



# GEORGIA

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## MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

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An Academic Extra-Curricular  
Activity for High School Students

2014 Annual Report

# YLD High School Mock Trial Committee

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# Mission Statement

The Georgia Mock Trial Competition helps students gain an understanding of the legal system by providing opportunities for school teams to participate in academic competitions where players assume attorney and witness roles in a court case. Lawyers coach students in developing questioning, critical thinking and oral advocacy skills.

# Vision Statement

The Georgia Mock Trial Competition will impact participating students by improving their proficiency in such basic skills as listening, speaking, reading, and reasoning. The program will also foster cooperation among diverse groups of young people while promoting better communication and collaboration between the educational and legal communities.

## Highlights in the History of the YLD High School Mock Trial Committee

Over the past 25 years, the High School Mock Trial Committee, the largest and most active of all the YLD Committees, has maintained its status as a nationally recognized educational program. During the 2012-2013 Bar Year, YLD President Jonathan Pannell appointed Deshala Dixon as Chair of the High School Mock Trial Committee. Kevin Epps and Lee Ann Feeley served as vice chairs. Judge Stephen Louis A. Dillard serves as Special Consultant to the committee. Michael Nixon is the State Coordinator.

The GHSMTC is made up of well over two thousand participants and volunteers from all areas in the state. These participants and volunteers are students, teachers, attorney coaches, judging panel volunteers, and other committee volunteers including problem writers, rules writers, and contest and Law Academy organizers. The HSMTC serves over 1,900 high school students statewide annually. The duties of the committee are subdivided into six areas: Rules, Problem, Teams, Competitions, Honors and Awards, and Development. We also have a State Finals Planning Board, and a special Projects Task Force.

The Mock Trial program was founded under the YLS (the “Young Lawyers Division” was then known as the “Younger Lawyers Section”) presidency of John C. Sammon (1987-88), also a Past President of the State Bar of Georgia. His successor as YLS President, Donna G. Barwick (1988-89), gave full committee status to the High School Mock Trial program. The Georgia Mock Trial Competition has produced four national championship teams in 1995, 1999, 2007 and 2008. The state has also had the privilege of hosting the 1993 and 2009 National High School Mock Trial Championships in Atlanta. Below are highlights from the program’s history:

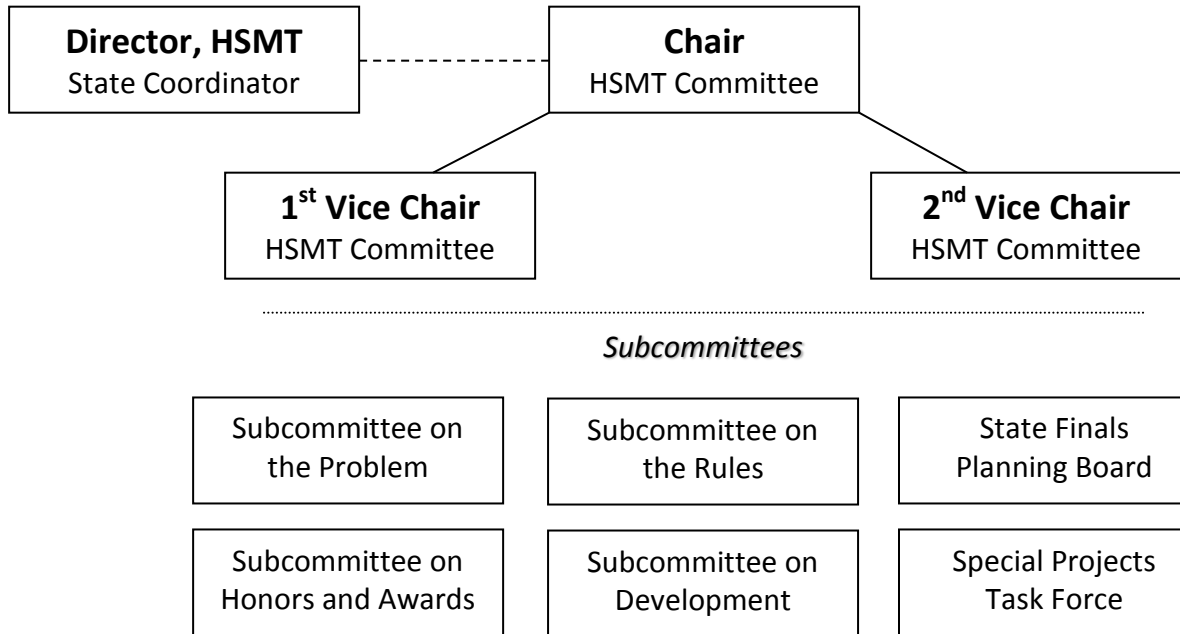
- **1987** - The first state coordinator was Philip Newton, former social studies teacher at North Clayton High School in Clayton County and the co-chairs of the committee were Elizabeth Bloom Hodges (a past YLD President) and Warner S. Fox.
- **1988** – The first statewide GHSMTC was held. Judge George Carley and Judge Harold Banke served as the first presiding judges at the state tournament.
- **1989** - Susan B. Devitt chaired the committee and the GHSMT became the largest YLD committee and recipient of the President’s Award under former YLD President Dana B. Miles.

- **1991** - Chair Joseph A. Roseborough led an even larger committee to greater success, creating the first Summer Law Camp and receiving another President's Award for Distinguished Service to the Community under YLD President Stanley G. Brading.
- **1993** - Under the leadership of committee chair Aimee R. Maxwell, Georgia hosted the National High School Mock Trial Championship in Atlanta. The committee received the YLD Award of Merit for its work during this season.
- **1994** – Under Lela Smith Bridgers term as chair, the number of teams registered in the competition reached 110 and the state tournament was moved to its permanent home at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville.
- **1995** – The GHSMTTC won the YLD President's Award for Best Continuing Project under the leadership of Cathy Cox Brakefield. Also in 1995, the team from South Gwinnett High School in Snellville won Georgia's first National Championship in Denver, CO. The team was featured in a nationally broadcast special on Court TV.
- **1996** - Under committee chair Julie Dampier Majer Culhane, the State Finals Competition was expanded to include a semi-final round.
- **1997** - Under Catherine Hick's term as chair, the GHSMTTC celebrated its tenth anniversary and YLD President Henry Walker honored the committee with the Tradition of Excellence Award, "in recognition of a decade of continued commitment and service to Georgia's youth."
- **1998** – Under the leadership of H. Suzanne Smith the GHSMTTC held its first Awards Banquet and the first annual Law Academy at Mercer Law School in Macon. The committee also increased its work in Development to diversify funding for the program.
- **1999** – During Rick Sager's term as chair, Clarke Central High School in Athens won Georgia's second national title in St. Louis, MO. Continuing Legal Education Credit was extended to attorney coaches in 1999, as well.
- **2000** - Under the leadership of committee chair Roy Manoll, long-time state coordinator Philip Newton retired to pursue a Masters Degree in Choral Conducting and Stacy Rieke, teacher coach at Riverdale High School in Clayton County, was hired to fill the position of state coordinator.
- **2001** - Under the leadership of Jennifer B. Mann, the GHSMTTC produced a unique teaching resource, *May It Please the Court*, which is used by mock trial teams and in classrooms throughout the nation. An accompanying 16-minute motivational video by the same name was selected as one of four finalists in the 2002 New York Film Festival and captured an Award of Distinction at the Communicators Awards Ceremony in Arlington, Texas.
- **2002** - Under the leadership of Christine S. Barker, the High School Mock Trial Committee created a National Competition Planning Board with the goal of hosting our second National Mock Trial Championship in Atlanta in May 2009.
- **2003** - Under the leadership of Candace L. Byrd the Council of State Court Judges became one of the major supporters of the GHSMTTC. Also in 2003, Georgia Supreme Court Justice George Carley, the HSMTC's Special Consultant, was elected to a position on the Board of Directors of the National High School Mock Trial Championship.
- **2006** - Under the leadership of Jason B. Thompson, the Board of Directors of the National High School Mock Trial Championship, Inc. accepted the GHSMTTC bid to host the national tournament in Atlanta in 2009.
- **2007** - During Tania Trumble's term, Jonesboro High School in Jonesboro won Georgia's third national title during the NHSMTTC in Dallas, TX. Also in 2007, Stacy Rieke, the GHSMTTC State Coordinator was awarded an YLD Award of Achievement for "outstanding commitment and service to the State Bar of Georgia's Young Lawyers Division" by YLD President Jonathan A. Pope.
- **2008** - Under Sally Evan's leadership, the GHSMTTC celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary by updating the 1988 competition case, *State v. Bryant*, which was used in regional competitions and at state finals. A

banquet was also held at the Marriott at Gwinnett Place to honor the 2008 regional champion teams. Souvenir pins and t-shirts commemorating the anniversary were made available to team members. Also in 2008, the Jonesboro High School in Jonesboro won Georgia's fourth national title during the NYSMTA in Wilmington, DE.

