



CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

EDUCATING TOMORROW'S CITIZENS

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CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 29th CALIFORNIA MOCK TRIAL STATE FINALS COMPETITION

Hillsdale High School in San Mateo is State Champion Proceeds to Nationals in Philadelphia

San Jose, CA...Over the last few days, in courtrooms packed with observers and guests, teams from 34 California high schools argued their final cases in the 29th Annual California Mock Trial State Final Competition. The students from these teams were among over several thousand students who participated in their individual County competitions last fall. During the competition, students participate as lawyers, witnesses, court clerks and bailiffs.

The event culminated with a Championship Trial in the Historic Courthouse in San Jose. **Hillsdale High School (San Mateo)** and **School of the Arts (San Francisco)** competed in a trial presided over by California State Supreme Court Associate Justice Carlos Moreno. The trial ended with School of the Arts receiving the Outstanding Achievement Award and Hillsdale representing the State of California at the upcoming National Mock Trial Competition in Philadelphia on May 6-9. A complete list of the individual awards is attached.

In 1980, Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) introduced the Mock Trial program, already popular in LA County, to all the counties in California making it a statewide academic competition in which junior and senior high schools compete at the county, state and national level. Student teams study a hypothetical criminal case, conduct legal research and receive guidance from volunteer attorneys in courtroom procedures and trial preparations. The program was created to help students acquire a working knowledge of our judicial system, develop analytical abilities and communication skills while gaining increased self-confidence and an understanding of their obligations and responsibilities as participating members of our society.

Each year, a new hypothetical criminal case is introduced based on an important issue facing America's youth. This year's case, *People v. Bratton*, is the trial of Jordan Bratton, an up and coming comedian, charged with first degree murder of entertainment critic Preston Palmer. Because the case involves material posted on Twitter, it is uniquely suited for discussion by today's students.

"It is especially important that we teach our students why Democracy matters. This is a concept that needs to be owned by every new generation," said Jonathan Estrin, President, CRF as he congratulated all of the Mock Trial participants.

The 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 educate them to become active and responsible participants in our society. CRF is dedicated to assuring our country's future by investing in our youth today. For more information, please visit www.crf-usa.org

Constitutional Rights Foundation
2010 Special Commendation Winners

STATE CHAMPIONS

**Hillsdale HS
San Mateo**

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

**School of the Arts
San Francisco**

- 3rd Place – Lynbrook H.S., Santa Clara County**
4th Place – Redlands East Valley H.S., San Bernardino County
5th Place- Dos Pueblos H.S., Santa Barbara County
6th Place – Tamalpais H.S., Marin County
7th Place – Woodcrest Christian H.S., Riverside County
8th Place – Templeton H.S., San Luis Obispo County

Adult Advocate of the Year

Mark Shem, Lynbrook HS, Santa Clara County

Hon. J. Skelly Wright Constitutional Advocacy Award

Defense Pretrial Motion

Tiffany Ku

Lynbrook HS, Santa Clara County

Prosecution Pretrial Motion

Emily Robinson

Carmel HS, Monterey County

DEFENSE AWARDS

Outstanding Defense Attorney

Ryan Griggs

Redlands East Valley HS, San Bernardino County

Outstanding Defense Witnesses

Shea McElroy

Role: Dr. Peyton Flenderson
Santa Cruz HS, Santa Cruz County

Emma Steinkellner

Role: Dani Levinson
Dos Pueblos HS, Santa Barbara County

Justin Marschke

Role: Morgan Bernard
Redlands East Valley HS, San Bernardino County

Rachel Hallet

Role: Jordan Bratton
Miramonte HS, Contra Costa County

PROSECUTION AWARDS

Outstanding Prosecution Attorney

Christian Theuer

Bishops HS, San Diego County

Outstanding Prosecution Witnesses

Amanda Weinberg

Role: Det. Kendal Malone
Tamalpais HS, Marin County

Juhi Khemani

Role: Ryan Howard
Dos Pueblos HS, Santa Barbara County

Joseph Backs

Role: Taylor Hudson
Tesoro HS, Orange County

Gary Ferdinand

Role: Dr. Casey Scott
Las Plumas HS, Butte County

BAILIFF

Christian Mosbrucker

Templeton HS, San Luis Obispo County

CLERK

Sean Hall

Sonoma Valley HS, Sonoma County

Outstanding Courtroom Artist

- 1st Place: Minnar Xie, Agoura HS, Ventura County
2nd Place: Belinda Huang, Contra Costa County
3rd Place: Yuyan Hu, Amador Valley HS, Alameda County

Outstanding Courtroom Journalist

- 1st Place: Tina Ryan Elliott, Templeton High, San Luis Obispo County
2nd Place: Nicholas Kreitman, Carmel High, Monterey County
3rd Place: Connie Phung, Dos Pueblos High, Santa Barbara County

2010 Mock Trial County Winners

Alameda County--Amador Valley High
Butte County--Las Plumas High
Contra Costa County--Miramonte High
El Dorado County--Ponderosa High
Fresno County--Clovis North High
Imperial County--Southwest High
Kern County--Stockdale High
Los Angeles County--Louisville High
Madera County--Yosemite High
Marin County--Tamalpais High
Mendocino County--Laytonville High
Merced County--Dos Palos High
Mono County--Eastern Sierra Academy
Monterey County--Carmel High
Napa County--Napa High
Orange County--Tesoro High
Placer County--Oakmont High
Riverside County--Woodcrest Christian High
Sacramento County--Rio Americano High
San Bernardino County--Redlands East Valley High
San Diego County--The Bishop's School
San Francisco County--School of the Arts High
San Joaquin County--Venture Academy
San Luis Obispo County--Templeton High
San Mateo County--Hillsdale High
Santa Barbara County--Dos Pueblos High
Santa Clara County--Lynbrook High
Santa Cruz County--Santa Cruz High
Shasta County--Enterprise High
Sonoma County--Sonoma Valley High
Stanislaus County--Modesto High
Tulare County--Woodlake High
Ventura County--Oxnard High
Yolo County--River City High