Courtroom Art Contest Rules

Requirements:

• All contestants must be affiliated with a registered Ventura County Mock Trial team and enrolled at the team’s school.

• All participants must complete the Voluntary Informed Consent Form. No financial compensation will be awarded.

• The sketch must depict an actual courtroom scene that you observe during your team’s Round 1 - 3 trial.

• During Round 1 - 3:
  o Introduce yourself to the scorers, say your name and identify yourself as the courtroom artist.
  o You may sit in the jury box away from scorers if available.
  o Once you are seated, you may not have any contact with anyone from your school (parents, teachers, or fellow students). You must create your drawing completely independently.

• At the end of Round 2, turn in your Sketch Book at the Check In table.

• On Night 2, before Round 3, pick up your Sketch Book at the Check In table.

• At the end of Round 3, turn in the drawing that you wish to enter into the contest at the Check In table.

• 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 placed on the back of your sketch.

Tips & Ideas

• Let the viewer know right away that this is a courtroom. Include items that convey that setting, but don’t focus on sketching a microphone instead of the witness on the stand.

• Remember to tell as full a story as possible. The drawing should represent what you see but also, through the drawing, tell a story.

• 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”.