Congratulations to the Winners of the Polk County Bar Association & ARAG® 2021 Law Day Student Competition

The Theme this year was “Advancing the Rule of Law Now”. Our virtual Law Day Celebration and Awards Ceremony was held on May 3rd, 2021 through Zoom.

Polk County Bar Association President Nicholas Cooper welcomed everyone.

Justice Christopher McDonald of the Iowa Supreme Court presented an explanation to the whole group about the importance of the Rule of Law.

Next the Committee co-chairs Stephanie Marett and Laura Lockwood presented the two teacher awards for having the most students participate in Law Day.

After that, the Group split up into three different breakout rooms for Elementary School, Middle School and High School.

Judge Romonda Belcher, from Polk County District Court, presented in the Elementary School breakout room. The presenter for the Middle School breakout room was Administrative Law Judge Henry Hamilton III. Justice McDonald presented further information on the Rule of Law for the High School breakout room. The student awards were presented by Laura Lockwood (Elementary School), Stephanie Marett (Middle School) and Judge Mary Tabor from the Iowa Court of Appeals (High School).

A PowerPoint of all student’s winning entries was shown by AmeriCorps volunteers that work at Iowa Legal Aid. The PowerPoint and the videos of the virtual ceremony are available on the Polk County Bar Association website: https://www.pcbaonline.org/about-us/law-day/

The winners are:

Elementary School Poster Competition:
1st Place Anna Rowling, 5th Grade, Prairie Trail Elementary School, Ankeny

Elementary School Visual Arts Competition:
1st Place Zena Jorgensen and Ingrid Weber, 5th Grade, Ashland Ridge Elementary School, Ankeny

Elementary Coloring Competition:
1st Place Johnny Zambreno, 2nd Grade, Bergman Academy, Des Moines

Elementary Essay Competition:
1st Place Tessa Zambreno, 4th Grade, Bergman Academy, Des Moines
2nd Place Vivian Zhang, 5th Grade, Rock Creek Elementary School, Ankeny
The winners are:

Middle School Technology Competition:
1st Place Alanna Bredice, 6th Grade, Prairie Ridge, Ankeny

Middle School Performing Arts Competition:
1st Place Kalyani Bhat, 7th Grade, Prairie Ridge, Ankeny
2nd Place Leah Ferguson, Natalie Miller, and Caitlyn Robertson, 6th Grade, Summit Middle School, Johnston

Middle School Poetry Competition:
1st Place Olivia Madison, 8th Grade, Northview, Ankeny
2nd Place Rosie Howieson, 7th Grade, Prairie Ridge, Ankeny
3rd Place Emmarie Becker, 7th Grade, Prairie Ridge, Ankeny

Middle School Essay Competition:
1st Place Finn Stukerjurgen, 8th Grade, Southview, Ankeny
2nd Place Meghan Wolf, 8th Grade, Northview, Ankeny
3rd Place Josie Bishop, 8th Grade, Northview, Ankeny

Middle School Visual Arts Competition:
1st Place Meghan Wolf, 8th Grade, Northview, Ankeny
2nd Place Avery Bacon, 8th Grade, Southview, Ankeny
3rd Place Maia Bredice and Lauren Boka, 7th Grade, Prairie Ridge, Ankeny

High School Poetry Competition:
1st Place Zac Komanapalli, 12th Grade, Valley High School, West Des Moines
2nd Place Julia Yount, 10th Grade, Ankeny Centennial High School
3rd Place Isabelle Friedman, 11th Grade, North Polk High School, Polk City

High School Essay Competition:
1st Place Zac Komanapalli, 12th Grade, Valley High School, West Des Moines
2nd Place Isabelle Friedman, 11th Grade, North Polk High School, Polk City
3rd Place Lio Aguirre, 9th Grade, Ankeny Centennial High School

High School Visual Arts Competition:
1st Place Lio Aguirre (Ankeny Centennial), Caeden deBruin, Mary Faidley, Addie Pollock (Northview Ankeny)
all students are in 9th Grade
2nd Place Kylie Kinzie, 9th Grade, Northview, Ankeny
3rd Place Allison Su, 12th Grade, Ankeny Centennial

The Teacher Awards for having the most students participate in Law Day goes to
Katheryn Cooper, 8th and 9th Grade Extend Learning teacher at Northview Middle School, Ankeny
and
Bayle Larpenteur, 6th and 7th Grade Extend Learning teacher at Prairie Ridge Middle School, Ankeny