

Greetings! February 2007 News

The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCLCE) in its effort to broaden its outreach has expanded its communication to electronic newsletters. Through this medium, we will update you on LCE programming monthly so that either as a volunteer, teacher, student or supporter you have the opportunity to learn more about the LCE's work across Louisiana.

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Grace King High School Will Represent the State of Louisiana in the National WTP Competition



Grace King High School emerged as the State Champion and will proceed on to Virginia, to compete Nationally on behalf of Louisiana at the national "**We the People**" Competition. The State competition was held on Friday, February 2, at the Holiday Inn in Gretna, Louisiana. **John Ehret High School** and **West Jefferson High** participated with strong competitive teams. As the winner, Grace King High School must raise \$30,000 to send its students to the national competition. If you wish to help them get to nationals contact Jamie Staub at jstaub3591@aol.com.

The judges commented on how well prepared each student of the

Louisiana Students in Alexandria are immersed in Law and Civic Education

As a middle school student at Alexandria Middle Magnet (AMM), students are receiving an education that has been enhanced by Law Related Education and Civics. Shaping young minds regarding what it means to be a citizen and civic leader in the community is integral to the educational curriculum being offered at Alexandria Middle Magnet.

AMM students learn about **Forensic Science, Intro to Law, Criminal and Juvenile Justice and Civics**. These students actually conduct mock trials in their very own school based courtroom. Their teachers have worked closely with the **LCE** when creating this specialized Law Magnet school. They attended **LCE** sponsored workshops including the annual Summer Institute for Educators and additional in-depth training from the LCE's national partners based in Washington DC.

As a result of their teacher **LCE** experience and training, the young students are intricately involved in the learning process both in concept and in practice.

For example, students in Chemistry classes apply law-related knowledge when testing physical evidence collected and analyzed in a mock "crime" scene which ultimately has students apply critical thinking and analysis skills required in math and science to real life analysis. .

Enhancing this experience are the

participating schools were and how they each demonstrated a knowledge of the United States Constitution. They very adeptly presented their position during the Mock Congressional Hearing. .

The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education also salutes the outstanding and talented educators **Jamie Staub, George Allan and Chris Totaro** for their commitment and hard work beyond the classroom hours to ensure that all students were well prepared to demonstrate their knowledge before the judges. We look forward to next year's state competition which will take place at the Old State Capitol in Baton Rouge in its regal setting.

The LCE thanks and acknowledges the volunteer judges and time keepers whose participation ensured the success of the competition: **Mathew Friedman, Peggy Goods, Adrienne Black, Joe Lavigne, Judge Walter Rothschild, Phillip Radecker, Jr., Eddie Villarubia, Dana Baird, Bobby Malbrough, Amelia Smith, Laura Carman, Evelyn Alford, Betty Rogyom, Patti Lee, Francois Allain, Carl Dermady, James Arruebarrena.**

LCE SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATORS: July 16-20, 2007

The **2007 Summer Institute** will be held July 16-20, 2007, in New Orleans, Louisiana. The four day consecutive institute will feature a two day course on the judicial system featuring the LCE's new "**Order in the Court**" program. Via interactive lesson plans, educators will learn directly from Louisiana judges about the court process, the history of the Louisiana court system, the difference between state and federal courts among many topics to be covered.

The second portion of the program will focus on "**We the People...The Citizen and the Constitution**" curriculum that easily can be implemented in the existing Civics curriculum.

Educators in middle and high school are encouraged to apply. Each applicant must submit a letter of support from their principal or Social Studies supervisor indicating that the material will be implemented in their respective schools. Registration fee is \$50. A stipend will be provided for hotel accomodations as will a continental breakfast and a working lunch meal. For more information, please contact Maria@lalce.org

LCE looking for Civic Minded Student.

The LCE is now accepting nominations for its Civics in Action Student Award (CIA). The CIA award is a new award in which the Center is seeking to acknowledge the student who best exemplifies what it means to be an engaged citizen. The student must be committed to making a difference through the use of government or their school environment.

This award will be given by the LCE at the Annual meeting of the Louisiana State Bar Association in Sandestin Florida. Do you know of any student that

Alexandria are volunteer **lawyers, judges and police officers** who lend their expertise to the students by serving as the "live" text. They each bring a wealth of information to the students to enhance their classroom experience.

Recently, in an article the **USA Today** addressed the issue of diversity t on the High Court noting that **Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg** is the sole female on the Court. Stephanie Goodrich an AMM's teacher was quoted in the article and noted her students observations about the impact of just one female on the High Court. The students had been studying the structure and composition of the courts.

For more information on the program, please contact Stephanie Goodrich via email at: i>goodrichs@rapides.k12.la.us.

RESOURCES IN LAW AND CIVIC EDUCATION

[Constitutional Rights Foundation](#)

[Street Law](#)

[Center for Civic Education](#)

[Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education](#)

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has tried to effectuate change by authoring a bill for consideration by the state legislature? Has a student in your school sought policy change by drafting a policy and submitted it to the school administration, board or PTO? You might just know of that student who understands what true citizenship means. Tell us about him/her.

[CIA Award Nomination Form](#)

Mark your Calendar.

May 4, 2007- Law Day Summit for Students- (Lafayette).

June 2007- Civics in Action Student Award- at Sandestin during Louisiana State Bar Annual Meeting.

July 16-17, 2007- Justice Institute (Teacher Training)-Louisiana State Supreme Court (New Orleans)

July 18-19, 2007- Teacher's Summer Institute (Teacher Training re: LCE curriculum)-Louisiana State Bar Center (New Orleans).

September 17, 2007- **Constitution Day Program** - celebrates the 1787 signing of our founding document (location to be announced).

September 6-8, 2007- American Bar Association National Conference on Law-Related Education, Montelone Hotel, New Orleans.

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