- **2009** – During William H. Noland's term as chair, the National High School Mock Trial Competition was held in Atlanta, Georgia in May. Also in 2009, Stacy Rieke, the NYSMTA State Coordinator, was awarded a YLD Award of Achievement for "outstanding service to the profession" by YLD President Joshua C. Bell.
- **2010** - Under Stacey Evans' tenure as chair, The "Wildcard" teams were introduced as well as the Professionalism Award sponsored by the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism at the state level of competition.
- **2011** – During Ashley Palmer's term, the NYSMTA added 2 new regions in Atlanta and Cumming and revitalized the region in Albany. The 2011 season also saw the largest number of teams ever competing at the state level: eighteen and the introduction of the Outstanding Performance Award at the state level.
- **2012** – During Jon Setzer's term, the NYSMTA registered a record number 138 schools to participate in the program and added a new region in Augusta. There were also a record number of teams at State Finals (17 regional champions and 2 wildcard teams) this year. Peggy Caldwell retired from the Mock Trial office in March 2012 and Stacy Rieke will transition back to a classroom teaching position during the 2013 school year. Stacy Rieke was awarded a YLD Award of Achievement for "outstanding service to the profession" by YLD President Stephanie Kirijan. Michael Nixon, veteran teacher coach at Walton High School in Marietta, was hired as the new Mock Trial State Coordinator and officially began his duties in August 2012. Justice George H. Carley, Special Consultant to the NYSMTA since 1988, became Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court in May and will retire from the Court in July. The state champion gavel, which has traveled around the state with all 24 state champion teams, was named "The Chief Justice George H. Carley State Champion Gavel" and re-dedicated in honor of Justice Carley during the State Finals tournament in March.
- **2013** – During Deshala Dixon's term as chair, the program welcomed Judge Stephen Louis A. Dillard of the Georgia Court of Appeals as the new Special Consultant to the NYSMTA. The 2013 State Finals produced the state's first State Championship won by a homeschool team.
- **2014** – During the term of Kevin Epps, the program introduced a new level of competition between Regionals and State Finals. This new District Competition gives the opportunity to the top three teams from each Region to advance to another Round and compete to determine the District Champion, who then advances to the State Finals Competition. With the addition of the District Competition, 48 teams have the opportunity to compete beyond the Regional Competition whereas only 18 had the chance in seasons past. For many teams who advanced to this season's District Competitions, this was their first time advancing beyond the Regional level. The District Competition also gives teams a second chance at qualifying for State Finals and gives all teams more competition Rounds. With fewer teams advancing the State Finals Competition (8), State Finals was held on one day in March, making it a more streamlined and intimate competition.

# Georgia High School Mock Trial Committee Structure



*The High School Mock Trial Competition is a special project of the State Bar of Georgia's Young Lawyers Division*

## Subcommittee on the Rules

This subcommittee assists in preparing the rules portion of the mock trial manual. The rules are released to the teams via the program's website on November 1 each year. The rules of evidence governing the trials are simplified from the Federal Rules of Evidence, retaining its organization and numbering system. This subcommittee also handles the creation and interpretation of the rules and policies of the Georgia Mock Trial Competition. After the rules and policies are published on the website on November 1, the chair of this subcommittee may be called upon to advise on issues that may arise regarding competition rules and policies and issuing such memoranda periodically as needed during the mock trial season.

## Subcommittee on the Problem

This subcommittee assists in preparing the mock trial competition case that is released via our website to the teams on November 1. Civil and criminal fact patterns alternate on odd and even years, respectively. Those serving on this subcommittee may not coach teams.

## Subcommittee on Honors and Awards

Created in 1999, this subcommittee devises methods for honoring outstanding teacher and attorney coaches in each region. In 2000, the subcommittee began presenting the awards directly at the local level. This subcommittee also handles the selection of the Supporter Appreciation Award and the Founders Award.

## Subcommittee on Development

This subcommittee seeks ways to improve the financial support of the program when necessary.

## **State Finals Planning Board**

Members are responsible for overseeing all aspects of the state finals: lodging, program, judging panels, and publicity. The State Finals are usually held at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville in mid-March each year.

## **Special Projects Task Force**

This unit was established in 1990, when it began working on the design of a special summer law camp program for high school students. In 1998, the task force developed the annual Law Academy to replace the Summer Law Camp. This Academy offers a weekend of intense study in mock trial rules, procedures and trial preparation for student team leaders from around the state. Also, in 1998, a Court Artist Contest was launched statewide, co-sponsored by the Savannah College of Art & Design. The contest was named for its founder, Craig Harding, after his death in an automobile accident following graduation from the Savannah College of Art & Design. A statewide Journalism Contest was added in 2002 but was discontinued in 2009.

# Honor Roll of Georgia Champion Mock Trial Teams

- 1988 – Jonesboro High School, *Jonesboro* ..... Dallas, TX (*placement unknown\**)
- 1989 – Brookstone School, *Columbus* ..... Louisville, KY (*placement unknown\**)
- 1990 – Brookstone School, *Columbus* ..... Portland, OR (7<sup>th</sup> place—tie)
- 1991 – South Gwinnett High School, *Snellville* ..... New Orleans, LA (4<sup>th</sup> place)
- 1992 – Brookstone School, *Columbus* ..... Madison, WI (11<sup>th</sup> place)
- 1993 – Crisp County High School, *Cordele* ..... Atlanta, GA (9<sup>th</sup> place)
- 1994 – Northwest Whitfield High School, *Tunnel Hill* ..... Chicago, IL (15<sup>th</sup> place)
- 1995 – South Gwinnett High School, *Snellville* ..... Denver, CO (1<sup>st</sup> place)**
- 1996 – Redan High School, *Stone Mountain* ..... Pittsburgh, PA (4<sup>th</sup> place)
- 1997 – Ware County Magnet School, *Manor* ..... Nashville, TN (11<sup>th</sup> place)
- 1998 – Clarke Central High School, *Athens* ..... Albuquerque, NM (6<sup>th</sup> place)
- 1999 – Clarke Central High School, *Athens* ..... St. Louis, MO (1st place)**
- 2000 – Henry W. Grady High School, *Atlanta* ..... Columbia, SC (13<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2001 – Riverdale High School, *Riverdale* ..... Omaha, NE (13<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2002 – Jonesboro High School, *Jonesboro* ..... St. Paul, MN (10<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2003 – Jonesboro High School, *Jonesboro* ..... New Orleans, LA (16<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2004 – Clarke Central High School, *Athens* ..... Orlando, FL (23<sup>rd</sup> place)
- 2005 – Henry W. Grady High School, *Atlanta* ..... Charlotte, NC (16<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2006 – Jonesboro High School, *Jonesboro* ..... Oklahoma City, OK (5<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2007 – Jonesboro High School, *Jonesboro* ..... Dallas, TX (1st place)**
- 2008 – Jonesboro High School, *Jonesboro* ..... Wilmington, DE (1st place)**
- 2009 – Henry W. Grady High School, *Atlanta* ..... Atlanta, GA (8<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2010 – Henry W. Grady High School, *Atlanta* ..... Philadelphia, PA (3<sup>rd</sup> place)
- 2011 – Henry W. Grady High School, *Atlanta* ..... Phoenix, AZ (4<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2012 – Henry W. Grady High School, *Atlanta* ..... Albuquerque, NM (2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- 2013 – Middle Georgia Christian Homeschool Association, *Macon* ..... Indianapolis, IN (35<sup>th</sup> place)
- 2014 – Jonesboro High School, *Jonesboro* ..... Madison, WI (34<sup>th</sup> place)

*\*From 1983 until 1990, only the placement of the top four teams was announced during the national level of competition.*



# Cases Used in Previous Georgia Mock Trial Seasons

1988 – <i>State v. Bryant</i> .....	Drug Trafficking (Entrapment Defense)
1989 – <i>Johnson v. Bowen</i> .....	DUI (Host Liability)
1990 – <i>State v. Barrett</i> .....	Homicide (Battered Woman Syndrome)
1991 – <i>Hill v. Midway School Board</i> .....	Freedom of Speech in School Setting
1992 – <i>State v. Binder</i> .....	Drug Trafficking
1993 – <i>Alexander v. Cooper, Cook &amp; Troy</i> .....	Sexual Harassment in the Workplace
1994 – <i>U.S. v. Remy</i> .....	Conspiracy to Import Drugs
1995 – <i>Tenebrous v. Busy Bee Express</i> .....	Personal Injury
1996 – <i>State v. Foil</i> .....	Homicide
1997 – <i>Ortega v. Brewster</i> .....	Wrongful Death
1998 – <i>State v. Peterson</i> .....	Involuntary Manslaughter and Hazing
1999 – <i>O’Riley v. Happy Daze Daycare Center</i> .....	Personal Injury
2000 – <i>State v. Brunetti</i> .....	Homicide
2001 – <i>Hamilton v. Sadler</i> .....	Libel
2002 – <i>State v. Cunningham</i> .....	Homicide (Self-Defense)
2003 – <i>Schwinn v. Farnsworth</i> .....	Comparative Negligence
2004 – <i>State v. Finn</i> .....	Homicide
2005 – <i>Fields v. Register</i> .....	Wrongful Death
2006 – <i>State v. Banks</i> .....	Homicide and Arson
2007 – <i>LaQuinta v. Hill</i> .....	Wrongful Death
2008 – <i>State v. Bryant</i> .....	Drug Trafficking (Entrapment Defense)
2009 – <i>Sadler v. Hamilton</i> .....	Battery (Tort)
2010 – <i>State v. Clay/Claire Stafford</i> .....	Aggravated Assault
2011 – <i>Greenwood v. Durden</i> .....	Protected Speech
2012 – <i>State v. Dani/Danny Capulet</i> .....	Felony Murder; Aggravated Assault
2013 – <i>Cowell v. Roberts</i> .....	Negligence/Malice
2014 – <i>State v. Pyke</i> .....	Homicide

# 2014 Board of Directors



*The Board of Directors for the YLD High School Mock Trial Committee is the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Georgia. The Officers and Directors of the Young Lawyers Division directly supervise the Committee.*

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**Shari Edenfield, *YLD President-Elect***

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# Message from the Chair



Kevin E. Epps  
Chair, HSMTC

Since 1988, the Georgia High School Mock Trial Program has been one of the strongest programs sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia, and this year has been no exception. Our season began with the annual Law Academy, a four-day program for which students traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to participate. They attended workshops on hearsay objections, cross examination skills and character development. At the conclusion of the program, the student bar examination, a test based on the information that had been taught, was administered to participants. 18 students passed the exam with scores that gained them admission to the Georgia Student Bar Association; 8 of the students were admitted with honors.

