



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Justices to preside over winning mock trials

For immediate release Thursday, April 18, 2013

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Students from Wood, Mineral, and Kanawha Counties will present their winning mock trials before presiding Justices in the Supreme Court Chamber on Friday, April 19.

Fifth-graders who are students of Jennifer Sisson at Jefferson Elementary in Wood County will perform their trial at 11 a.m., with Justice Margaret L. Workman presiding.

Eighth-graders from Keyser Primary-Middle School in Mineral County will present their trial before Justice Allen H. Loughry II at 1 p.m. Their teacher is Di Eary.

A combined-grade group of students from Horace Mann Middle School in Kanawha County who are students of Sarah Stover will present their trial in front of Justice Robin Jean Davis at 2 p.m.

Jefferson Elementary won the elementary category of the Supreme Court's West Virginia Law Adventure mock trial program. Keyser Primary-Middle School won the eighth-grade competition, and Horace Mann won the combined-grade competition.

Unlike other mock trial programs in which students act out scripts written by adults, West Virginia Law Adventure allows participating classes to write their own scripts based on one of three criminal case scenarios in the West Virginia Law Adventure rules book.

The case scenarios are written by the Young Lawyers Section of the West Virginia State Bar. Each participating class must act out its script in front of a judicial officer – a magistrate, family court judge, or circuit judge – before sending in its entry. Winners in each category are invited to perform their scripts in front of a Supreme Court Justice at the Capitol.

Students' trips to the local courthouses and the Supreme Court are paid for by a grant from the West Virginia Bar Foundation.

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