

MEDINA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION LAW DAY **2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

The Medina County Bar Association ("MCBA") is pleased to announce its 2021 Law Day Scholarship Contest. To be eligible, applicants must be high school seniors who reside in Medina County, Ohio. Applicants must write and submit an outstanding essay regarding the Law Day theme for Law Day 2021. At least one winner and up to five winners will be chosen depending on the number and quality of essays submitted. If only one winner is selected, a one-time \$5,000.00 scholarship will be awarded. If multiple winners (up to five) are selected, the \$5,000.00 will be evenly split among the winners. Multiple winners may receive a one-time scholarship and may receive anywhere from \$1,000.00 to \$2,500.00 depending on the number of winners.

The Law Day 2021 theme is "Advancing the Rule of Law Now". The Rule of Law is a fundamental concept undergirding justice, freedom, and representative government. It has been a guiding ideal of constitutional government that can be traced through history from various systems of law, through the Magna Carta and the United States Constitution. The United States was founded on the principle that voluntary adherence to the rule of law expands, rather than limits, the opportunity for freedom.

The Rule of Law rests upon the idea that no person is so insignificant to be beneath the law. The principle that no person is above the law means that there must be limits on government and that government officials must be held accountable for their actions.

The separation of powers among branches of the government are essential to preserving the rule of law. Moreover, an independent judiciary is essential to a free society and administration of laws.

A viable democracy requires understanding of the nature and basis of our freedoms and recognition of the individual responsibilities those freedoms impose. The Rule of Law requires an educated citizenry that understands the law and demonstrates engaged citizenship. The theme of this year's Medina County Bar Association Law Day encourages all of us to fulfill our responsibilities to protect our community and our democracy.

Applicants must choose one of the following prompts to answer for the essay competition. Each prompt contains sub-questions to aid the applicant's focus.

- 1.) What is the power under the rule of law?
 - a. How is power used, transferred, shifted, and claimed in our rule of law system?
 - b. How do protests, voting and civic participation play a part in upholding the rule of law?

2.) How might the rule of law shape our future?

- a. Considering the division among our nation, and the various calls for reform, change, equity, access and unity, how could the rule of law provide stability, order and opportunity?
- b. Considering current events, or technologies of the future, how can the rule of law continue to sustain and guide our Nation through challenges and growth?

1. The essay must be approximately, but no longer than, three pages, typewritten, double-spaced, in a font which is no bigger than 12-point, but no smaller than 10-point. It shall be accompanied by a completed Scholarship Application. The student's name shall not be affixed to the essay, but the scholarship application (with the student's name) should be stapled to the essay. The essay and application must be received by the Medina County Bar Association at 93 Public Square, Medina, Ohio, 44256 (in the basement of the Common Pleas Courthouse on the Square) or mpiszczek00@gmail.com by no later than 4:00 p.m., April 23, 2021. Questions should be directed to president-elect, Melissa Piszczek at mpiszczek00@gmail.com or 330-725-9794.
2. The Medina County Bar Association (the "MCBA") may, at its discretion, choose to extend the submission deadline if it receives an insufficient number of essays.
3. All essays and applications will become the MCBA's property. MCBA reserves the right to publish and distribute the winning essay to its members and others. Essays and related application material will not be returned to applicants. No plagiarism is allowed.
4. Each applicant must reside in Medina County, Ohio, but does not need to attend a high school located in Medina County, Ohio.
5. At least one winner and up to five winners will be chosen depending on the number and quality of essays submitted. If only one winner is selected, a one-time \$5,000.00 scholarship will be awarded. If multiple winners (up to five) are selected, then the \$5,000.00 will be evenly split among the winners. Multiple winners may receive a one-time scholarship award anywhere from \$1,000.00 to \$2,500.00 depending on the number of winners.
6. As the MCBA's guest(s), the winner(s) are asked to attend and receive recognition at the MCBA's Law Day Luncheon on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 12:00 p.m., at the Blue Heron Event Center (3227 Blue Heron Trace, Medina, Ohio, 44256).

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Student's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Parents: _____

High School: _____

College/University/Other Post Secondary Educational Institution attending in Fall of 2021:

Major or area of study, if known: _____

High School, Extracurricular and Community Activities:
