

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

Educating Tomorrow's Citizens



2007 ANNUAL REPORT

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

MISSION STATEMENT

Constitutional Rights Foundation seeks to instill in our nation's youth a deeper understanding of citizenship through values expressed in our Constitution and its Bill of Rights and to educate young people to become active and responsible participants in our society. CRF is dedicated to assuring our country's future by investing in our youth today.

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

2007 PRESIDENT'S AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Hon. John A. Kronstadt
President

In 2007, through its programs and publications, Constitutional Rights Foundation made great strides in helping our nation's young people understand that democracy matters.

Our Los Angeles direct-service programs—Youth Internship, Youth Leadership for Action, and the Summer Law Institute—involved 130 volunteers and impacted over 400 youth with intensive educational experiences.

A two-year formal evaluation of the Youth Internship Program demonstrated that the seven-week experience combining seminars and placements in professional job settings increased participants' civic knowledge and attitudes and commitment to academic and career goals and success, not only for the duration of the program but for years afterward.

Our statewide Mock Trial and History Day programs continued to grow involving over 50,000 students and over 3,000 adult volunteers including judges, lawyers, teachers, and history professionals.

CRF's classroom-based programs—Teaching American History, Classroom to Classroom, Deliberating in a Democracy, and Youth for Justice—provided innovative professional development to some 575 teachers and impacted nearly 50,000 students.

CRF's publications department published two new supplementary classroom texts, one for world history courses and one for U.S. history and government courses. *Of Democrats & Dictators* tells the story of the

development of law from Elizabethan England to the modern age; *Landmarks: Historic U.S. Supreme Court Decisions* covers 16 cases and controversies that shaped America. Our national quarterly newsletter, *Bill of Rights in Action*, provided classroom lessons, discussions, and motivating learning activities to 30,000 teachers throughout the United States. Conservatively, CRF publications impact well over 2.5 million students annually.

In 2007, CRF's award-winning website, packed full with program information and free educational resources, received some 1.4 million unique visitors and was named by the *Los Angeles Times* as the best on the web for student research in its annual back-to-school survey.

Finally, CRF continues to work throughout California and the nation to improve and advocate for quality civic education in our public schools. Its California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools has the support of dozens of civic, governmental, and educational agencies to raise public awareness about the need for effective civics instruction, to research effective practices, and to advocate for the resources to assure that each new generation of students gains the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to become informed and engaged citizens.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our board of directors, our staff, thousands of volunteers, students, and teachers around the country, and, of course, our donors. We thank you all.



Todd Clark
Executive Director

What Is CRF?

Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) is a non-profit, non-partisan educational organization dedicated to helping our nation's young people become well-informed, engaged, and active citizens and to understand their rights and responsibilities as members of our democracy. Established in 1962, CRF is guided by a dedicated board of directors drawn from the worlds of law, business, government, education, and the media.

CRF's professional staff includes teachers and educators, lawyers, writers and editors, and youth development specialists. Volunteers also provide vital support for many CRF programs and activities and serve as adult role models for youthful participants. To accomplish its goals and objectives, CRF applies its resources in the following areas:

Mock Trial. Each year since 1980, CRF has developed and distributed a new Mock Trial case and has administered the Los Angeles County and statewide Mock Trial competitions. The Mock Trial program is designed to help California students learn about our judicial system. School districts in 34 California counties participated in the 2007 California State Mock Trial Competition, involving over 10,000 students and 3,000 judge, lawyer, and teacher volunteers.

History Day in California. To enrich and enliven their study of history, student participants in History Day research historical issues, ideas, and people and apply what they have learned to research papers, displays, media productions, performances, and web pages. In 2007, History Day reached over 40,000 students and over 2,000 students, their family members, and teachers from 33 California counties participated in the state finals.



Youth Internship Program. This CRF program places qualified urban students in law firms, businesses, government offices, and non-profit organizations. The program empowers young people to serve as school and community leaders while they gain valuable paid work experience and college preparation. In 2007, the program placed 107 local students in Los Angeles offices. 2007 also saw the release of an evaluation report documenting the program's success at promoting leadership skills, understanding of community issues, professional skills, and college readiness among its participants.



Teacher and Professional Development.

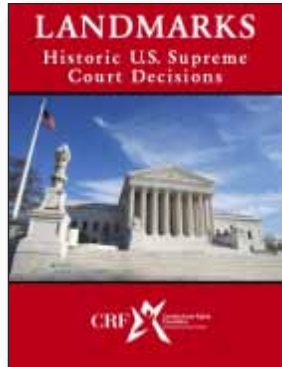
Teachers receive training and professional-development from CRF through workshops in history, law and government, and civic participation. In 2007, CRF's Teaching American History (TAH) program provided hundreds of teachers in more than 10 school districts with U.S. history resources designed to support classroom instruction. All TAH resources originate from CRF's U.S. history materials, from scholars connected to local academic institutions, and from an extensive bibliography selected by TAH staff.

Youth Leadership and Civic Participation.

Youth Leadership for Action (YLFA), CRF's Los Angeles-based leadership program, helped 280 middle and high school students develop projects to address community problems. Civic participation programs and materials such as *CityYouth*, *Active Citizenship Today (ACT)*, *Take Charge*, and *Giving Back* provide teachers and students with the resources they need to plan and implement projects that meet real community needs.



Publications. CRF's data-collection instruments estimate that CRF materials and publications reach over 2.5 million students annually. In 2007, CRF added to its catalog *Landmarks: Historic U.S. Supreme Court Decisions*, a book with readings and interactive activities that foster students' critical thinking on significant court decisions. CRF also published *Current Issues in Immigration, 2007*, for use by teachers in addressing these important and timely issues in their classes. The online version of *Current Issues* received over 16,000 individual page views.



CRF's signature newsletter, *Bill of Rights in Action*, reached over 30,000 educators with three new issues to help teachers and students with content-rich, standards-based curriculum supplements. Issues addressed the themes of *Free Trade and Antitrust*, *Justice*, and *Rights Reconsidered* and contained articles on such diverse topics as the Whiskey Rebellion, the trial of Sacco and Vanzetti, and Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*.

This year, CRF's website attracted over 1.4 million unique visitors with its diverse publications catalog, free online lesson plans and classroom materials, and access to CRF programs. The website also continued to serve the education community with *CRF Forum*, an online youth-voice platform for student discussion and commentary on topics including culture and diversity, governance, global climate change, and school-based events, issues, and news.

Free Expression in a Free Society. CRF sponsors this annual academic competition to challenge students to research and create video projects that explore themes and events related to the First Amendment. In 2007, the winning entry was a documentary on the contributions of civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer.

Lawyer in the Classroom. Two CRF programs provide students throughout Los Angeles county with a deeper understanding of the judicial system and its processes by connecting them with members of the legal community.

Courtroom to Classroom brought judge and attorney teams to middle or high school classrooms where they engaged students with materials designed to support U.S. history and government courses.

The Appellate Court Experience provided students with an opportunity to observe oral arguments in a criminal appeal, meet with presiding justices at the California State Court of Appeal, and engage in classroom activities.

Youth Conferences. CRF offers a series of youth forums to educate young people about citizenship, government, politics, and the law. Forums build on CRF curriculum and the Youth Leadership For Action model to engage youth in analyzing community problems, evaluating resources, and designing youth-led interventions that strive to make positive change in their communities. In 2007, Youth Forums facilitated interactions between 140 students and dozens of local community leaders, non-profits and businesses, and government officials to discuss community problems and develop collaborative responses.

The Summer Law Institute (SLI) offers a week-long summer program for high school students interested in learning more about the American legal system. Co-sponsored by the California Bar Foundation and the UCLA School of Law, the 2007 SLI attracted 50 high school students and awarded many participants with scholarships.

Educating for Democracy: The California Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools. In 2007, CRF continued this civic-education collaboration with the Center for Civic Education and the Alliance for Representative Democracy. The campaign sponsored a range of student and teacher activities to celebrate Constitution Day in September 2007, continued its public outreach efforts, and introduced legislation to further teacher professional development for quality civic education. Educating for Democracy seeks the support of education, business, law, veteran, labor, parent, and service groups around the state to promote civic education in California.



In 2007, CRF's 22 staff members were able to plan, develop, and deliver new and ongoing materials and programs, guided by a 60-plus member board of directors and underwritten by an approximately \$3.5 million budget.

Statement of Unrestricted Operational Revenues and Expenses

For the Year Ending December 31, 2007

REVENUES

GRANTS		
Government	1,134,718	31%
Private	535,860	15%
CONTRIBUTIONS		
General Contributions	168,677	5%
Events (net of expenses)	945,054	26%
INVESTMENT INCOME/(LOSS)	339,988	9%
MATERIAL SALES	139,349	4%
PROGRAM FEES	380,976	10%
OTHER SOURCES	<u>7,695</u>	<u>0%</u>
	\$ 3,652,318	100%

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES		
Law and Government	1,417,787	43%
Civic Participation	807,306	25%
Publications	459,425	<u>14%</u>
FUND RAISING	342,361	10%
ADMINISTRATION	<u>269,480</u>	<u>8%</u>
	\$ 3,296,358	100%

The above has been audited. A complete audited financial statement is available upon request.

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For more information on making a gift to Constitutional Rights Foundation, please contact Jo Ann Burton at (213) 316-2102.



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Endowments make sure that the future of CRF is secure. Since 1990, CRF has been fortunate to receive a number of endowments given by people who share our passion for civic education and support our mission, which loudly proclaims that teaching kids that democracy matters is crucial to a civil society.

CRF acknowledges with enormous gratitude past presidents who established endowments at CRF: Jerome C. Byrne, James A. Cobey, and Alan I. Rothenberg; to past board members, Jack Stutman and Robert Rosenstiel; and to our long time supporters Phyllis and Robert Henigson for their continuing Life Income Gifts. We would also like to recognize Dr. Jama Laurent and the board of directors of the Creative Kids Foundation for establishing an endowment allowing CRF to place students as interns in arts organizations in Los Angeles. To all of you, a very special thank you. Most of all, we would like to send out a loud cheer and celebrate our champion of champions, Lloyd M. Smith, who throughout his life embodied the highest ideals of American democracy and believed in the importance that all young people be educated about their constitutional heritage. It was Lloyd who established the CRF Endowment Builders Program, ensuring that CRF's mission continue long into the future.

To all of our friends, supporters and donors, and to those people who have indicated that they will remember CRF in their will or by bequest: We thank you for your generosity and the trust you have given us. Most important, we thank you on behalf of the students of tomorrow who will have opportunities to learn about and celebrate our Constitution and its Bill of Rights for generations to come. Thank you.



Robert and Phyllis Henigson



Alan I. Rothenberg



Jerome C. Byrne



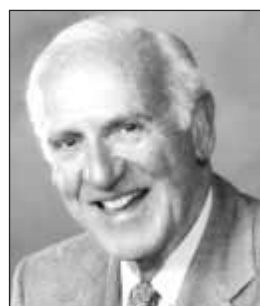
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