

## Courtroom Artist Contest Requirements, Procedures, and Rules

- **Registration requirements** (deadline is March 6th), all participating artists must:
  - be affiliated with a participating county Mock Trial team.
  - complete the online registration form.
  - pay a \$95 registration fee.
  - complete and submit a waiver/release form authorizing the publication or reprinting of their Artists Contest submission for educational purposes. No financial compensation will be awarded.
- **Procedures**
  - **Artist Check-in and Welcome Ceremony (March 22):**
    - 12:00 - 1:00 pm artists must check-in and collect their registration packet.
    - 1:00 pm is the Welcome Ceremony
  - **Practice Drawing - Round 1 (March 22):**
    - Introduce yourself to the scorers and identify yourself as the courtroom artist.
    - If space is available, you may sit in the jury box away from the scorers.
    - Sketch a practice drawing to take with you to the Artist Workshop.
  - **Artists Workshop (March 23 at 9:00 am in Room 522 on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor at Stanley Mosk Courthouse):**
    - All artists must attend the Artists Workshop.
    - Bring the practice drawing from Round 1.
    - Breakfast will be provided.
  - **Official Drawing - Round 3 (March 23):**
    - Introduce yourself to the scorers and identify yourself as the courtroom artist.
    - Once you are in the courtroom, you may not have any contact with anyone from your county (parents, teachers, or students). You must create your drawing completely independently.
    - At the end of Round 3, submit to the presider your artwork with just the label, received with registration packet, placed on the back of the artwork.
- **Rules**
  - The sketch must depict an actual courtroom scene that you observed during your county's Round 3 trial.
  - The art submission must be done in color.
  - The drawing must be on paper of the dimensions 11" X 14", with a horizontal format.
  - The art submission must have the artist label, received with your registration packet, placed on the back of your sketch.
  - At the end of Round 3, give your drawing to the presider. Only drawings submitted to the presiders will be entered in the contest.

- All artists must bring their own art supplies. Teach Democracy will not be providing any art supplies.

### Tips & Ideas

- ❖ Find the most newsworthy action that occurred in the courtroom. Perhaps there is an “ah-ha” moment, an intriguing witness, a shocking development with which to capture the emotion of the trial. The artist must remember that this is true reporting and must be the “eyes of the court”.
- ❖ Strive for accuracy in depicting the courtroom setting, but don’t focus on sketching a microphone instead of the witness on the stand.
- ❖ Let the viewer know right away that this is a courtroom. Include items that convey that setting but remember to tell as full a story as possible, instead of focusing on minute details.