

The **Association of Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York** and the **New York Law Journal** are sponsoring the 13th annual essay contest open to all 10th, 11th and 12th grade high school students. Ten students will win the opportunity to intern for one week with a Justice of the Supreme Court and earn a \$100.00 gift card.

Students should write a 500-word essay on the law theme for 2014 “American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why Every Vote Matters” and discuss the importance of a citizen’s right to vote and the challenges we still face in ensuring that all Americans have the opportunity to participate in our democracy.

Before submitting to the Supreme Court, the essays should be evaluated at the school. **Only five (5) entries from each school will be considered.** One of the winning essays will be published in the **New York Law Journal**, a legal periodical published by the **American Lawyer Media**.

Each school can mail a maximum of five (5) essays along with a completed cover sheet (below) to:

Hon. Robert J. Miller
Supreme Court of the State of New York
Appellate Division, 2nd Judicial Department
320 Jay Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

*****DEADLINE: APRIL 16, 2014*****

Questions regarding this opportunity should be directed to **Debra Lesser**, Justice Resource Center at (212) 580-5905 or dlesser@schools.nyc.gov or **Paulina Ellis** at (347) 296-1836 or Pellis@courts.state.ny.us.

Prizes: These will be awarded at a ceremony with details to be confirmed at a later date.

Internship: The internship experience will include opportunities to attend and observe trials, research with a law clerk, gain instructions in the use of a law library, absorb legal terminology in a real world environment, learn the various career tracks in the law profession (e.g. court clerk, court officer, court reporter, law clerk, judge, etc.) The dates of the internship will be arranged according to the needs of each student winner and the schedule of each participating court.

Suggested Resources

The following websites may assist your students in their research and students can choose to use other resources not currently listed below:

*****NOTE: All sources should be credited and cited appropriately.**

Law Day Topic

1. <http://www.Lawday.org>

General Legal Resources

1. New York State Courts Legal Research Portal
<http://www.courts.state.ny.us/reporter/research.htm>
2. Free Online Law Review/Journal Articles
http://www.americanbar.org/groups/departments_offices/legal_technology_resources/resources/free_journal_search.html
3. New York Law Journal
<http://www.newyorklawjournal.com>

Statutes

1. New York State Consolidated Laws
<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/MENUGETF.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS+&TARGET=VIEW>
2. Law Library of Congress
<http://www.loc.gov/law/>
3. New York Courts Law Libraries
<http://www.nycourts.gov/lawlibraries/>

Case Law

1. New York State Court Case Law
<http://www.nycourts.gov/decisions/>
2. Federal Court Case Law
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/federal/opinions>

(COVER SHEET)

NAME: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

HOME TELEPHONE # (_____) _____

STUDENT'S CELL # (_____) _____

STUDENT'S E-MAIL _____

SCHOOL: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

SCHOOL TELEPHONE # (_____) _____

TEACHER'S NAME: _____

TEACHER'S CELL # (_____) _____

TEACHER'S E-MAIL _____

TEACHER'S SIGNATURE: _____

I swear that the attached essay which I have submitted for the American Democracy and the Rule of Law Essay Contest for 10, 11th and 12th grade students is the result of my own work.

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT _____

*****DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: APRIL 16, 2014*****