

San Joaquin County Mock Trial Program Courtroom Art Contest Official Rules

Update 12.15.21

Requirements:

- All artists must be affiliated with a registered San Joaquin County team and enrolled at the team's school. Each school may enter up to 3 courtroom artists
- All artists must complete a permission slip and by submitting artwork acknowledge the following: "The San Joaquin County reserves the right to publish selected entries for no compensation in various formats, including but not limited to reproduction in Official Mock Trial materials, on the Internet and in newspapers. No financial compensation will be awarded."
- **Your sketch is due at the conclusion at Round 2.** You must present your work to the presider after the debriefing remarks (5-10 minutes after verdict.). The clerk/bailiff will deliver the drawing to the Mock Trial staff, so be aware of the possibility of smudging, should you choose to use charcoal or pastel. Do not bring your drawing to the Mock Trial staff yourself.
- During Round 2:
 - Sketch must be created and completed by the courtroom artist.
 - You may not submit your R1 "practice" sketch for judging. Although you are encouraged to use the prior rounds as practice. Official judging will only be on Round 2 submissions.
 - Your sketch must depict an actual courtroom scene that you observe during Round 2.
- The art submission must be done in color.
- The drawing must be on paper of the dimensions 11" X 14" with a horizontal format. Any dry medium may be used.
- Be sure to **write your name/school** on the back of the drawing you submit.

Procedures in Courtroom

- Artist should sit in the jury box in a row below the scorers.
- Introduce yourself to the scorers (they will be sitting in the jury box) and the presiding judge.
- Once you are seated, you may not have any contact with anyone from your school (parents, teachers, or fellow students.) You must create your drawing completely independently.

Scoring

- **Overall Composition:** The overall drawing should include aspects of the interior of the courtroom. The artist should use artistic license to make the composition work. Realism in the people and objects drawn are paramount to a successful illustration.
- **Knowledge of Human Figure and Clothing:** Drawings of subjects should look like the people depicted. Observe the folds in the clothing, creases in the hands, facial features, body language, etc.
- **Animation of Figures:** The artist draws more than just a portrait. Subjects should be in motion, gesturing, speaking, pointing, etc. Tell a story in your drawing.
- **Detail:** Detail is important but should not be overdone. Use of court items to tie figures into court setting (flags, wood paneling, charts, monitors, etc.) Don't attempt to put everything into one sketch-leave "breathing room" in illustration. Allow the eye to focus on main points.
- **Perspective:** You should be at a point where you can quickly eyeball perspective.

Additional information may be found on CRF website <http://www.crf-usa.org/mock-trial-california/art-contest-finals.html>

