

2022 Artwork Contest



The Public Outreach Committee of the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut cordially invites students to help us celebrate Law Day 2022 by creating artwork relating to this year's theme:

Toward a More Perfect Union: The Constitution in Times of Change

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union ..." are the opening words of the U.S. Constitution. At 4,400 words and signed in 1787, it is one of the shortest and oldest written constitutions in the world. The Constitution not only outlines a blueprint for government, but also delegates power, articulates rights, and offers mechanisms for change. It is neither perfect, nor exhaustive, as our nation's history makes clear. Legislation, court rulings, amendments, lawyers, and "we the people" have built upon those original words across generations to attempt to make the "more perfect Union" more real. That effort continues today, as contemporary leaders and everyday citizens raise their voices as loud as ever to fulfill the promise of the Constitution. Defining and refining those words of the Constitution might be our oldest national tradition, and how each of us works—together—toward a more perfect Union.

Our goal is to help students and the public better understand the importance the law has in our daily lives, and the role the legal system—including the courts—plays in protecting the rights we cherish, which include equal protection of the laws; the right not to be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; and the freedoms of speech, the press, and religion. To that end, we ask the students participating in the art exhibit to create a piece of art relating to this year's theme.

A Certificate of Recognition will be awarded to all artists. Students in grades 3-12 are invited to participate. Artwork may be in the form of drawings, photographs, digital photographs, digital art forms, posters, or a similar medium. The poster size should be 8.5" x 11" or larger. All entries will be on display in the Federal Court-houses in New Haven, Hartford, and Bridgeport through the month of May, so they can be viewed by the general public, as well as courthouse employees. Digital entries will be displayed during a Zoom session for artists and their families.

By no later than **May 2, 2022** (or a date mutually agreeable), please submit all artwork to Public_Outreach@ctd.uscourts.gov, or submissions may be mailed to:

U.S. District Court, Office of the Clerk
Attn: Public Outreach Committee
141 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

All Law Day 2022 activities will be conducted in-person or virtually. We appreciate your participation and hope it is a rewarding experience for the students.