



UTAH LAW RELATED EDUCATION

Fall 2009

lre@icw.com

www.lawrelatededucation.org

Utah Mock Trials

Utah Law Related Education sponsors the mock trial competition which is open to all secondary schools in the state. Teams of up to 11 students argue a case, once as the prosecution and once as the defense. Teachers interested in sponsoring a team should contact the Utah LRE office at lre@icw.com.

We are so grateful to the hundreds of supporters who coached and judged the mock trial teams competing in the 2009 Mock Trial Program. Seventy teams competed in ninety-one playoff, quarter-final, semi-final, and championship mock trials. Many of these trials, lasting 3+ hours, were judged by a panel of two attorneys and one community representative. Together, more than 3,000 hours were donated.



The 2009 Championship Teams were Layton High School (above) and Centennial Middle School.

The 2010 Mock Trial Competition will begin February 22 and end April 7, 2010. The Mock Trial teacher meeting and Attorney CLE training will be January 19, 2010, at the Utah State Bar Law and Justice Center, 645 South 200 East, in Salt Lake City. The team registration form may be downloaded in mid-October at Utah Law Related Education's web site at www.lawrelatededucation.org/Mock_Trials/mock_trials.html. The *2009 Mock Trial Handbook*, mock trial cases, and scripted mock trials also may be downloaded at this site.

We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution

On February 2, 2009, students from Alta High School, Mountain Crest High, Orem High, Riverton High, and Sky View High participated in the State Mock Congressional Hearings at the University of Utah Student Union Building. Sky View placed first, Mountain Crest was second, and Riverton came in third. Sky View High School represented Utah at the National Competition in Washington, D. C. The 2010 State High School Mock Congressional Hearings will be held February 8. The questions for the 2010 state high school competition may be downloaded at

http://www.civiced.org/index.php?page=simulated_congressional_hearings.



Sky View High School, 2009 We the People First Place Team (above)

On January 29, 2009, students from Brockbank Junior High School, Centennial Middle, Central Davis Junior, Evergreen Junior, Oak Canyon Junior, and Sunset Ridge Middle participated in the State Mock Congressional Hearings at the University of Utah. Centennial Middle school placed first, Evergreen Junior came in second, and Sunset Ridge Junior was third. The 2010 Junior High School Competition will be held on February 11. Junior High School classes will prepare for question two in each of the six units.

Each We the People Congressional District Coordinator has 25 classroom sets of We the People textbooks to distribute free of charge to Utah schools. Schools or teachers interested in participating in the program may contact their Congressional District Coordinator.

State Coordinators

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We the People . . . Project Citizen

On April 27, 2009, the Project Citizen Showcase was held at the Utah State Bar Law and Justice Center. Bountiful Junior High School, Lehi Junior, Matheson Junior, Mountain Ridge Junior, and Pleasant Grove Junior participated in the Showcase. Utah Valley State University students served as judges. Matheson Junior High School's portfolio was selected to represent Utah at the National Showcase.

Free classroom sets of books are available for distribution by Congressional District Coordinators. Schools or teachers interested in participating in the program may contact their Congressional District Coordinator.

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Representative Democracy in America

Representative Democracy in America: Voices of the People is a national project created by the Alliance for Representative Democracy, an educational outreach program of the Center for Civic Education, the Center on Congress at Indiana University, and the Trust for Representative Democracy at the National Conference of State Legislatures. The project introduces citizens, and particularly young people, to the representatives, institutions, and processes that serve to realize the goal of a government of, by, and for the people.

For more information about the program and training opportunities in Utah, contact:

State Coordinator, Kristin D. Fink
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Constitution Day

September 17 is recognized in the United States as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. The purpose of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is to commemorate the creation and signing of the supreme law of the land and to honor and celebrate the privileges and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship for both native-born and naturalized citizens. Federal law requires that all schools receiving federal funds hold an educational program for their students on September 17 of each year. Free lessons designed to assist schools and federal agencies to meet the requirements of this law are available from the Center for Civic Education at http://www.civiced.org/index.php?page=constitution_day. In addition to the eleven lessons available to be downloaded for grades K–12, two new lessons will be posted this year. Teacher instructions and selected lessons also are available as audio downloads.



Salt Lake Peer Court

Salt Lake Peer Court is a prevention / intervention Program utilized by the Salt Lake City School District. Approximately 300 youth are referred to Peer Court each year. Offenses most commonly referred are chronic truancy, fighting, disorderly conduct, theft, vandalism, harassment, and tobacco.

Salt Lake Peer Court is

- A three part program: 1) Court Hearings, 2) Peer Mentoring, and 3) Mediation;
- An alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system and school disciplinary proceedings using a non-adversarial approach for minor offenses, for youth who are sentenced and mentored by their peers;
- A restorative justice approach to hold youth accountable for their actions, to build skills, and to strengthen their ties to school and community;
- An approach which empowers youth and communities to take an active role in addressing the early stages of youth delinquency; and
- A program that eliminates social barriers and unites youth throughout the community as they collaborate to intervene with referred youth.

For more information, check out the web site at <http://www.saltlakepeer court.org>.

Calendar of Events

2009

September 10	Dialogue on Democracy
September 17	Constitution Day
September 22	Salt Lake Peer Court Swearing-In Ceremony
September 30	WTP State High School questions posted
October 31	Mock trial registration posted
December 15	Mock trial registration due

2010

January 1	Mock trial schedule available
January 19	Mock trial teacher meeting
January 19	Mock trial attorney CLE
February 8	State High School We the People Competition
February 11	State Junior High School We the People Competition
February 22	Mock trials begin
April 19	Project Citizen Showcase
April 24	WTP National Finals
May 1	Law Day

Donors and Volunteers

Many, many thanks to our wonderful, supportive donors and volunteers. Each year over 700 attorneys and community members donate their time in one or more of our programs. Please visit our web site to see who these amazing people are.

Because of the generosity of our donors, we are able to provide civic education programs to schools and communities statewide.

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Program Office

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