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| http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/images/public_education/Web_Assets/law_day_2017_web.jpg |

**MUSKEGON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION LAW DAY 2017**

**12th GRADE SPEECH CONTEST**

The 14th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified on July 9, 1868, after the Civil War, and granted citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States. In addition, it forbids states from denying any person life, liberty, or property without due process of law or to deny any person equal protection under the law. Through its Citizenship, Due Process and Equal Protection clauses, this transformative amendment advanced the rights of all Americans. The 14th Amendment is cited in more litigation than any other amendment and is a source of inspiration for all those who advocate for equal justice under law.

**QUESTION:** The topic to be answered in speech format is:

The 14th Amendment protects a person’s right to be treated equally under the law.  The Supreme

Court has ruled that discrimination based on race, gender, religion, or national origin is unconstitutional.  However, when evaluating applicants for admissions, colleges examine a number

of variables, including these, when deciding whether to accept a student. Should colleges be

allowed to factor a student’s race and gender as part of the admissions process?

Students may wish to review the following materials before preparing speeches:

1.       <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/572/12-682/case.pdf>

2.       <http://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-supreme-court/539/306.html>

3.      <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/539/244/case.pdf>

Speeches must be **no longer than FOUR MINUTES**. We encourage students to take a position and support that position with research, data, and material. Students should also be aware of the contrary position and be able to argue and support why their position on the issue is better.

**Awards for 12th Grade Speech Contest Winners are as follows:**

**1st Place: $2,000.00 Scholarship 2nd Place: $1,000.00 Scholarship**

**3rd Place: $500.00 Scholarship 4th Place: $250.00 Scholarship**

**EACH SCHOOL IS LIMITED TO THREE STUDENTS.** However, we do have the discretion to allow more participants. **TEACHERS:** Please submit any questions and the names of your final three students to:

Jenny McNeill

Ladas Hoopes McNeill Law, PLC

435 Whitehall Road

North Muskegon, MI 49445

(231) 744-6218

[jennymcneill@comcast.net](mailto:jennymcneill@comcast.net)

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**MUSKEGON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION LAW DAY 2017**

**12th GRADE SPEECH CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

**Student’s Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student’s Home Phone Number:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Student’s Age:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student’s Email Address:** \_\_

**Parent(s) Names(s):**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent’s Email Address:**  \_\_

**Name of School:**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Teacher:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **School Phone Number:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of College Planning to Attend:**­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**College Identification number (if available):**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Guests Attending the luncheon (limit 2 guests per student):**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Entrant:** \_\_

**Eligibility:** Muskegon County 12th grade students.

**Notification:** Speech contest will be held at the **MAREC Center on April 28, 2017**. All

participants in this contest are invited to attend the Muskegon County Bar

Association Law Day Luncheon at the **Lake House** on **April 28, 2017, from 11:30am – 1:00pm**.

Winners will be announced at the luncheon.

**Deadline:** Entries must be received by 5:00 pm April 14, 2017.

**Requirements:** A completed entry form must be submitted for each contestant.

**Submit to:**  Jenny McNeill

Ladas Hoopes McNeill Law, PLC

435 Whitehall Road

North Muskegon, MI 49445

(231) 744-6218 [jennymcneill@comcast.net](mailto:jennymcneill@comcast.net)