This season, 111 teams participated in sixteen Regional competitions statewide. The teams were comprised of almost 1,800 students who hailed from public and private schools and home school programs. For the first time in the program's history, the top three teams from each Region advanced to the new District Competition, where each of the 8 District Champions advanced to the State Finals Competition. At State, Jonesboro High School was named State Champion.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those individuals who give of their time to make this program so successful: the students, teacher coaches, attorney coaches, parents, regional coordinators, evaluators, presiding judges, and members of the High School Mock Trial Committee. The work that you do gives students from all walks of life an opportunity to positively experience the legal system, and in the process, the students gain invaluable academic and presentation skills that will serve them well, whether they pursue a career in the legal profession or a dream of a different nature.

To the Young Lawyers Division, under the leadership of 2013-2014 President Darrell Sutton, the State Bar of Georgia, the Counsel of State Court Judges, and all others who have generously supported us throughout this season by giving of your time and financial resources – we say thank you! High School Mock Trial, like all other non-profit programs, relies on the generosity of donors. Especially in these difficult economic times, please know how sincerely we appreciate your gifts, as they are vital to the life of this program.

Additional thanks are in order for Judge Stephen Dillard of the Georgia Court of Appeals for serving as the Special Consultant to the High School Mock Trial Committee. Last, but certainly not least, I want to sincerely thank Michael Nixon, our State Mock Trial Coordinator who did an excellent job in his first year with the position. I am forever grateful for their leadership and support and am truly indebted to them for their assistance this season. Without their tireless dedication to this program and the students it serves, the outstanding program that we know simply would not be.

It has truly been an honor and pleasure to serve as the 2013-2014 Chair of the Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition. I now pass the gavel to Lee Ann Feeley who will serve as Chair for the 2014-2015 season. After working with Lee Ann this season, I have no doubt that the program is in great hands!

Congratulations to all on a wonderful season and best of luck in the upcoming season!

Very truly yours,

Kevin E. Epps, III

# The 2013-2014 YLD High School Mock Trial Committee



**Darrell Sutton, YLD President**  
**Sharri Edenfield, YLD President-Elect**  
**Kevin Epps, HSMTC Chair**  
**Lee Ann Feeley, HSMTC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair**  
**Righton Johnson, HSMTC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair**

## **Past Committee Chairs**

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 Elizabeth B. Hodges (1987-89)  
 Susan B. Devitt (1989-90)  
 Joseph A. Roseborough (1990-91)  
 Aimee R. Maxwell (1991-92)  
 Gregory S. Smith (1992-93)  
 Lela Smith Bridgers (1993-94)  
 Cathy Cox Brakefield (1994-95)  
 Julie Dampier Majer Culhane (1995-96)  
 Catherine H. Hicks (1996-97)  
 H. Suzanne Smith (1997-98)  
 Frederick N. Sager, Jr. (1998-99)  
 Roy E. Manoll, III (1999-00)  
 Jennifer B. Mann (2000-01)  
 Christine S. Barker (2001-02)  
 Candace L. Byrd (2002-03)  
 Robert A. McDonald (2003-04)  
 Leah E. McEwen (2004-05)

Jason B. Thompson (2005-06)  
 Tania T. Trumble (2006-07)  
 Sara A. "Sally" Evans (2007-08)  
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Jason T. Schneider  
Sara Schramm  
Elissa Schrock  
Janet Scott  
Dan Seager  
Andrea Seliski  
Jon Setzer  
Danielle Sewell  
Mike Sexton  
Kalpin Shah  
Ari Shapiro

Jeff Shaw  
Patty Shewmaker  
Steve Shewmaker  
Dean Shipley  
Adam Shoemaker  
Josie Siemon  
Larry Silverman  
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Rusty Simpson  
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Rufus Smith  
Suzanne Smith  
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Brian Strickland  
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Paris Wynn  
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Chris York  
Melissa Ysaguirre  
Joseph Zdrilich  
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Anthony Zezima  
Rosalind Zollicoffer

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Spence Johnson  
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Shalonda Jones-Parker  
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Mary Katz  
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Cary King  
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Lindsey Mann  
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Amanda Mathis  
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Veronica McClendon  
Laurin McDonald

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Ecleyne Mercy  
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Bill Morrison  
Anne Moushey  
Daniel Nagel  
Reed Newland  
Meghan Noblett  
John Northop  
Ifuero Obaseki  
Tracy O'Connell  
Justin O'Dell  
Wesley Padgett  
Oregesi Pandeli  
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DeAlvah Simms

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Christopher Smith  
Dorie Smith  
Jessica Smith  
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Chandelle Summer  
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Tauri Thomas  
Zach Thomas  
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Stefan Turkheimer  
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Deah Warren  
Sherri Washington  
Robert Webb  
Deborah Wellborn  
Sarah White  
Jamila Wideman  
Thomas Wight  
Lauran Willard  
Katie Wood  
Joseph York  
David Younker  
Tashia Zeigler

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Ms. Nora Kalb Bushfield, *Atlanta*  
Mr. Tom Cain, Jr., *Lawrenceville*  
Mr. Ted G. Cassert, *Gainesville*  
Mr. John Cicala, Jr., *Stone Mountain*  
Mr. Louis Cohan, *Atlanta*  
Ms. Kimberly A. Colmey, *Cumming*  
Ms. Tami M. Conner, *Cartersville*  
Mr. Jerry A. Daniels, *Lawrenceville*  
Judge Doris (Dee) Downs, *Atlanta*  
Mr. Mitch Durham, *Marietta*  
Mr. Damon Elmore, *Atlanta*  
Mr. Jeffrey Fulbright, *Alpharetta*  
Judge Bill Hamrick, *Carrollton*  
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Mr. Brent W. Herrin, *Atlanta*  
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Ms. Elisabeth MacNamara, *Atlanta*  
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Judge Carla W. McMillan, *Atlanta*  
Ms. Lauren Mock, *Albany*  
Ms. Sarah Morris, *Dalton*  
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Mr. Allen L. Shulman, *Kennesaw*  
Ms. Suzanne Smith, *Atlanta*  
Mr. Greg Spicer, *Macon*  
Ms. Davene Walker, *Atlanta*  
Judge Robert Waller, *Lawrenceville*  
Mr. Calvin D. Williamson, *Lawrenceville*  
Mr. Chris York, *Forest Park*

# 2014 Participating Mock Trial Teams

Mock trial teams from 111 high schools competed in Regional competitions conducted in 16 different locations throughout the state in January and February. From each Region, the top three teams (\*) advanced to the District Competitions February 22.

