

# Law Day 2024 Poetry Contest - "Voices of Democracy"

San Bernardino County Superior Court

## **Eligibility**

All students in grades 3-12 or the equivalent, attending public or private school, or are home schooled, within San Bernardino County may enter the poetry contest.

## **Prompt**

For nearly 250 years, Americans have expressed their political views and wishes by speaking their minds and voting in elections. In 2024, the United States will hold its 60th presidential election, and Americans will address fundamental questions about democracy and the rule of law.

Create an original poem that illustrates what having a voice in democracy means to you. Feel free to use any form of poetry to express yourself.

#### Rules

- 1. Only one entry per student. The poem must be original, and the exclusive work of the student entering the contest in idea, design, and execution.
- 2. Work may not incorporate any copyrighted characters (i.e. comics and/or television characters), photographs, magazine, or newspaper illustrations.
- 3. Submissions will not be accepted or eligible if they include any content that contains or appears to contain:
  - Profane, obscene, or inappropriate images or language
  - Any derogatory characterization of any person or group based on age, race, color, gender, gender identity, citizenship, creed, national origin, physical appearance, political affiliation, union membership, etc
  - Any actual or apparent copying or other infringement of another's intellectual property.
- 4. All expenses involved in preparing and submitting an entry are the entrant's responsibility.
- 5. All submissions must include the student's name, grade, age, teacher's name, teacher's email, school name, and school address on the back of the poster. Please print clearly.

## **Submission Form**

Send the poem to the San Bernardino County Superior Court by email to <u>lawday@sb-court.org</u> by mail by the final deadline on **May 15th, 2024**.

Please include the following information in the submission:

Student Name			
Grade	_	Age	-
School			
School Address			
City	State	Zip	_
Teacher's Name			
Teacher's Email			

#### **Awards**

One first place winner and two runner ups will be chosen in each grade range: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. The first-place winner will receive a personalized prize from the court. The second and third place winners will also be receiving an award.

Selection of winners and runners-up will be based on originality, creativity, adherence to the theme, and overall quality. With the permission of the winning students, their posters may be published in official court communications (newsletter, website, social media)!

### **About the Contest**

The Poetry Contest is sponsored by the San Bernardino County Superior Court. The San Bernardino Superior Court will select winners among the eligible entries that meet the minimum standards and best reflect the theme.

All submission and related intellectual property rights become the property of the San Bernardino County Superior Court upon receipt and are not returned to the artist, his/her parents/legal guardians, instructor/teacher, school, state, or any other person(s) claiming a right, title, or other interest in the poster.