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August 5, 2021

Re: Essay Contest for Grades 10 through 12

Dear Principals and Teachers:

The Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission is sponsoring an essay contest on "***Many hands make light work: How my work as a volunteer helped to build and/or strengthen my community.***"

The contest is open to grades 10 to 12 and will begin on August 9, 2021. All essays must be mailed and received by September 10, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. HST. The award recipients will be recognized by the Hawai'i Supreme Court on October 28, 2021.

Seven students will be selected as award recipients for their chosen essays and will receive a \$500.00 award for his/her essay. A \$100 award for educational purposes will be given to the student's teacher or advisor listed on the award recipient's form. Only one award of \$100 will be given per award recipient.

We request your assistance in distributing the enclosed documents regarding the essay contest to your students. We appreciate your help in this endeavor.

Very truly yours,

JOSEPH E. CARDOZA
Judge (Ret.), Second Judicial Circuit
State of Hawai'i
Chair, Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission



ESSAY CONTEST

(for Grades 10 through 12)

Sponsored by the Hawaii Access to Justice Commission

Hawaii Supreme Court Associate Justice Simeon R. Acoba, Jr. (ret.), Past Chair of the Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission said, "Equal access to justice should not be a mere illusion. We should be energized to meet the challenge of such equality."

Write an essay about: ***"Many hands make light work: How my work as a volunteer helped to build and/or strengthen my community."***

Seven (7) students will be selected to each receive a **\$500 award**, and each student's teacher/advisor listed on the entry form (only one) will receive a **\$100 award** for educational purposes. The student and teacher will be recognized by the Hawai'i Supreme Court. There will be a total of seven (7) awards: three (3) awards for Honolulu County (Oahu); one award for Maui County (Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i); one award for East Hawai'i County (Hawai'i Island); one award for West Hawai'i County (Hawai'i Island); and one award for Kaua'i County (Kaua'i).

ESSAY

1. The essay must be 500 words or less and use font size 12.
2. It must not exceed two pages (8 1/2 x 11- inch paper), double-spaced.

RULES

1. All entries must include an Entry and Photo Release Form. All essays will become the property of the Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission to be used in whole or in part to promote the work and mission of the Commission. Credit will be given to the author of the submission, including the name, school, and grade of the student.
2. All entries must be non-fiction, in English, and the original work of the student.
3. Entries are limited to students in grades 10 through 12.
4. Essays submitted in prior years cannot be resubmitted and will be disqualified.
5. All decisions by the contest committee and judges are final.
6. Winners will be asked to provide a photo of the student engaged in their volunteer activity(ies).
7. **Deadline:** All essays, including the signed Entry and Photo Release, must be emailed to essaycontest@schlackito.com by **Friday, September 10, 2021 and received by 11:59 p.m. (Hawai'i Standard Time).**

The winners will be contacted by October 4, 2021. Students who were not selected will receive an email notification. Please no telephone calls.

If you have any questions, please email: ATJProBono@gmail.com.



ENTRY and PHOTO RELEASE FORM

“Many hands make light work: How my work as a volunteer helped to build and/or strengthen my community.”

An Essay Competition

RELEASE: All essay submissions and student photographs will become the property of the Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission to be used in media stories, publications, websites, reports to sponsors and/or in any other matter related to the Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission to promote its mission. Credit will be given to the author of the submission and photographs, including the name, school, and grade of the student.

PHOTO RELEASE: I grant permission to Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission to use photographs taken during or in connection with the Pro Bono Celebration event to recognize the contest award recipients, for use in media stories, publications, websites, reports to sponsors and/or in any other matter related to the Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission to promote its mission.

Date: _____

Student's signature

Date: _____

Parent's or Guardian's signature

Student's Name _____

School Name _____

Teacher's Name _____ Grade _____

Teacher's Email Address _____

School Address _____

School Phone Number _____

Parents' or Guardians' name(s) _____

Student's address _____

Student's Email Address _____

Phone number () _____

Thank you to the 2021 Essay Contest Award Sponsors



Law Office of Jennifer D.K. Ng., LLC &
Law Office of Michelle S. K. Oishi, LLC

Kaua'i Bar Association