Region	Teams	
<b>Region 1</b> <i>Albany</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bainbridge High School, <i>Bainbridge</i> *</li> <li>Berrien High School, <i>Nashville</i></li> <li>Lee County High School, <i>Leesburg</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowndes High School, <i>Valdosta</i> *</li> <li>Thomasville City High School, <i>Thomasville</i></li> <li>Tift County High School, <i>Tifton</i></li> <li>Valwood School, <i>Hahira</i></li> </ul>
<b>Region 2</b> <i>Athens</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athens Academy, <i>Athens</i> *</li> <li>Athens Christian School, <i>Athens</i></li> <li>Cedar Shoals High School, <i>Athens</i></li> <li>Clarke Central High School, <i>Athens</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gainesville High School, <i>Gainesville</i></li> <li>Parkview High School, <i>Lilburn</i></li> <li>Westminster Christian Academy, <i>Watkinsville</i> *</li> </ul>
<b>Region 3</b> <i>Atlanta</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johns Creek High School, <i>Johns Creek</i> *</li> <li>Maynard H. Jackson High School, <i>Atlanta</i></li> <li>North Springs Charter School, <i>Atlanta</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northview High School, <i>Duluth</i> *</li> <li>Riverwood International Charter School, <i>Sandy Springs</i></li> <li>Roswell High School, <i>Roswell</i></li> <li>South Atlanta School of Law, <i>Atlanta</i></li> </ul>
<b>Region 5</b> <i>Cartersville</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adairsville High School, <i>Adairsville</i></li> <li>Heritage High School, <i>Ringgold</i> *</li> <li>Pinecrest Academy, <i>Cumming</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pope High School, <i>Marietta</i></li> <li>Woodland High School, <i>Cartersville</i> *</li> <li>Woodstock High School, <i>Woodstock</i></li> </ul>
<b>Region 6</b> <i>Dalton</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chattooga High School, <i>Summerville</i></li> <li>Cohulla Creek High School, <i>Dalton</i></li> <li>Dalton High School, <i>Dalton</i></li> <li>Fannin County High School, <i>Blue Ridge</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northwest Whitfield High School, <i>Tunnel Hill</i></li> <li>Southeast Whitfield High School, <i>Dalton</i> *</li> <li>Union County High School, <i>Blairsville</i> *</li> </ul>
<b>Region 7</b> <i>Decatur</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academe of the Oaks, <i>Decatur</i></li> <li>Decatur High School, <i>Decatur</i> *</li> <li>DeKalb Early College Academy, <i>Stone Mountain</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DeKalb School of the Arts, <i>Avondale Estates</i> *</li> <li>Lakeside High School, <i>Atlanta</i></li> <li>Paideia School, <i>Atlanta</i> *</li> <li>Redan High School, <i>Stone Mountain</i></li> </ul>
<b>Region 8</b> <i>Jonesboro</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elite Scholars Academy, <i>Morrow</i> *</li> <li>Forest Park High School, <i>Forest Park</i></li> <li>Jonesboro High School, <i>Jonesboro</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Clayton High School, <i>College Park</i> *</li> <li>Sandy Creek High School, <i>Tyrone</i></li> </ul>
<b>Region 9</b> <i>Lawrenceville</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brookwood High School, <i>Snellville</i></li> <li>Chattahoochee High School, <i>Alpharetta</i></li> <li>Duluth High School, <i>Duluth</i> *</li> <li>Grayson High School, <i>Grayson</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater Atlanta Christian School, <i>Norcross</i> *</li> <li>Meadowcreek High School, <i>Norcross</i></li> <li>Norcross High School, <i>Norcross</i></li> <li>North Gwinnett High School, <i>Suwanee</i> *</li> </ul>
<b>Region 10</b> <i>Macon</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baldwin High School, <i>Milledgeville</i></li> <li>Central High School, <i>Macon</i> *</li> <li>Howard High School, <i>Macon</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Middle Georgia Christian Home School Association, <i>Macon</i> *</li> <li>Mount de Sales Academy, <i>Macon</i></li> <li>Southwest High School, <i>Macon</i></li> </ul>



<p><b>Region 11</b> <i>Marietta</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fulton Science Academy, <i>Alpharetta</i></li> <li>• Harrison High School, <i>Kennesaw</i></li> <li>• Kennesaw Mountain High School, <i>Kennesaw</i></li> <li>• Mount Paran Christian School, <i>Kennesaw</i> *</li> <li>• North Atlanta High School, <i>Atlanta</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Cobb Christian School, <i>Kennesaw</i></li> <li>• South Cobb High School, <i>Austell</i></li> <li>• Sprayberry High School, <i>Marietta</i> *</li> <li>• The Walker School, <i>Marietta</i> *</li> </ul>
<p><b>Region 12</b> <i>McDonough</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eagle’s Landing Christian Academy, <i>McDonough</i> *</li> <li>• Eagle’s Landing High School, <i>McDonough</i> *</li> <li>• Fayette County High School, <i>Fayetteville</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Henry County High School, <i>McDonough</i></li> <li>• Landmark Christian School, <i>Fairburn</i> *</li> <li>• Ola High School, <i>McDonough</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Region 13</b> <i>Douglasville</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alexander High School, <i>Douglasville</i></li> <li>• Bremen High School, <i>Bremen</i> *</li> <li>• Chapel Hill High School, <i>Douglasville</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• D.M. Therrell High School, <i>Atlanta</i> *</li> <li>• Douglas County High School, <i>Douglasville</i> *</li> <li>• East Coweta High School, <i>Sharpsburg</i></li> <li>• Northgate High School, <i>Newnan</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Region 14</b> <i>Savannah</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benedictine Military School, <i>Savannah</i></li> <li>• Clinch County High School, <i>Homerville</i> *</li> <li>• Islands High School, <i>Savannah</i> *</li> <li>• Saint Vincent’s Academy, <i>Savannah</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Savannah Arts Academy, <i>Savannah</i></li> <li>• Savannah Country Day School, <i>Savannah</i> *</li> <li>• Savannah High School, <i>Savannah</i></li> <li>• St. Andrews School, <i>Savannah</i></li> <li>• Wayne County High School, <i>Jesup</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Region 15</b> <i>Covington</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eastside High School, <i>Covington</i> *</li> <li>• Grovetown High School, <i>Grovetown</i> *</li> <li>• Newton High School, <i>Covington</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Oconee High School, <i>Bogart</i></li> <li>• Richmond County TCM, <i>Augusta</i></li> <li>• W.D. Mohammed High School, <i>Atlanta</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Region 16</b> <i>Atlanta</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atlanta International School, <i>Atlanta</i> *</li> <li>• Cambridge High School, <i>Milton</i></li> <li>• Galloway School, <i>Atlanta</i> *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grady High School, <i>Atlanta</i></li> <li>• Southwest DeKalb High School, <i>Decatur</i></li> <li>• The Weber School, <i>Atlanta</i> *</li> </ul>
<p><b>Region 17</b> <i>Cumming</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forsyth Central High School, <i>Cumming</i> *</li> <li>• Lambert High School, <i>Suwanee</i></li> <li>• Lanier High School, <i>Sugar Hill</i></li> <li>• Milton High School, <i>Milton</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Forsyth High School, <i>Cumming</i></li> <li>• South Forsyth High School, <i>Cumming</i> *</li> <li>• Wesleyan School, <i>Norcross</i> *</li> <li>• West Forsyth High School, <i>Cumming</i></li> </ul>

## 2014 Regional and District Coordinating Teams

The position of the Regional Coordinating team within the GHSMTTC is an extremely important and indispensable one. It is at the Regional level that the greatest number of students, teachers and attorneys participate in the Mock Trial program. Each year our Regional Coordinating teams thoroughly prepare for the Regional Competition day by carefully planning for the event over the months preceding the beginning of the Rounds.

On competition day, teachers, students and parents receive an outstanding impression of how well the GHSMTTC and local legal communities statewide can organize and run a competitive event crowning weeks of study and practice. It is during the Regional level of competition that the legal profession truly puts its best foot forward: all forces on our coordinating teams work well together, and each and every step of the day shows our participants the professionalism, skill, and cool-headed order which is the highest ideal of our justice system because anything less would do a disservice to the countless hours of investment by our program's participants. The integrity of the GHSMTTC relies upon the polished and unblemished management of the Regional Competition day statewide and our Coordinating teams meet this challenge each season with orderliness, enthusiasm and a knack for creating an incomparable educational experience.

This season, eight Regional Coordinators did double duty by also coordinating the District Competition at their location. Here, they had to recreate the infrastructure of the Regional Competition for six teams, advancing teams through each Round.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Attorney Coordinating Team</b>
Region 1 (Albany)	Lauren Mock
Region 2 (Athens)	Kevin Epps & Roy Manoll
Region 3 (Atlanta)	Emily Quan
Region 5 (Cartersville)	Christina Jenkins & Erik Pirozzi
Region 6 (Dalton)	Nathan Lock
Region 7 (Decatur)	Nicole Golden
Region 8 (Jonesboro)	Adrienne Nash
Region 9 (Lawrenceville)	Render Freeman & Martina Palatto
Region 10 (Macon)	William Noland & Chris Miranda
Region 11 (Marietta)	Judge Toby Proegers
Region 12 (McDonough)	Lindsay Hodgson
Region 13 (Douglasville)	Sherri Kelly
Region 14 (Savannah)	John Manly & Julie Culhane
Region 15 (Covington)	LeKeyia Reid
Region 16 (Atlanta)	Allen Lightcap
Region 17 (Cumming)	Melissa Banker

## 2014 Regional Champion Teams

At the Regional Competition level, all teams compete in the first two Rounds. The top two teams after Round II meet in a head-to-head match for the Region Championship. The top three teams advance to the District Competition against another Region's teams, with the Regional Champions receiving a bye for Round I.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Team</b>
Region 1 (Albany)	Lowndes High School, <i>Valdosta</i>
Region 2 (Athens)	Westminster Christian Academy, <i>Watkinsville</i>
Region 3 (Atlanta)	Northview High School, <i>Duluth</i>
Region 5 (Cartersville)	Woodland High School, <i>Cartersville</i>
Region 6 (Dalton)	Union County High School, <i>Blairsville</i>
Region 7 (Decatur)	DeKalb School of the Arts, <i>Avondale Estates</i>
Region 8 (Jonesboro)	Jonesboro High School, <i>Jonesboro</i>
Region 9 (Lawrenceville)	Greater Atlanta Christian School, <i>Norcross</i>
Region 10 (Macon)	Middle Georgia Christian Home School Association, <i>Macon</i>
Region 11 (Marietta)	The Walker School, <i>Marietta</i>
Region 12 (McDonough)	Eagle's Landing High School, <i>McDonough</i>
Region 13 (Douglasville)	Bremen High School, <i>Bremen</i>
Region 14 (Savannah)	Savannah Country Day School, <i>Savannah</i>
Region 15 (Covington)	Grovetown High School, <i>Grovetown</i>
Region 16 (Atlanta)	Henry W. Grady High School, <i>Atlanta</i>
Region 17 (Cumming)	Wesleyan School, <i>Norcross</i>

## 2014 District Champion Teams

The District Competition was created to provide opportunities to compete past the Regional level to more teams. Prior to the 2014 season, only 18 teams advanced out of each Region (16 Region Champions and 2 Wildcard Teams). Now, 48 teams are able to compete after Regionals. It was also created to increase the competition each season and make the State Finals Competition a more manageable experience for everyone.

