

COURTROOM ART CONTEST

Official Rules

- All contestants must be affiliated with a registered Stanislaus County Mock Trial team and enrolled at the team's school. Artist participating will sketch their school's Round 2 Prosecution trial. Each team may send a maximum of two courtroom artists. The artist winner will have the opportunity to advance to state at their own expense.
- All participants must complete a permission slip authorizing the publication or reprinting of their Artists Contest submission for educational purposes. No financial compensation will be awarded.
- Sit in the jury box away from scoring attorneys. Introduce yourself to the scorers and the presider (she/he will be sitting on the bench). You must wear your provided nametag.
- Once you are seated, you **MAY NOT HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH ANYONE FROM YOUR SCHOOL** (parents, teachers, or fellow students). You must create your drawing completely independently.
- Your sketch must depict an actual courtroom scene that you observe during Round 2. You may not submit your "Practice" sketch for judging (from Round 1). You are encouraged to use Round 1 as a practice round. Official judging will begin with Round 2 submissions.
- The drawing must be on paper of the dimensions 11" x 14", with a horizontal format. Drawing may be done in black & white or color.
- You may make as many drawings as you wish, but you may only submit one drawing to the Courtroom Observer after Round 2 to be considered for judging. The Courtroom Observer will deliver the drawing to SCOE staff.
- **Be sure to write your name and school on the back of the drawing you submit.**

Tips & Ideas

- Let the viewer know right away that this is a courtroom. Include items that convey that setting, but don't focus on sketching a microphone instead of the witness on the stand.
- Remember to tell as full a story as possible. The drawing should represent what you see but also, through the drawing, tell a story.
- Find the most newsworthy action that occurred in the courtroom. Perhaps there is an "ah-ha" moment, an intriguing witness, a shocking development with which to capture the emotion of the trial. The artist must remember that this is true reporting, and must be the "eyes of the court".