

2006 Law Day Essay Contest

May 02, 2006

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed May 1st Law Day to strengthen our nation's great heritage of liberty, justice, and equality under the law. Each year since, the American Bar Association, with help from local courts, bar associations and legal charities, has promoted events across the nation to celebrate Law Day. The 2006 theme of *Separate Branches, Balanced Powers* celebrates our government's doctrine of separation of powers supported by the concept of checks and balances.

Purpose: To increase understanding by youth of the rule of law and the important role a fair & impartial court plays in our democracy through interactive education and positive interaction with the judicial courts of Arizona. Through this increased understanding the ultimate goals are: to encourage positive relationships, reduce juvenile delinquent behaviors, and increase respect for each of the three branches of our democracy.

Topic: "Why fair and impartial courts are important to maintain the rule of law."

Students from 8 counties submitted essays

Over 90 community volunteers – judged student essays including attorneys and members of the Court's Community Advisory Boards

Essay contest Winners:

Winner	School	County
Mark Nichols	Academy Of Tucson	Pima
Brian Baldwin	Academy Of Tucson	Pima
Kyrstin Lynnette Hortin	Buena High School	Cochise
Brenden Herrod	Buena High School	Cochise
Becky Lund	Buena High School	Cochise
Richard E. Harasyn	Buena High School	Cochise
Samantha Pembroke	Buena High School	Cochise
Brock Johnson	Chandler High School	Maricopa
Shannon Mann	Ganado High School	Apache
Alix Ruechel	Holbrook High School	Navajo
Jennifer Koehmstedt	Northland Preparatory Academy	Coconino
Vance Marcus Bryce	Thatcher High School	Graham
Vincent T. Seropian	Yuma Catholic High School	Yuma
Sarah Sacco	Basha High School	Maricopa
Aleesa Baakko	Buena High School	Cochise