Each Region is paired with another to create a District. At the District Competition, teams compete head-to-head in all Rounds, with the losing team from each match eliminated from the competition. Each of the Region Champions received a bye for Round I, where the 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams faced the 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams from the opposing Region. The winners of Round I faced one of the Region Champions in Round II, where the two winning teams advanced to the District Championship Round.

The teams below won their District competition and advanced to the State Finals Competition.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Team</b>
District I (Cartersville)	Union County High School, <i>Blairsville</i>
Region II (Marietta)	Bremen High School, <i>Bremen</i>
Region III (Decatur)	Paideia School, <i>Atlanta</i>
Region IV (Athens)	Westminster Christian Academy, <i>Watkinsville</i>
Region V (Atlanta)	Atlanta International School, <i>Atlanta</i>
Region VI (Jonesboro)	Jonesboro High School, <i>Jonesboro</i>
Region VII (Macon)	Eagle's Landing High School, <i>McDonough</i>
Region VIII (Savannah)	Lowndes High School, <i>Valdosta</i>

# The 2014 State Champion: Jonesboro High School Mock Trial Team

**2014  
Jonesboro High  
School Team  
Members**

**Teacher Coaches**

Anna Cox  
Andrew Cox

**Attorney Coaches**

Judge John Carbo  
Judge Linda Cowen  
Tasha Mosley  
Katie Powers  
Cory Henry

**Students**

Tre Brown  
Jessica Cao  
Taylah Cash  
James Gossett  
Kaitlyn Harmon  
Deven Harmon  
Sam Hightower  
Xavier Jacobs  
Kennedy Jones  
Altin Kearson  
Larissa Richey  
Kiara Scott  
Amirah Smith  
Erin Toole

The mock trial team from Jonesboro High School (Jonesboro) became the 2014 Georgia Champion from a field of 8 District Champions at State Finals held at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center in Lawrenceville on March 15, 2014. This is Jonesboro's 7<sup>th</sup> State title.

After two preliminary rounds, Jonesboro High School and Lowndes High School (Valdosta) survived to compete in the Final Round for the State title. Justice Keith Blackwell of the Supreme Court of Georgia and Judge Lisa Branch of the Georgia Court of Appeals presided in the Final Round.

The Jonesboro team advanced to the National High School Mock Trial Championship in Madison, Wisconsin on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, placing 34<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

# Bremen High School Team Receives Professionalism Award at State Finals

The State Finals Planning Board of the Georgia High School Mock Trial Committee presented the 2014 State Finals Professionalism Award to the mock trial team from Bremen High School, the District Champion from District II (Marietta). This award is sponsored by the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism. This is the sixth year this award has been presented at State Finals. The award was determined by ballots cast by the competing teams and a tally of team points awarded by Judging Panel volunteers in the two preliminary Rounds. The Bremen team demonstrated the following attributes throughout the entire weekend: fair play, a professional demeanor, civility, integrity, competence, honesty, respect for the Court, respect for their opposing counsel, and respect for the client.



The Bremen High School Mock Trial Team with the Professionalism Award

# Jonesboro Team Places 34<sup>th</sup> at Nationals

Following five and a half weeks of intense preparation this spring, the mock trial team from Jonesboro High School represented the state of Georgia in the 31<sup>st</sup> annual National High School Mock Trial Championship, held in Madison, WI.

The national case this year was a civil problem between the co-founder of an energy drink company and the estate of the deceased second founder. The estate contended that the defendant purposefully spiked a drink of the deceased with a synthetic drug knowing that the drug would have a negative, if not fatal, interaction with the deceased's weak heart. The plaintiff claimed that the defendant did this to remove the deceased from the company and prevent the deceased from taking the company trade secrets to a competitor. The defense countered that the deceased engaged in unhealthy activity prior to drinking the beverage and the ensuing fatal heart attack was a mix of adrenaline, illegal drugs and poor health. Competing medical experts testified about the effects of caffeine on the deceased's body, along with testimony from business partners and the deceased half-sibling gave the team a complex case to prepare for trial.

During the preliminary rounds of the national tournament, the Georgia team competed in the first randomly matched round against Nebraska and lost a close round. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> round, they were power-matched against Utah and won all three ballots. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Round on Saturday morning put the team against a strong North Carolina squad and lost and finally Texas in the 4<sup>th</sup> round and lost a very close match by 4 points.

The team placed 34<sup>th</sup> in a field of 46 teams from across the U.S., Guam, the Northern Marianas Islands and South Korea. The team from the Seattle Preparatory School from Seattle, Washington won the 2014 national title, the first for the team. The remainder of the Top Ten mock trial teams in the nation were:

- |                                  |                              |                            |                             |                             |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> – South Carolina | 4 <sup>th</sup> – California | 6 <sup>th</sup> – Virginia | 8 <sup>th</sup> – Wisconsin | 10 <sup>th</sup> – Illinois |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Ohio           | 5 <sup>th</sup> – Arizona    | 7 <sup>th</sup> – Oregon   | 9 <sup>th</sup> – Louisiana |                             |

**The Jonesboro High School Mock Trial Team at Nationals**



## 2013 Law Academy



**Scholars pose in the courtroom at the State Bar of Georgia**

On Thursday evening, September 19, 2013, 30 mock trial team leaders from around the state met at the Holiday Inn Express in downtown Atlanta for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Law Academy. Law Academy is an intense, clinic-style weekend that provides veteran mock trial team leaders the opportunity to gain basic skills in strengthening their mock trial team and preparing a mock trial case for competition. Law Academy offers in-depth instruction on trial procedure, mock trial rules, and team leadership. Activities are based on the nature of the case (either criminal or civil) featured in the upcoming season and students receive training that will allow them to become team leaders in the upcoming academic year. During the Awards Assembly held Sunday afternoon, students receive certificates of participation.

For the first time, the Law Academy was held at the State Bar of Georgia headquarters in Atlanta. The Academy used the bar facilities on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor's Conference Center Friday through Sunday.

Attorneys, Judges and Teacher Coaches make up the faculty and staff, with some in residence throughout the weekend and others coming in to conduct large group sessions on Friday or Saturday. Serving on this year's faculty were Judge John Carbo (Jonesboro), Louis Cohan (Marietta), Mike Dunham (Marietta), Kevin Epps (Athens), Lee Ann Feeley (Decatur), Jon Setzer (Lawrenceville), Parag Shah (Atlanta), Bonnie Smith (Douglasville), and Barry Stewart Mann (Atlanta).

Faculty members throughout the weekend provide individualized instruction by conducting breakout sessions with small student groups. On Friday and Saturday, four general sessions were led by Judge John Carbo leading a session on legal analysis of a case and creation of a theme, Barry Stewart Mann leading a session on character development through improvisation, Mike Dunham presenting a session on the ins and outs of civil trials, and Louis Cohan presenting a session on closing arguments. Students were able to choose three of four small group sessions covering topics from cross examination (Kevin Epps), general objections and unfair extrapolations (Bonnie Smith), foundations of evidence and exhibits (Lee Ann Feeley) and hearsay objections (Jon Setzer).



# Law Academy 2013 – State Bar of Georgia

## Law Academy Schedule

19 – 22 September 2013

### THURSDAY

- Registration
- Introductions of Scholars and Faculty
- Overview of Weekend

### FRIDAY

- Site visit to Georgia Court of Appeals, Supreme Court of Georgia and US District Court of Northern Georgia
- General Sessions on Legal Analysis & Theme Development the new District Competitions
- Small groups Sessions on General Objections, Objections involving Hearsay, Cross Examination and Foundations of Evidence & Exhibits
- Study time for Bar Exam
- SkyView Atlanta

### SATURDAY

- General Sessions on the Criminal System, Trial Presentation Skills and Closing Arguments, workshop on Character Development
- Small groups sessions (same as Friday)
- Study time for Bar Exam
- Voting on Law Academy Superlatives

### SUNDAY

- Study time for Bar Exam
- Group photo at the State Bar
- Bar Exam
- Closing Assembly with parents and invited guests

## 2013 Law Academy Superlatives

During the 2013 Law Academy, participants nominated and voted for their peers in the following superlative categories:

### Dream Team Pick

Marina Moreira, *MGCHSA*

### Most Humorous

Eddie Samuels, *The Weber School*

### Miss Congeniality

Mollie Hill, *Forsyth Central High School*

### Mr. Congeniality

Ty Jones, *Bainbridge High School*

### Outstanding Female

Ashley Fleck, *Eagle's Landing High School*

### Mr. Congeniality

Hance Joiner, *MGCHSA*



Scholars hearing from Judge Stephen Dillard (Georgia Court of Appeals) and Justice Keith Blackwell (Supreme Court of Georgia) in the Supreme Court courtroom on Friday morning.

## 2013 Law Scholars

Law Academy culminates with the Student Bar Examination, which all students take on Sunday afternoon. This test determines participants' knowledge of trial procedure, the rules of evidence and of the competition, and the Mock Trial case used during the weekend. After the examinations are graded, those students receiving a score of 80 or higher are admitted to the Georgia High School Student Bar Association and those students receiving a score of 90 or better are admitted with honors. These students are invited to the State Finals reception in March, where they receive a certificate for this accomplishment.

