

2017 Law Day

Presented by the Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library and the Highlands County Bar Association



The Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library and the Highlands County Bar Association are pleased to announce that Law Day 2017 will be held in May 2017.

As an annual series of events celebrating our legal system, Law Day has taken great significance and become a special day for Highlands County. Our courts are in recess as we hold our day-long program, and our focus turns entirely to our students and their civic education. Many county, circuit, and district judges, as well as Florida Supreme Court justices have attended the Law Day program.

Information and entry forms for each contest are enclosed with this packet. The prizes for these contests, which include cash awards, will be awarded by the Law Day Keynote Speaker and a Circuit Judge of the Tenth Judicial Circuit at the conclusion of Law Day. Additionally, **each student submitting an entry will be entered in a drawing for a NEW 16 GB iPad Mini 4.**

At our Law Day ceremony in May, every teacher with a student winner will be asked to stand with their student and be recognized, allowing parents and the press an opportunity for photographs.

All submitted posters will be displayed on the windows in front of the Highlands County Government Center.

In conjunction with Law Day, members of the Highlands County Bar Association are available to come to your individual classes to speak to your students about the importance of our nation's legal system and this year's Law Day theme:

"The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy"

As we approach the 150th anniversary of the Fourteenth Amendment, the theme explores how the Due Process and Equal Protection clauses of this transformative amendment served as the cornerstone of landmark civil rights legislation, the foundation for court decisions protecting fundamental rights, and a source of inspiration for all those who advocate for equal justice under law.

Please contact Ray Hancock, Law Day Volunteer Coordinator, at (863) 402-6621 or rhancock@hcclerk.org to schedule a time and date for the attorneys to meet with your students. All efforts will be made to schedule an attorney speaker with your class on your desired date and time, provided you notify Mr. Hancock as soon as possible.

2017 Law Day Essay Contest

Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library
and the Highlands County Bar Association



PRIZES:

First, second and third place winners will receive cash prizes along with gold, silver, or bronze Olympic style medals, and be recognized at Law Day's televised award ceremony at the Highlands County Government Center. **All students submitting an entry will be automatically entered into a drawing for a NEW Apple iPad Mini 4.**

ELIGIBILITY:

Any individual student enrolled in a Highlands County public, private, or home school in Grade Levels K - 1, 2 - 3, 4 - 5, 6 - 8, and 9 - 12 in Highlands County.

ESSAY THEME:

**“THE 14TH AMENDMENT:
TRANSFORMING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY”**

CRITERIA:

The age of the participant will be considered. Essays will be judged on:

- Content
- Adherence to the theme
- Personal reflection
- Originality

Essays must be typed and double-spaced on one side of 8½” x 11” paper. (Elementary entries may be hand written.) All entries must be the student's individual, original work. If you are quoting someone, please give proper credit. **A completed registration form must be stapled to each essay. Do not put your name on the front of the essay.**

All essays may be published and will remain the property of the Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library.

The Law Day Committee welcomes all entries that relate to the contest theme. However, the Committee reserves, within its discretion, to right to disqualify any entry that is deemed to be offensive or not related to the theme of the contest.

DEADLINE:

Completed essays must be delivered to the Law Library no later than 4:30 p.m. on **Friday, March 10, 2017** or they will be disqualified.

CONTEST MATERIALS:

Contest forms can be found at www.HighlandsBar.com

Students can find additional information on Law Day at the American Bar Association site: www.lawday.org, but please be aware that the contest rules for Highlands County are not the same as national contests.

For more information, contact:

Ray Hancock
Law Librarian
Telephone: (863) 402-6621
E-mail: rhancock@hcclerk.org

Address:
430 South Commerce Avenue, Room 302
Sebring, Florida 33871

2017 Law Day Poster Contest

The Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library
and the Highlands County Bar Association



PRIZES: First, second and third place winners will receive cash prizes along with gold, silver, or bronze Olympic style medals, and be recognized at Law Day's televised award ceremony at the Highlands County Government Center. **All students submitting an entry will be automatically entered into a drawing for a NEW 16 GB Apple iPad Mini 4.**

ELIGIBILITY: Any individual student enrolled in a Highlands County public, private, or home school in Grade Levels K - 2, 3 - 5, 6 - 8, and 9 - 12 in Highlands County.

THEME: **POSTER THEMES MUST BE ORIGINAL AND MUST HARMONIZE WITH THE THEME:**

**“THE 14TH AMENDMENT:
TRANSFORMING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY”**

GUIDELINES:

1. Only individual student entries are allowed.
2. **Name and teacher name must be on the back** of the poster.
3. Original posters must be submitted on **white 12" x 18" poster board**.
4. Any non-smearable medium is acceptable such as colored pencils, markers, crayons, or paints (no glitter please.).
5. We may publish the winning entry, and all qualified posters will be displayed at the Highlands County Government Center.
6. No loose or hanging materials are permitted.
7. Each poster must depict the law day theme. A **one paragraph statement describing how the poster reflects the theme** is required on the back of the poster.
8. All entries must be accompanied by the attached Student Entry Form, glued to the back of the poster.

CRITERIA:

CONTENT:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Must reflect the theme.2. Must be the student's individual work.
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LETTERING:	Lettering should be clearly legible
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JUDGING:	The age of the participant will be considered. Other criteria for the selection of the award-winning posters are:
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1. Clarity and readability of the work
2. How well the theme was expressed
3. Artwork and execution
4. Visual impact of the poster design

Legal Disclaimer: The Law Day Committee welcomes all entries that relate to the contest theme, however, the committee reserves, within its discretion, the right to disqualify any entry that is deemed to be offensive or not related to the theme of the contest. All due care will be used to protect the posters while they are on display, but the Law Day sponsors will not be held responsible in the event of lost, stolen or damaged posters.

DEADLINE: Completed entries must be delivered to the Law Library no later than 4:30 p.m. on **Friday, March 10, 2017** or they will be disqualified.

RESEARCH: Contest forms can be obtained at www.HighlandsBar.com

Students can find additional information on Law Day at the American Bar Association site: www.lawday.org, but please be aware that the contest rules for Highlands County are not the same as national contests.

For more information, contact:

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Law Librarian
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Sebring, Florida 33871

2017 Law Day Entry Form

Essay and Poster Contest



PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Student Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____

Grade: _____ School: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

All entries must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 10, 2017 at the Law Library, 3rd Floor of the Highlands County Courthouse.

ORIGINAL WORK – NO PLAGIARISM: We reserve the right to reject work if not applicable to theme or if not student's original work.

Teacher/Group Leader verification: I have reviewed the contest entry and, to the best of my knowledge, I verify that it reflects the above-named student's original work.

Signature _____ Date _____

+If submitting a poster: PLEASE GLUE this form to the back of the poster.

+If submitting an essay: PLEASE STAPLE this form to the back of the essay.

*****DO NOT PUT STUDENT'S NAME ON THE FRONT OF THE ESSAY OR POSTER*****

The Law Day Committee welcomes all entries that relate to the contest theme; however the Committee reserves, within its discretion, the right to disqualify any entry that is deemed to be offensive or not related to the theme contest.

This entry form must be attached to your contest entry. Please mail or deliver to:

*Justice Lee McDonald Law Library, Room 302,
430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33871
(E-mail:rhancock@hcclerk.org)*

Please direct any questions to Ray Hancock, Law Librarian, at (863) 402-6621.