

Special Project Submission Form

Project Timeline:

List the segments of the project and the approximate time each item took. Please try to indicate the amount of planning that is involved and if any special arrangements are required beforehand.

Item	Time

Comments:

Clarify the procedure, suggest additional ways of performing the same demonstration, or comment on the response from the Inn members regarding the demonstration.

Special Project Award: *Please complete this section **only** if the project is being submitted for award consideration.*

Describe how your project fits the Special Project Award criteria:

Mission: How did the project promote or incorporate the elements of the mission of the American Inns of Court? *(To foster excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility, and legal skills.)*

Community: How did the project reach the legal community or community-at-large?

Questions:

Please contact program library staff at (703) 684-3590 or programlibrary@innsofcourt.org.

Ted Dalton American Inns of Court: Special Project Submission Form

Oliver Hill “Rule of Law” Program

March-April 2017

Roanoke, Virginia 24011

Inn Number: 30364

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Oliver Hill Rule of Law Program was aimed towards disadvantaged youth in Roanoke, Virginia. The Ted Dalton American Inn partnered with the Boys and Girls Club to create a program that awards excellence and encourages respect for the rule of law. The program consisted of three parts. First, the students were invited to tour the state and federal courthouses. Federal and state judges spoke to the children and they were allowed to watch a juvenile criminal case's final disposition. This part of the project was aimed at introducing the children to the law and breaking down preconceived notions about the judicial system.

Secondly, members visited the Oliver Hill House over the course of two weeks to put on a workshop. The workshop consisted of skits, handouts, lectures and small discussions. The workshop centered on the rule of law and the children were asked to discuss rules and laws and to use their experiences from the tours to respond to the questions. This part of the project was aimed at strengthening the students reading, writing and public speaking skills.

Thirdly, the children participated in the Oliver Hill competition by writing a response to a prompt concerning the rule of law. The winners were selected to read their submissions to the entire Inn and to their families. This part of the project was aimed at recognizing the students' hard work and encouraging their continued engagement in education. Professor Stubbs from the University of Richmond, who wrote an autobiography on Oliver Hill, agreed to be the keynote speaker and delivered a riveting speech.

PROJECT TIMELINE

<u>State Courthouse Tour</u>	<u>3 hours: Arranging itinerary and guest speakers</u>
<u>Federal Courthouse Tour</u>	<u>3 hours: Arranging itinerary and guest speakers</u>
<u>One Hour Long Workshop (4 days)</u>	<u>10 hours: Handouts, skits, one hour per every workshop, commute, snacks, and lecture</u>
<u>Competition</u>	<u>3 hours: Drafting and grading essays submissions</u>
<u>Reception</u>	<u>2 hours: Invitations, trophies, speaker</u>

COMMENTS

The Boys and Girls Club in Roanoke serves four elementary schools. They operate out of Oliver Hill's home as a child which is located in Roanoke. Oliver Hill is remembered as a champion for civil rights. A different elementary school visits the Oliver Hill House every day and the project could have included additional support into the future. Many of the students who did not win the competition still struggle in school and need help completing their homework. Therefore, the workshop segment of the program could be ongoing to facilitate more growth in the community.

MISSION

Professionalism: The project allowed the children to interact with professionals over a formal dinner and the children waited patiently for their turn to present their essays.

Ethics: The project exposed the children to the rule of law and why the law is fair, good and neutral. The children discussed the importance of morality and impartiality in executing the laws. The children also discussed the differences and similarities between laws and rules.

Civility: The project required the children to listen to one another and discuss issues without resorting to violence.

Legal Skills: The project allowed the children to write, read and publicly speak. The children also critically analyzed legal issues.

COMMUNITY

The project reached the legal community by engaging attorneys and judges. First, attorneys answered the children's questions in open court and at the reception. Judges, deputies and attorneys alike were eager to engage the children. Some of the attorneys have even served as Big Brothers and Sisters to the children. This program encouraged those in the legal community to look into serving as a Big Brother or Sister to a child.

The children's entire families were invited to the reception and many parents brought cameras and cried when their children read their pieces. It is not every day that eight year olds are recognized and awarded trophies in front of judges and local attorneys. The crowd at the reception brought many difference people from varying backgrounds together, on the children's behalf. This program has been recognized in the local newspaper and it sends the message that the judicial system and the Inns of Court support the local community.

OLIVER HILL: RULE OF LAW HANDOUT

WRITE TEN WORDS THAT COME TO MIND WHEN YOU THINK OF THE WORD "LAW"

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

DEFINE RULE

1. _____

DEFINE LAW

1. _____

GIVE AN EXAMPLE OF A RULE BEING APPLIED

1. _____

GIVE AN EXAMPLE OF A LAW BEING APPLIED

1. _____

WHY DO WE HAVE LAWS, WHO IS PROTECTED BY THE LAWS, AND WHO IS BOUND BY THE LAWS?

1. _____

OLIVER HILL: RULE OF LAW SCRIPTS

SKIT ONE

Narrator: Ross is walking his dog late at night

Ross: Walks Dog.

Officer Alichia: Where are you going?

Narrator: When an officer stops Ross for wearing green shoes.

Officer Alichia: Are those green shoes? You'll have to come with me. This is absurd.

Ross: *Protests* Noooo... I love my green shoes.

Officer Alichia: Persists. Well you can love your shoes in JAIL.

Ross: *holds head down and follows the officer*

Narrator: Who thinks it's okay to be arrested for green shoes?

Discussion: Children Respond

Narrator: How does that tie into the Rule of Law? Is it okay to arrest people for wearing green shoes? Why or why not?

SKIT TWO

Narrator: Meet Ariel. She is under arrest but she does not know why.

Ariel: Hi, I was arrested five months ago and placed in a cell. I do not know why I was arrested and I do not know how I can get out of jail.

Narrator: Is it okay for Ariel to not know why she was arrested and be kept in a cell for five months?

Discussion: Children Respond

Narrator: Why is it important for laws to apply equally to everyone? Why is it important to know why you are arrested? How does that tie into the Rule of Law?

Supporting
Pictures Attached