### Student Bar of Georgia

#### 2013 – Admitted With Honors

Ashley Fleck, *Eagle's Landing High School*  
Alice Francis, *Union County High School*  
Marina Moreira, *Middle Georgia Christian Homeschool Association*  
Harsh Patel, *Eagle's Landing High School*  
Eddie Samuels, *The Weber School*  
Harsha Sridhar, *Northview High School*  
Zoey Weissman, *The Weber School*  
Patrick Wu, *Northview High School*

#### 2013 – Admitted

Sarah Borucki, *Wesleyan School*  
Kendall Brown, *Dalton High School*  
Lili Byce, *Marist School*  
James Clemons, *Bainbridge High School*  
Alex Coughlin, *Union Grove High School*  
Hance Joiner, *Middle Georgia Christian Homeschool Association*  
Brandt O'Kelley, *Wesleyan School*  
Kevin Remy, *Douglas County High School*  
Hunter Shepherd, *Bremen High School*  
Caroline Steed, *North Springs Charter High School*

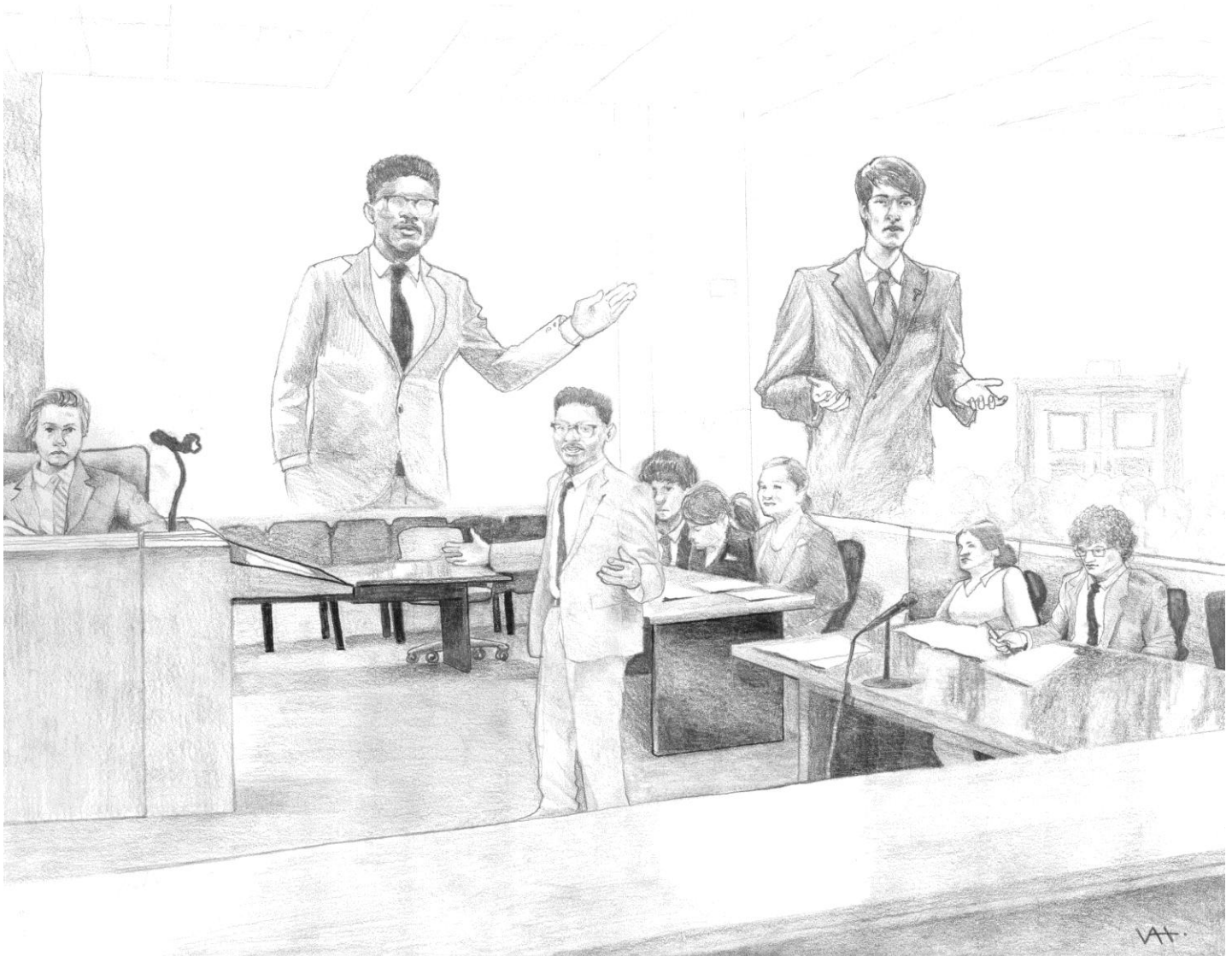
# Craig Harding Memorial Court Artist Contest

The Craig Harding Memorial Court Artist Contest, sponsored by the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), allows artistically talented students from schools participating in the Mock Trial competition an opportunity to participate in the program. Court artists sketch scenes from the first two rounds of the Regional Competition in which their schools are participating. The best two sketches are submitted to the judges at the conclusion of the Championship Round. Sketches must be black-and-white, and any dry medium is acceptable. In 2014, Professors Mohamed Danawi and Don Rogers from SCAD evaluated the entries and selected the Regional and State Champions. The State Champion is invited to accompany the new State Champion Mock Trial team to the National tournament each year. If the State Champion is unable to attend the tournament, the State Finalist is invited to accompany the team to Nationals. Julie Culhane serves as Contest Coordinator.

## 2014 State Champion

Vincenzo Harris

Central High School, *Macon*



# Craig Harding Memorial Court Artist Contest 2014 Regional Champions

Region 1 (Albany) - Natsumi Sterling, *Lowndes High School*  
Region 3 (Atlanta) - Cassandra Chu, *North Springs Charter High School*  
Region 5 (Cartersville) - Alex Daniels, *Woodland High School*  
Region 6 (Dalton) - Addie Murphy, *Union County High School*  
Region 7 (Decatur) - Rebecca Theune, *DeKalb School of the Arts*  
Region 9 (Lawrenceville) - Salim Sio, *Meadowcreek High School*  
Region 10 (Macon) - Vincenzo Harris, *Central High School*  
Region 11 (Marietta) - Kendyll Romine, *North Cobb Christian School*  
Region 12 (McDonough) - Jaylon Rhodes, *Fayette County High School*  
Region 13 (Douglasville) - Cecilie Redding, *Bremen High School*  
Region 16 (Atlanta) - Mattie Martinez, *The Galloway School*  
Region 17 (Cumming) - Marian Trainor, *Lanier High School*

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## 2014 State Finalist

Jaylon Rhodes  
Fayette County High School, *Fayetteville*



# **Student Recognition**

## **2014 Julie Jobe Award for Excellence in Mock Trial**

### **Region 8 (Jonesboro)**

The 2014 Julie Jobe Award was presented to Kiara Scott, Jonesboro High School. Kiara joined the Jonesboro High School Mock Trial team in 2010 and has played both witnesses and attorneys throughout her career. She enthusiastically takes on whatever role is best for the team each season. Kiara constantly helped other team members with their preparations and was a truly committed member of the team. Kiara received a Posse Scholarship for the 2014-2015 school year and will be using it to attend Syracuse University.

The Julie Jobe Award was established in 2000, after the Riverdale High School Mock Trial Team lost Julie Jobe, one of its team members, to leukemia in 1999. Julie attended the first Law Academy in 1998 and was a charter member of the Georgia High School Student Bar Association. She also collected numerous honors as an outstanding attorney. Her parents, the team and then regional coordinator Donna Sims, in conjunction with the Clayton County Public Schools Secondary Social Studies Coordinator Robynn Greer Holland, created this special award called the “Julie Jobe Award for Excellence in Mock Trial.” Each year an honoree is chosen from all student participants in Region 8 (Jonesboro).

