

2017 YMCA HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

Franklin High School's Varsity team prevailed over Kirkland's International Community School in a hard fought final round of the YMCA, Youth & Government Mock Trial District Competition on Monday, March 6, 2017. This trial was the conclusion of a series of weekend and evening trials sponsored by the King County Superior Court. **Rachel Kaftan** of Franklin was recognized as the outstanding attorney and **Ami Diouf and Sumaya Faqi**, both of Franklin, were recognized as outstanding witnesses. The Bush School took home the third place trophy in the competition.

This year's fictional case creatively written by recently retired King County Superior Court Judge William L. Downing involved a manslaughter prosecution of a corporation developing a self-driving car after a test driver was killed in a collision with a mule drawn cart. The case brought interesting ethical and open courts issues to light. The defendant corporation contended that the car under development functioned as designed, as the loss of one life in the collision saved the lives of several children standing near where the collision occurred. The open courts issue involved a defense request to prevent the jury from revealing trade secrets expected to be disclosed in trial.

22 teams began the competition with two trials each on Saturday, February 25, 2017. Volunteer judges presided over the trials and volunteer attorneys served as scorers. Teams are scored on their legal skills and on the performances of their actor witnesses. Scoring from the first day left 10 semi-finalist teams. Semi-finalist teams from The Bush School, Jefferson Community Center, University Prep and Seattle Prep competed against Franklin's A, B and C Teams and the International Community School in semi-final rounds held Tuesday, February 28th and Thursday, March 2nd. Teams from all of these schools moved on to the State Tournament in Olympia, March 24 – 26, 2017.

This is an amazing, active civics lesson involving 25 volunteer judges, 75 volunteer attorneys and countless other King County Superior Court volunteers. Presiding judges and volunteer raters were thoroughly impressed by the students presentations and understanding of complicated rules of evidence. The High School Mock Trials are a program of YMCA Youth & Government program. Beyond the YMCA, the program receives support from various lawyers and judges associations and is dependent on hundreds of volunteer hours. Our trials were presided over by King County Superior Court Judges **Beth Andrus, Johanna Bender, John Chun, Samuel Chung, Susan Craighead, Janet Helson, David Keenan, Dean S. Lum, Sean P. O'Donnell, Suzanne Parisien, Nicole Phelps, Judith H. Ramseyer, Kristin Richardson, Steve Rosen, John Ruhl, Catherine Shaffer, Tanya Thorp**; Retired King County Superior Court Judges **Terrence A. Carroll** and **William L. Downing**; King County District Court Judge **Anne Harper**; and Administrative Law Judge **Jason Poydras**. King County Superior Court Judges **Ken Schubert** and **John McHale** and

bailiff **Ricki Reese** ran this year's program in place of retired Judge Downing, who not only ran the program for the past 28 years, he also created the fictional cases used for each competition.

In addition to the twenty-one judges, the trial performances were rated by more than seventy volunteer lawyers who gave generously of their time and talents. Championship round scorers were **Mark Larson**, The Chief Criminal Deputy in the King County Prosecutor's Office; **Kathryn Battuello**, President of the King County Bar Association, **Patty Eakes**, Attorney at Calfo, Eakes and Ovstrovsky, and **Tim Fielden**, Microsoft Corporation, Assistant General Counsel.

The popular and growing event ran smoothly thanks to the administrative help of **Ricki Reese, Debra Bailey Trail, Kirby Pierce, Sergeant Aviecer Negrón, Cassandra White, Shane Williams, Carrie Griffin, Angelina Jimeno, Chase Huffman, Robert "Bobby" Matthews, Blake Hirst, Ashley Allen, Danielle Anderson, Janet Llapitan, Stevie Craig, Joy Fernandes, Navin Fernandes, Sam Hunt, Evan Fowler and Aimee Miller.**

This is an extraordinary program that has a real, lifelong impact on student participants. It is only possible with the help of all of the above referenced volunteers and the many others not listed, including King County Superior Court judges who kindly allowed us to use their courtroom.

For more information about the YMCA High School Mock Trial Program, email john.mchale@kingcounty.gov or ken.schubert@kingcounty.gov

Here are the final official results of the competition:

TEAM	WINS	BALLOTS	POINTS
1. Franklin (A)	5	16	2843
2. ICS (A)	4	11	2663
3. Franklin (B)	4	8	2048
4. Bush	3	9	1933
5. Seattle Prep (B)	3	8	2021
6. Seattle Prep (A)	2	7	2057
7. Seattle Prep (C)	2	7	1970
8. Jefferson Comm. Ctr.	2	7	1874
9. Franklin (C)	2	6	1987
10. Univ. Prep (A)	1	5	1954

