

BATON ROUGE BAR FOUNDATION

LAW DAY 2017 ESSAY CONTEST

Essay Theme: Why is it important that all people receive “equal protection of the laws”?



The ABA 2017 Law Day theme, **The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy**, explores how the Citizenship, Due Process and Equal Protection clauses, serve as the cornerstone of landmark civil rights legislation, the foundation for numerous federal court decisions protecting fundamental rights, and a source of inspiration for all those who advocate for equal justice under law.

Students should keep the theme and the following discussion points in mind when writing their essays. For ideas, check out the [American Bar Association Law Day](#) website.

- ❖ Explain a right that has been advanced by the Fourteenth Amendment
- ❖ Explain a right that has been protected by the Fourteenth Amendment
- ❖ Explain why congress, in 1866, felt it necessary that the Fourteenth Amendment be added to the constitution
- ❖ Explain why the Fourteenth Amendment serves to promote justice for all citizens.

All 6th – 12th grade students are welcome to participate. The top three winners in each division will receive \$125. There will be four honorable mention awards in each division.

Contest Rules:

Middle School Division: Essays must be 250 but no more than 500 words in length.
High School Division: Essays must be 750 but no more than 1000 words in length.

ALL: Please double space all essays. Essays may be either handwritten or typewritten, but typewritten is preferred. The deadline to submit the essays is MONDAY, April 10, 2017. Essays may be faxed to 225-344-4805; e-mailed to donna@brba.org or mailed to: P.O. Box 2241, Baton Rouge, LA 70821.

All entries will be judged on the following criteria:

Content: 50%; Writing style: 25%; Originality: 10%; Grammar: 10%; Appearance: 5%.

Sponsored by the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation's Law Day Committee

BATON ROUGE BAR FOUNDATION

LAW DAY ESSAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Sponsored by the Baton Rouge Bar Foundation's Law Day Committee