# 2014 Four-Year Mock Trial Participants

We salute these students for their dedication to their Mock Trial team through all 4 years of their high school career (2011-2014)

Student	School	Region
Preston Aldridge	Bremen High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Finley Anderson	Woodstock High School	Region 5 (Cartersville)
Charles Bedell	North Oconee High School	Region 15 (Covington)
Faith Bless	North Cobb Christian School	Region 11 (Marietta)
Joseph Brickman	The Weber School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Tre Brown	Jonesboro High School	Region 8 (Jonesboro)
Tyler Burgess	Athens Christian School	Region 2 (Athens)
Courtney Burns	Northgate High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Kass Butler	Bremen High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Chardonay Campbell	Elite Scholars Academy	Region 8 (Jonesboro)
J.D. Capelouto	Henry W. Grady High School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Kevin Castellano	West Forsyth High School	Region 17 (Cumming)
Eunhye Choi	North Gwinnett High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Margaret Ann Clark	Greater Atlanta Christian School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Daniel Colville	The Galloway School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Hayden Cox	Northview High School	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Saul Crumpton	Berrien High School	Region 1 (Albany)
Victoria Cruz	Norcross High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Robert Cunningham	Brookwood High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Haley Davis	Athens Christian School	Region 2 (Athens)
Evelyn DeJesus	Henry County High School	Region 12 (McDonough)
Caleigh Derreberry	Brookwood High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Jackson Dillard	Mount de Sales Academy	Region 10 (Macon)
Michael Dillard	Henry W. Grady High School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Hunter Dixon	The Wesleyan School	Region 17 (Cumming)
Roberto Duarte	Southeast Whitfield High School	Region 6 (Dalton)
Adam Ehrenberg	Paideia School	Region 7 (Decatur)
Zachary Englert	North Cobb Christian School	Region 11 (Marietta)
Lorne Feeser	DeKalb School of the Arts	Region 7 (Decatur)
Ashaki Felix	Stockbridge High School	Region 12 (McDonough)
Sam Fiore	Decatur High School	Region 7 (Decatur)
Liam Foskett	Decatur High School	Region 7 (Decatur)
Shreya Ganeshan	Northview High School	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Allison Gattone	Norcross High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Lizzy Geddy	Mount de Sales Academy	Region 10 (Macon)
Honor Grant	Norcross High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Jennifer Guilarte	North Gwinnett High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Ethan Hammock	Central High School	Region 10 (Macon)
Corey Harris	Union County High School	Region 6 (Dalton)

Alexandria Hartman .....	Athens Christian School .....	Region 2 (Athens)
Amber Hearn .....	South Atlanta High School .....	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Ashley Hearn .....	South Atlanta High School .....	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Orli Hendler .....	Henry W. Grady High School.....	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Parker Hicks.....	Pincrest Academy.....	Region 5 (Cartersville)
Mason Hicks .....	Bremen High School.....	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Mollie Hill .....	Forsyth Central High School.....	Region 17 (Cumming)
Arthur Hubbard .....	Fannin County High School .....	Region 6 (Dalton)
Ashley Jennings .....	Douglas County High School .....	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Bradley Johnson .....	Norcross High School .....	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Emily Johnston .....	DeKalb School of the Arts .....	Region 7 (Decatur)
Hance Joiner.....	Middle Georgia Christian Homeschool Association.....	Region 10 (Macon)
Phillip Joiner .....	Middle Georgia Christian Homeschool Association.....	Region 10 (Macon)
Jonell Joshua .....	Savannah Arts Academy .....	Region 14 (Savannah)
Juri Joyner .....	Ola High School .....	Region 12 (McDonough)
Fred King .....	The Galloway School.....	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Archer Kinnane.....	Henry W. Grady High School.....	Region 16 (Atlanta)
David Kitchens.....	Kendrick High School .....	Region 10 (Macon)
Julianne Lang.....	The Galloway School.....	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Megan Little .....	Fannin County High School .....	Region 6 (Dalton)
Katie Little .....	The Galloway School.....	Region 16 (Atlanta)
John Luna .....	Sprayberry High School.....	Region 11 (Marietta)
Alana Maddox .....	Middle Georgia Christian Homeschool Association.....	Region 10 (Macon)
Chandler Malone.....	Brookwood High School.....	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Skyler Martin.....	Fannin County High School .....	Region 6 (Dalton)
Danielle McKenzie.....	Westminster Christian Academy .....	Region 2 (Athens)
Pearla McMillan .....	Jonesboro High School.....	Region 8 (Jonesboro)
Jack Meersman .....	Pincrest Academy.....	Region 5 (Cartersville)
Chase Menna .....	Johns Creek High School .....	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Daniel Meuhring .....	North Springs Charter High School .....	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Isabella Minter .....	D.M. Therrell High School .....	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Marina Moreira.....	Middle Georgia Christian Homeschool Association.....	Region 10 (Macon)
Edward Mortimer.....	North Springs Charter High School .....	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Juan Moya .....	Johns Creek High School .....	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Quinn Mulholland .....	Henry W. Grady High School.....	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Kaitlin Mullen .....	The Wesleyan School .....	Region 17 (Cumming)
Joseph Phelps.....	Eastside High School .....	Region 15 (Covington)
Deyzha Price.....	Stockbridge High School .....	Region 12 (McDonough)
Emma Rary .....	DeKalb School of the Arts .....	Region 7 (Decatur)
Kevin Remy.....	Douglas County High School .....	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Kamaria Richards .....	Stockbridge High School .....	Region 12 (McDonough)
Azziza Robinson.....	DeKalb Early College Academy .....	Region 7 (Decatur)
Crystal Robinson .....	Henry County High School .....	Region 12 (McDonough)
Justice Rogers.....	Kendrick High School .....	Region 10 (Macon)
Kendyll Romine .....	North Cobb Christian School.....	Region 11 (Marietta)

Eddie Samuels	The Weber School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Kiara Scott	Jonesboro High School	Region 8 (Jonesboro)
Diasha Shaver	South Atlanta High School	Region 3 (Atlanta)
Hunter Shepherd	Bremen High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Liam Simkins-Walker	Atlanta International School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Aaron Smay	The Wesleyan School	Region 17 (Cumming)
Zachery C. Smith	Bremen High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Sarah Stebbins	Atlanta International School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Laura Steinbach	Douglas County High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Masiray Swaray	Stockbridge High School	Region 12 (McDonough)
Hogan Thompson	Bremen High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Andrew Tisinger	Bremen High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)
Jala Tomlinson	Henry County High School	Region 12 (McDonough)
Erin Toole	Jonesboro High School	Region 8 (Jonesboro)
Priyanka Vuppala	Chattahoochee High School	Region 9 (Lawrenceville)
Grace Walker	Fannin County High School	Region 6 (Dalton)
Evan Wallace	Woodland High School	Region 5 (Cartersville)
Donia Wanna	Mount de Sales Academy	Region 10 (Macon)
Chris Webb	Ola High School	Region 12 (McDonough)
Josh Weinstock	Henry W. Grady High School	Region 16 (Atlanta)
Ian Williams	Mount de Sales Academy	Region 10 (Macon)
Thomas Young	Central High School	Region 10 (Macon)
Sarah Zimmerman	Bremen High School	Region 13 (Douglasville)



## 2014 Outstanding Attorney and Teacher Coaches

Each season, teams have the opportunity to nominate a teacher or attorney coach for recognition as an Outstanding Coach. This season, two coaches are receiving the award. The descriptions of outstanding coaches are taken from the letters submitted to support their nomination for this award.



**James G. Stewart**  
**Attorney Coach**  
**Northview High School**  
**Region 11 (Marietta)**

James Stewart joined the Northview High School Mock Trial team in 2007, the team's third year of competition. In his first year coaching the team, Northview reached the Region Finals for the first time. The team and coaches say that Mr. Stewart played a crucial role in the healing of the team after the team's President was killed in a tragic car accident over the summer of 2008. He provided support and encouragement for many of the team's members during this time and helped the students turn their mourning into a dedicated season on behalf of their President. The students give Mr. Stewart credit for the team's rise to success in winning their Region Championships in 2012 and 2013 and being the State Finalist in 2013. Many students note his dedication to the team is evidenced in his 3 AM e-mails to the team about an aspect of the case. During one of Mr. Stewart's early years with the team, one student said "Though I often lost faith in myself, he never once stopped believing in me, and made sure I knew that throughout the season." Another alumna of the program says of Mr. Stewart, "This is the kind of person that every Mock Trial team should have as their coach." His influence on the students extends beyond high school where many of the team's alumni compete in college mock trial at a variety of colleges and universities.



**Emma Stephens**  
**Teacher Coach**  
**Westminster Christian Academy**  
**Region 2 (Athens)**

Emma Stephens has been the Primary Teacher Coach of Westminster Christian Academy since late 2008 and has been credited by students, coaches and school administration with the success of the team since her time with the team started. As on coach stated, "Emma is truly the heart of Westminster's Mock Trial program." Many point out that Ms. Stephens heart not only for the program, but for her students as well. One parent said that she "witnessed the transformation of my son from inhibited to confident." One of the common traits offered of Ms. Stephens is that integrity and high standards for all students in the program are paramount. She "creates an environment of confidence where she inspires the students to lean and succeed." She is credited with inspiring many students into considering a career in law while helping give direction to all students who come through the Westminster Mock Trial program.

