<u>View this email in your browser</u>. The North Carolina Mock Trial Program administers the NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition. Please share this newsletter with teammates and parents! For more visit nemocktrial.org



June 2022 Mock Trial News

NC MOCK TRIAL RECOGNIZED AT NCAJ CONVENTION

The North Carolina Mock Trial Program was recognized in its 30th year at the NCAJ Convention's annual meeting on Saturday, June 18, 2022.

The North Carolina Mock Trial Program administers the NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition. NCAJ started the high school mock trial program 30 years ago and its support runs deep not only as the high school mock trial competition sponsor, but also in terms of its members supporting the program with their time and talent volunteering, and with individual contributions and firm sponsorships. We were excited to join NCAJ members at their annual convention in Charlotte this month to celebrate NCAJ's Diamond Jubilee - 60 years as an organization dedicated to protecting people, preventing injustice and promoting fairness. NCAJ also celebrated 30 years of high school mock trial, recognizing the NCMTP at it's annual meeting on Saturday, June 18, 2022. NCMTP Board Member Mark Sumwalt recapped some of our 30 year history and recognized NCMTP President, Rebecca Britton, as well as members of the NCMTP board and attorneys and paralegals who have supported the program. We were excited to join exhibitors at the convention with a table dedicated to mock trial.

The NCMTP wishes to send a huge thank you to all of the NCAJ members who stopped by our exhibitor table during the Convention to say hello, learn more about mock trial, share ideas about how to reach more schools, and sign up to become a

volunteer. We love that you share in our excitement for mock trial and what the program does to enrich the lives of our future leaders. We especially thank NCAJ for its incredible support of the high school mock trial program.



North Carolina Mock Trial Program Board President, Rebecca Britton, accepts an award at the 2022 NCAJ Convention on behalf of the NCMTP in recognition of its 30 years of civic education provided to high school students.

FORMER MOCKER TURNS SUMMER INTERN
THROUGH DUKE ENGAGE PROGRAM



Michael Austin, NCMTP 2022 Summer Intern

At the age of eleven I participated in my first mock trial. The memory is foggy, but unmistakably I recall how it made me feel: invigorated, legitimized, and most importantly, part of something bigger than myself. I think this reflects just how much I needed mock trial as a young student, a place where my curiosity was encouraged and my gifts were acknowledged. That was what first drew me to the activity: mock trial was a chance for my excitement about public speaking and my proclivity for zealous, forensic questioning to be recognized as a path to success, a path that wasn't as apparent elsewhere.

Seven years later, I've been a passionate participant in mock trial ever since, made possible by the North Carolina Mock Trial Program. During high school, my teammates and I would eagerly await the release of the coming season's case like it was the next season of Stranger Things. Our weekly meetings in the fall and winter would be a haven to express the most creative, collaborative, and forensic sides of ourselves. And for us, the real Super Bowl in February was the day of North Carolina mock trial regionals. The small triumphs of these tournaments—seeing the result of our teamwork and civic enthusiasm—have drawn my peers and I alike to envision ourselves in careers of law and public service.

I share these memories, firstly, to introduce myself. My name is Michael Austin, and I am a rising freshman at Duke University from Cary, NC. Through the DukeEngage

Gateway program, my school has enabled me to work alongside the North Carolina Mock Trial Program this summer, volunteering my student perspective wherever helpful. As I'm excited to give back to this program and activity that has been so formative for me, I wish to thank those who make North Carolina mock trial possible through their hard work and dedication to civic education. I hope my experiences remind you of the meaningful and life-changing impact you have on so many students.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2021-2022 COMPETITION SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

NCAJ High School Mock Trial Competition Program Sponsor:



Program Outreach Sponsors:

ABOTA Foundation & Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company of North Carolina

State Finals Sponsor: Sumwalt Anderson Law Firm

Regional Sponsors:

• Fayetteville: Britton Law

Gastonia: Gaston County Bar Association and Hometown Counsel

· Greenville: Hardee, Massey, Blodgett, LLP

Hendersonville: The Van Winkle Law Firm and Melrose Law

Hickory: The Law Office of Jason E. Taylor and Orndoff Law Firm

• High Point: High Point Bar Association

• Hillsborough: Patterson Harkavy LLP and the 18th Judicial District Bar

Raleigh: Settlement Planning Services, LLC & Maginnis Howard

Salisbury: 19C Judicial Bar

Wilmington: Shipman & Wright, LLP

NCMTP REGIONAL AND SITE COORDINATORS

The below group of attorneys and paralegals generously volunteer their time to make mock trial competition run smoothly each year. Learn more about all coordinators at https://ncmocktrial.org/supporters. We thank both our new coordinators and long-time coordinators very much:

Regional Coordinators

• Fayetteville: Rebecca Britton and Jordan Godwin

Gastonia: Holden Clark and Ivana Hughes

Greenville: Meredith Hinton

· Hendersonville: Mary Ann Hollocker

Hickory: Blia Vang

High Point: Rich Manger

Hillsborough: Drew Haywood and Rebecca Ugolick

Raleigh: Lindsey Granados and Christine Scheef

Salisbury: John Basinger

Wilmington: John H. Anderson, Jr.

Site Coordinators:

· Fayetteville: Tanja Shurling

· Gastonia: Jacqueline Thurman

• Greenville: Sandra Strickland and Caitlin Tatum

• Hendersonville: Melanie Miller

· Hickory: Bianca Lopez

· High Point: Grace Lay

Hillsborough: Patti Clapper

· Raleigh: Michelle Keely and Amanda Miller

• Salisbury: Alicia Coggins, Connie Cassatt

Wilmington: Catherine Holland and Rachel Royal

NCMTP Board Members: Rebecca Britton (President); Rich Manger (Vice President), Andrew McVey (Treasurer), Adrienne Blocker (Secretary), Helen Baddour, Bradley Bannon, Drew Haywood, Christine Scheef, Brooke Schmidly, Mark Sumwalt, and John McCabe (ex officio)









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