

# 2023 Law Day



Presented by the Justice Parker Lee  
McDonald Law Library and the Highlands  
County Bar Association

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The Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library and the Highlands County Bar Association are pleased to announce that Law Day 2023 will be held on **Thursday, April 27, 2023**, celebrating the theme:

**“CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRACY: CIVICS, CIVILITY, AND COLLABORATION”**

An annual series of events celebrating our legal system, Law Day has special significance in Highlands County. Our courts are in recess as we hold our Law Day observance and focus on students and their civic education. Many county, circuit, and district judges, as well as Florida Supreme Court justices, have attended our local Law Day program.

Information and entry forms for student contests are enclosed with this packet. The prizes for these contests include monetary awards of \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place, and \$25 for third place in each respective category. Prizes are awarded by Highlands County Circuit Court Judge Angela J. Cowden at our Law Day ceremony. Teachers and students will be requested to attend the award ceremony to be recognized, allowing parents and the press an opportunity for photographs.

Winning posters will be displayed on the front windows  
of the Highlands County Government Center.

***Highlands County Public Schools: this activity has been approved for 2022-2023.***

In conjunction with Law Day, members of the Highlands County Bar Association are available to present virtually or in person to your individual classes to speak to students about the importance of our nation’s legal system and this year’s Law Day theme:

**“CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRACY: CIVICS, CIVILITY, AND COLLABORATION”**

Please contact Peter Brewer, President-Elect of the Highlands County Bar Association, at [pbrewer@brewerandwilson.com](mailto:pbrewer@brewerandwilson.com) to schedule a time and date for the attorney to present to your students. All efforts will be made to schedule an attorney speaker with your class on your desired date and time.

# 2023 Law Day Entry Form

## Essay and Poster Contest



**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If submitting a poster: PLEASE GLUE this form to the back of the poster.\*

\*If submitting an essay: PLEASE STAPLE this form to the back of the essay.\*

**\*\*\*\*DO NOT PUT STUDENT'S NAME ON THE FRONT OF THE ESSAY OR POSTER\*\*\*\***

The Law Day Committee welcomes all entries that relate to the contest theme. The Committee reserves, within its discretion, the right to disqualify any entry that is deemed to be offensive, not related to the theme of the contest, or fails to comply with the rules, guidelines, and criteria provided.

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### Teacher Verification

**I have reviewed the contest entry and I verify that it reflects the above-named student's original work to the best of my knowledge.**

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS FORM MUST BE ATTACHED TO CONTEST ENTRY.**

**Mail or deliver form & entry to:**

**Swaine, Harris & Wohl, P.A.  
Attn: Shannon Nash, Law Day Committee Chair  
425 South Commerce Avenue  
Sebring, Florida 33870**

Please direct any questions to Shannon Nash at  
(863) 385-1549 or [shannon@heartlandlaw.com](mailto:shannon@heartlandlaw.com).

# 2023 Law Day Essay Contest

Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library  
and the Highlands County Bar Association



**PRIZES:** First, second and third place winners will receive cash prizes along with gold, silver, or bronze Olympic style medals, and be recognized at Law Day's award ceremony at the Highlands County Government Center.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any individual student enrolled in a Highlands County public, private, virtual, or home school in Grade Levels K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

**ESSAY THEME:** **"CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRACY:  
CIVICS, CIVILITY, AND COLLABORATION"**

**CRITERIA:** **All entries must be the student's individual, original work.** If you are quoting someone, please give proper credit. The age of the participant will be considered.

Essays will be judged on:

- Content
- Adherence to the theme
- Personal reflection
- Originality

Essays must be typed and double-spaced on one side of 8½" x 11" paper. (Elementary entries may be handwritten.) **A completed Law Day Entry Form must be stapled to each essay. Do not put your name on the front of the essay.**

All essays may be published and are the property of the Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library.

The Law Day Committee welcomes all entries that relate to the contest theme. However, the Committee reserves within its discretion the right to disqualify any entry that is deemed to be offensive or not related to the theme of the contest.

**DEADLINE:** Completed essays must be delivered to the Swaine, Harris & Wohl, PA, attn: Shannon Nash, Law Day Committee Chair, 425 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring no later than **4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 10, 2023** or they are disqualified.

**CONTEST MATERIALS:**

Contest forms can be found at [www.HighlandsBar.com](http://www.HighlandsBar.com)

Students can find additional information on Law Day at the American Bar Association site: [www.LawDay.org](http://www.LawDay.org) but please be aware that the contest rules for Highlands County are not the same as national contests.

**For more information, contact:**

Shannon L. Nash, Law Day Committee Chair

Telephone: (863) 385-1549

E-mail: [shannon@heartlandlaw.com](mailto:shannon@heartlandlaw.com)

# 2023 Law Day Poster Contest

The Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library  
and the Highlands County Bar Association



**PRIZES:** First, second and third place winners will receive cash prizes along with gold, silver, and bronze Olympic style medals, and be recognized at Law Day's award ceremony at the Highlands County Government Center.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Any individual student enrolled in a Highlands County public, private, virtual, or home school in Grade Levels K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, and 9-12 in Highlands County.

**THEME:** **POSTER THEMES MUST BE ORIGINAL AND MUST HARMONIZE WITH THE THEME:**  
**"CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRACY:  
CIVICS, CIVILITY, AND COLLABORATION"**

**GUIDELINES:**

1. Only individual student entries are allowed.
2. Original posters must be submitted on a single sheet of **white 12" x 18" poster board**—no foam core or plain paper, please.
3. Any non-smearable medium is acceptable such as colored pencils, markers, crayons, or paints (no glitter please).
4. No loose or hanging materials are permitted.
5. Each poster must depict the Law Day theme. A **one paragraph statement describing how the poster reflects the theme** is required on the back of the poster.
6. All entries must be accompanied by the **attached Entry Form, glued to the back** of the poster.

**CRITERIA:**

**CONTENT:**

1. Must reflect the theme.
2. Must be the student's individual work.

**LETTERING:** Lettering should be clearly legible.

**JUDGING:** The age of the participant will be considered. Other criteria for the selection of the award-winning posters includes:

1. Clarity and readability of the work
2. How well the theme was expressed
3. Artwork and execution
4. Visual impact of the poster design

**Legal Disclaimer:** The Law Day Committee welcomes all entries that relate to the contest theme. The committee reserves the right within its discretion to disqualify any entry that is deemed to be offensive, not related to the theme of the contest, or fails to comply with ALL of the above stated guidelines and criteria. All due care will be used to protect the posters while they are on display, but the Law Day sponsors will not be held responsible in the event of lost, stolen or damaged posters. All posters may be published and/or displayed and are the property of the Justice Parker Lee McDonald Law Library.

**DEADLINE:** Completed entries must be delivered to the Swaine, Harris & Wohl, PA, attn: Shannon L. Nash, Law Day Committee Chair, 425 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring no later than **4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 10, 2023** or they are disqualified.

Contest forms can be obtained at [www.HighlandsBar.com](http://www.HighlandsBar.com)

**RESEARCH:** Students can find additional information on Law Day at the American Bar Association site: [www.LawDay.org](http://www.LawDay.org), but please be aware contest rules for Highlands County are not the same as national contests.

**For more information, contact:**

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Telephone: (863) 385-1549  
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