# “Thank You” to Court Facilities for Their Support

In order to give students participating in the Mock Trial program a more realistic experience, teams are encouraged to practice and Regional Coordinators to hold competitions in actual courtrooms. The Georgia Mock Trial Program has been fortunate to have the support of judges, court administrators, administrative staff, security, and housekeeping in all mock trial regions. The Mock Trial program is especially grateful to the following Regions that provide exceptional facilities for our competition rounds, security and housekeeping at no cost to the program:

- **University of Georgia Law School** (Region 2 - Athens)
- **Whitfield County Courthouse** (Region 6 - Dalton)
- **Harold R. Banke Justice Center** (Region 8 - Jonesboro)
- **Gwinnett Justice & Administration Center** (Region 9 - Lawrenceville)
- **Bibb County Courthouse** (Region 10 - Macon)
- **Cobb County State Court Building** (Region 11- Marietta)
- **Henry County Courthouse** (Region 12 - McDonough)
- **Douglas County Justice Center** (Region 13 – Douglasville)
- **Newton County Judicial Center** (Region 15 – Covington)
- **Forsyth County Courthouse, City Hall, Forsyth County Administration Building** (Region 17 – Cumming)



## 2013-2014 Financial Report

<b>Income</b>	
<b>Opening Balance</b> for Fiscal Year 2012-2013	<b>\$57,743</b>
<b>General Income</b> (including, but not limited to team & contest registration fees, Law Academy tuition, State Finals ticket sales, resource material sales, etc.)	\$50,937
<b>Young Lawyers Division</b> HSMTC Allocation	\$10,000
<b>State Bar of Georgia</b> Contribution to HSMTC	\$123,475
<b>Donations</b> to the HSMTC (general and national tournament-related)	\$10,778
<b>Total Income to SBG Account</b>	<b>\$252,933</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
<b>Program Expenses</b> (including, but not limited to regional and state finals competition coordination, Law Academy, national tournament participation, staff salaries, travel expenses, office expenses, printed materials, awards, meetings, etc.)	\$171,378
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$171,378</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b> ( <i>as of 06/30/13</i> )	\$81,555
<b>2013 Reserve Funds Balances</b> ( <i>as of 07/01/13</i> )	
George H. Carley Fund for State Champions	\$7,107
Susan B. Devitt Scholarship Fund for Law Academy	\$114
Julie Jobe Award for Excellence in Mock Trial Account	\$1070
School & Region Accounts	\$2405
<b>Reserve Funds Total</b>	<b>\$10,696</b>

# Supporters of the Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition

*From 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014*

*We appreciate the generosity of those whose donations make possible the programs offered by the YLD High School Mock Trial Committee. We welcome supporters and accept tax-deductible contributions through the State Bar of Georgia Foundation.*

## Major Grantors

**Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia  
Clayton County Public Schools**

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Clayton County Bar Association

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Barron's Rental Center, <i>Athens</i>	Harry Douglas	The Loch Shop at Clayton State University, <i>Morrow</i>
Bartow County Bar Association, <i>Cartersville</i>	The Federal Reserve Bank of <i>Atlanta, Atlanta</i>	Darla McAfee
Michelle Bennett, <i>Cartersville</i>	Fox Appliance Parts of Atlanta, <i>Atlanta</i>	McKenney's, Inc., <i>Atlanta</i>
Todd Briske and Arts Clayton Gallery, <i>Jonesboro</i>	Georgia Department of Agriculture, <i>Atlanta</i>	Newton-Coweta Bar Association, <i>Newnan</i>
Chick-fil-a, <i>Cartersville</i>	Georgia Department of Economic Development, <i>Atlanta</i>	Erik Priozzi, <i>Cartersville</i>
Chick-fil-a Corporate Offices, <i>Atlanta</i>	The Georgia Fund, <i>Cartersville</i>	University of Georgia, School of Law, <i>Athens</i>
City of Jonesboro, Georgia	Georgia Peanut Commission, <i>Tifton</i>	Western Circuit Bar Association, <i>Bogart</i>
Clayton County Convention & Visitors Bureau, <i>Jonesboro</i>	Georgia Tech Student Center, Campus Services, <i>Atlanta</i>	The Varsity, <i>Atlanta</i>
Clayton County Parks and Recreation, <i>Jonesboro</i>	Tammie Harmon	WXIA, <i>Atlanta</i>
Clayton County Public Schools, <i>Jonesboro</i>	Christina R. Jenkins	Zaxby's, <i>Athens</i>

# Where to Find it Online

The YLD High School Mock Trial Committee maintains an extensive web site for our participating teams, coaches, HSMT Committee members and volunteers. The address for the home page is [www.georgiamocktrial.org](http://www.georgiamocktrial.org). The Mock Trial web pages contain information on all aspects of the program. A description of the web site and information contained thereon follows.

## **“About Georgia Mock Trial” Link**

This is a good place to start for people wanting to know more about the competition and how they may become involved as a coach or register as a team. The “Overview of the Mock Trial Program” defines a mock trial competition; describes the make-up of a team; lists the benefits of participation to students, teachers and attorneys; and contains comments about the program from key leaders of government and education in Georgia. Information on the YLD/HSMT Committee and supporters of the HSMT Program is also provided.

## **“Programs” Link**

Coached and students can find information on the 2014 season including the season calendar, team registration materials, Regional assignments, Regional Champion packets, Outstanding Coach nomination forms, season evaluation forms, information on the Craig Harding Memorial Artist Contest, as well as information on the Georgia Student Bar Association, and the current State Mock Trial Champion. Registration packet and brochure for the next Law Academy are also available. Coaches of new teams can find information on the Coaches Orientation Meeting here.

## **“Judging Panel Information” Link**

This link provides registered Judging Panel members all the information they need for Regional, District and State competitions including

the Rules, Mock Trial Case, Judging Panel Manual, and Judging Rounds Assignments.

## **“Volunteers” Link**

Under this link is found HSMT Committee Volunteer Form, Regional Judging Panel Volunteer Form, State Finals Judging Panel Volunteer Form, Attorney Coach CLE Form and Teams Needing Attorney Coaches.

## **“Resources” Link**

Major publications from the HSMT Committee are published on-line, including the Georgia High School Mock Trial Competition Rules of Evidence and the Rules of the Georgia Mock Trial Competition, *Georgia Mock Trial Briefs* (the program’s newsletter), a list of Georgia mock trial cases available from the Mock Trial office, 2009 National Championship Round DVD Order Form, and order forms for *May It Please the Court*. The Instructional Link and Mock Trial Off-Season enrichment Activities Link provide additional resources and activities for teams.

## **“State Finals Tournament” Link**

This link provides information related to the State Finals Schedule, State Finals Results, 2014 Judging Panel Volunteer Form, 2014 Press Release and Team Checklist. For spectators attending State Finals, this link provides General Information, Hotel Information and Directions to the Gwinnett Justice Center.

## **“National Championship” Link**

A link to the National High School Mock Trial Website and the NHSMTIC Informational Brochure, as well as information concerning Georgia’s Participation in the National Championship, Honor Roll of Georgia Champion Team sand Press Release for our current State Champion can be found on this link.

# What Can You Do?

## 2014 Team Registration Information

The early registration deadline for the 2014 Mock Trial season is **1 October**. Registrations postmarked after this date are subject to (1) a late penalty and (2) acceptance on a space-available basis, depending upon registrations already received throughout Georgia. The early registration fee is \$100; the late registration fee is \$200. Registration is accomplished by submitting the completed team registration form and fee to the mock trial office by the deadline. The form may be obtained from the office upon request or from the program's web site. General information about the program and the benefits of registration may be found online, as well. Competition materials, in an electronic format will be posted on the program's web site. Instructional materials for use in preparing teams contained in the Coaches Manual may be found online, as well.

## 2014 Law Academy

Application deadline for the 2014 Law Academy will be **late August 2014**. The Law Academy offers **team leader training**. Partial scholarships are available. For application information, contact the Mock Trial office or consult our website under the *Programs* section. Participation is limited to **no more than two students per school that had a mock trial team compete in the 2014 season**. Deadlines will be strictly enforced and no late applications will be accepted. Attorney coaches or other attorney committee members interested in serving as faculty members should contact the Mock Trial office **before 31 August**.

## Attorney Coach Opportunities for the 2014 Mock Trial Season

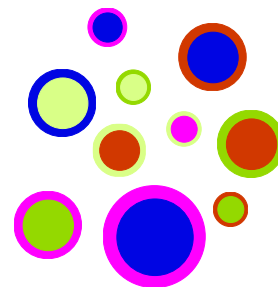
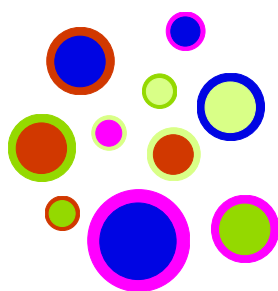
**Attorney Coaches may receive CLE credit!**

Each year, the Mock Trial office receives numerous requests from teams across the state for attorneys who have volunteered to assist in coaching teams. If you are an attorney, your expertise can be invaluable to a team. From the finer points of delivering a closing argument to the rules of evidence, teams need attorneys who are willing to coach them through the legal—and ethical—aspects of trial preparation. A minimum investment of at least 10 hours is asked of each volunteer attorney coach. Judging or evaluating a Round or two and providing feedback at your local Regional or at the State Finals competition will also make a positive impact on the overall program. Please contact the Mock Trial office (using the form provided on the next page) before 1 November if you are interested in coaching.

## Judging Panel Volunteer Opportunities for the 2014 Season

Regional Coordinators in all Regions around the state will be in need of enthusiastic and well-prepared judging panel volunteers for the Regional level of competition the last weekend in January and first weekend in February. Additionally, veteran HSMT judging panel volunteers are invited to join us for the first ever District Competitions February 22 and an exciting State Finals competition in Lawrenceville over the third weekend in March. If you're interested in volunteering to serve on a judging panel, please contact the Mock Trial office before 1 December.

To volunteer for the 2014 season, please go to the Volunteers link on the Georgia Mock Trial website:  
<http://www.gabar.org/forthepublic/forteachersstudents/hsmt/volunteers/index.cfm>



The Georgia High School Mock Trial Committee is a  
Project of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Georgia  
104 Marietta Street, NW; Suite 100  
Atlanta, GA 30303

[www.georgiamocktrial.org](http://www.georgiamocktrial.org)





Contact the Mock Trial  
Office for More Information

Michael Nixon, State Coordinator  
404-527-8779 or toll-free  
800-334-6865 (ext.779)  
mocktrial@gabar.org  
www.georgiamocktrial.org

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and the Georgia Civil Justice Foundation*