

In This Issue

[Legendary Lawyer](#)

[Mock Trial](#)

[National Competition Fund](#)

[We the People](#)

Quick Links

[Homepage](#)

[Donate](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[Annual Report](#)

Legendary Lawyer Nominations

Know a lawyer who's been practicing 50 years and made an impact on the community and the legal profession? Is that lawyer a Fellow? Nominate him or her for the Legendary Lawyer Award. The 2017 selection process will start soon. Read the guidelines [here](#).



High School Mock Trial Coach's Tremors

"My most rewarding courtroom experience required me to remain silent. Fourteen students from Arsenal Tech High School in Indianapolis, Indiana were presenting their cases in the murder trial of Rowan Hyde. We had planned, we had practiced, and we had prepared, but now they had to make their case. They were on their own and I was on the sidelines, where I belonged.

The Mock Trial program is unparalleled in its ability to challenge and enrich Indiana's high-school students. Students work for months with teachers and attorneys to prepare a case for trial. They compete against teams from across the state and present their cases before a panel of judges (local volunteer attorneys). No other program better prepares students to understand our legal system, to think critically, or to speak effectively. While there is no shortage of students wanting to participate, there is a dearth of attorneys who volunteer to judge or coach a team. I encourage you to get off the sidelines and volunteer to judge or coach for a local school. Just be prepared to return to the sidelines when court is in session, it's where we belong."

Drew Howk, Hall Render, Indiana High School Mock Trial Attorney-Coach for Arsenal Tech H.S., Indianapolis

Volunteers Needed March 4-5

Join Drew and other attorneys and judges to evaluate teams from high schools across Indiana as they litigate a criminal case. There are four rounds of trials, and 30 volunteers are still needed for the 24 teams presenting this weekend at the City-County Building in downtown Indianapolis. Choose the time you want to volunteer by completing [this form](#). *Haven't judged before? Not a litigator? Not a problem.*

There's an online CLE (one free CLE credit) for those who judge and an on-site training that complements it. Almost 400 high school students participate in High School Mock Trial in Indiana annually. Help them grow in their critical thinking and public speaking skills. Our thanks to **Caryn Glawe** and **Faegre Baker Daniels LLP** for sponsoring this event.

Four Teams to Represent Indiana Nationally

Will Indiana ever be known for academics instead of sports? You can help change a few minds. Indiana has three high schools and one middle school team representing it this spring in the national finals for *We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution* and the National High School Mock Trial Championship.

Can you help? [Donations](#) will help them with their fundraising to attend these national

events. The Indiana Bar Foundation's board implemented a policy last year of supporting both the *We the People* and the Indiana Mock Trial champion teams. Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, won the Indiana State Finals for the *We the People* program in December, and they will represent Indiana at the national competition in April. Cathedral's teacher, Jill Baisinger, has taken a team to nationals three times in six years.



Plainfield High School, the second place team, was offered a chance to compete at nationals as a wild card team. This is Plainfield's second time to attend the national competition.

Can you help these students make it to the nationals? A donation of \$100, \$150 or \$200 will help. Whatever you can do will get them a step closer!

The Foundation is trying to raise \$25,000 to support the *We the People* teams and the winning Indiana High School Mock Trial state champion. It's a life-changing opportunity for many of these students. If you would like to support an individual team, you can find links to their fundraising pages [here](#). Please consider how you can help make Indiana shine on a national stage. It may just change your life as well.

***We The People* Judges Needed March 29 & April 7**

Faegre Baker Daniels LLP is once again hosting Indiana's state champion, Cathedral High School, for a practice before they represent Indiana at the national finals. If you can help question these constitutional scholars, there are openings from 10:00-11:30 a.m. and 12:45-2:30 p.m. on **March 29**. Lunch with the students will be provided.

Please contact [Michelle Cline](#) if you can help. Our thanks to **Faegre Baker Daniels** and **Caryn Glawe** for organizing this opportunity each year.

Busy on March 29? You can help Plainfield High School, our wildcard team, prepare on **April 7** at **Barnes & Thornburg LLP**. Contact [Alexander Orłowski](#) (317-231-7310) by March 24 to get involved. Each round needs six to nine judges. You can volunteer all day or just in the morning or afternoon.

New Research Shows *We the People* Works for Teachers, Students

In November 2016, the Center for Civic Education released a new study showing the efficacy of the [We the People educational model](#). Indiana teachers are participating in this research study, and the results are positive. We're looking for more new teachers in Indiana.

If you know a social studies, government or history teacher who may be interested, encourage that teacher to look into the [Summer Institute](#) for free professional development and textbooks. [Contact Collin Gruver](#), Director of Civic Education Programs, for details. We are grateful to the Center for pursuing this research and for including Indiana teachers in the study.

[Donate Now](#)