judged on accuracy of proportion, realism, authenticity with regard to traditional courtroom sketching, figure/ground relationship, and use of contrast.
- ✓ Winning drawings will be displayed at the offices of the Center for Civic Values and reproduced for press releases with results. They will also be sent to local media and statewide media.

### For More Information

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For questions, contact Kristen Leeds, Center for Civic Values, at (505) 764-9417 or [kristen@civicvalues.org](mailto:kristen@civicvalues.org).