11. Univ. Prep (B)	1	3	1002
12. Chief Sealth	1	3	997
13. ICS (B)	1	3	960
14. Sea Academy (A)	1	3	943
15. Haselwood, YMCA	1	2	878
16. Holy Names (A)	0	1	923
17. Nathan Hale	0	1	867
18. Bishop Blanchet	0	0	940
19. Holy Names (B)	0	0	922
20. Garfield	0	0	920
21. Kent-Meridian	0	0	883
22. Sea Academy (B)	0	0	871

In the District championship round, these special awards were given out:

Outstanding Witnesses: **Sumaya Faqi, Franklin HS** and **Ami Diouf, Franklin HS**
Outstanding Attorney: **Rachel Kaftan, Franklin HS**

In the earlier rounds, the following students received special recognition as attorneys and witnesses:

Outstanding Attorneys:

Amira Abdel-Fattah, Garfield HS
Samia Ali, University Prep
Daran Anand, University Prep
Claire Belanger, Holy Names Academy
Pieter Benjamin, International Community School
Beth Berendts, Holy Names Academy
Marli Bosler, Seattle Prep
Cyrus Busby, Bush School
Union Carte, Kent-Meridian
McKenna Conlin, International Community School
Clair Colee, Seattle Academy
Nikhil Deo, University Prep
Stella Esen-Cicon, Seattle Academy
Camille Fain, Garfield HS

Emma Fletcher-Frazer, Nathan Hale HS
Elizabeth Garrett, Haselwood YMCA
Sofia Gellock, Seattle Prep
Emma Grossman, Seattle Prep
Renee Guan, Jefferson Community Center
Alex Ho, Jefferson Community Center
Athena Ho, International Community School
Aleks Jovcic, International Community School
Lucas Kepl, Archbishop Blanchet HS
Rishi Krishnamurthy, International Community School
Sydney Ku, International Community School
Anna Law, Seattle Prep
Arisa Lee, Jefferson Community Center
Kellen Leavel, Haselwood YMCA
Angela Lin, Seattle Prep
Alessandra Milan, Franklin HS
Zoe McGough, Franklin HS
Ahlam Nu, Franklin HS
Julia Oles, Seattle Prep
Mackenzie Palmer, Franklin HS
Hudson Patterson, Seattle Prep
Davis Pessner, Seattle Prep
Maslyn Pessner, Seattle Prep
McKenna Ragen, University Prep
Jordan Renpel-White, Franklin HS
Thomas Reuter, Seattle Prep
Amad Ross, Chief Sealth HS
Charlotte Rogerson, Bush School
Ebany Tura, Franklin HS
Alex Walsh, Franklin HS
Savannah Westra, Seattle Academy
Noah Webster, Chief Sealth HS
Jia Yu "Amy" Zhou, Jefferson Community Center

Outstanding Witnesses:

April Adams, Holy Names Academy
Sawyer Coulson,
Christian Culbert, International Community School
Amina Dawud, Franklin HS
Amy Do, Chief Sealth HS
Sophia Dony, Nathan Hale HS
Derek Eng, Seattle Academy
Max Fredell, Kent-Meridian HS
Stephanie Fulton, International Community School
Owen Gent, Seattle Prep

Chase Hampton, Haselwood YMCA
Sydney Janssen, Seattle Academy
Rachel Kaftan, Franklin HS
Naomi Knoll, Kent-Meridian HS
MacKenzie Lahren, International Community School
Wei Wei Lee, Nathan Hale HS
Landon MacColl, Franklin HS
Gabriel Maggiore, Seattle Prep
Hannah McConnell, Seattle Academy
Janea McCoy, Holy Names Academy
Leah Arkills-McLain, Chief Sealth HS
Liam McNett, Seattle Prep
Camille Neutz, University Prep
Annalice Ni, International Community School
Donna Nikjou, International Community School
Michelle Nguyen, Seattle Prep
Madison Onsager, Bush School
Naomi Knoll, Kent-Meridian HS
Elijah Pasco, Seattle Prep
Yin Ting Pang, Jefferson Community Center
Rohan Patel, International Community School
Daniel Pham, Jefferson Community Center
Else-Rose Ratzliff, Seattle Academy
Sophie Redila, Bush School
Thomas Reuter, Seattle Prep
Jacob Richey, University Prep
Savannah Rorsbach, Nathan Hale HS
Charlotte Smither, Franklin HS
Thalia Solyanik, University Prep
Quinn Sullivan, Garfield HS
Cameron Swope, University Prep
Midori Sylwester, Franklin HS
Adam Tazi, International Community School
Spencer Thieme, Seattle Prep
Haley Thompson, Haselwood YMCA
Michael Waas, University Prep
Emma Wendel, Franklin HS
Jacqueline Williams, Seattle Prep
Selena Xie, Jefferson Community Center
Duaa Zaheer, International Community School