

Beaver County Bar Association

2012-2013 Law Related Education Programs

The Beaver County Bar Association, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Bar Association, has started planning law-related education programs for the 2012-2013 school year. These programs are designed to help schools lay a foundation for teaching civics and government in the classroom. Listed in this brochure are the four cornerstone education programs offered by the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Beaver County Bar Association. Also outlined are the approximate dates these programs will be offered. It is our hope that the information will help local schools incorporate the programs into their curriculum for the upcoming school year. The Beaver County Bar Association will distribute information specific to these programs as the school year approaches.

Please look for information regarding these programs throughout the school year. The Beaver County Bar Association welcomes any input from area educators regarding ways we can help with the teaching of civics and

government in the classroom. Should you have any questions, please contact the Bar Association.

“Celebrate the Constitution” Program

This unique program begins the third week in September and runs through Bill of Rights Week in December. It gives students the opportunity to learn about the United States and Pennsylvania Constitutions through fun and informative learning activities together with a mock Constitution signing. In 2011, more than 1,200 Beaver County students received pocket constitutions from attorneys and judges who spoke in their classrooms. Mock Constitutions signed by these students were then displayed at the Beaver County Courthouse



BEAVER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

2012-2013 LAW RELATED EDUCATION PROGRAMS



Beaver County Bar Association

Beaver County Bar Association
788 Turnpike Street
Beaver, PA 15009

Mock Trial Competition

One of the largest in the nation, the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Mock Trial Competition gives High School student teams from across the state the opportunity to act as lawyers and witnesses in a simulated jury trial.



This experience will give the students a better understanding of the legal profession as well as the judicial system. Each team consists of at least five students who play the roles of lawyers, litigants and witnesses. Each year the winning team from Pennsylvania advances to represent Pennsylvania in the national competition. The Beaver County Bar Association has sponsored the High School Mock Trial Competition since 1988. Each year the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County and over 75 Beaver County attorneys volunteer their time in this program as team advisors, coordinators, judges and jurors. In the past 23 years, teams from Beaver County have

won the State Championship 6 times. Schools will be contacted in early October with registration information. Local competitions are held through February.

Law Day

Each year, the nation observes Law Day during the month of May. This event is designed to educate people of all ages about the legal system and to celebrate the American heritage of liberty, justice and equality. By offering an outstanding set of free law-related lesson plans prepared for K-12 classrooms, the Pennsylvania Bar Association and Beaver County Bar Association work with local schools to educate children about their legal rights and responsibilities. To celebrate Law Day, the Beaver County Bar Association awarded scholarships and savings bonds to winning participants in Mock Trial and Law Day Contests. These contests enabled Beaver County students to demonstrate their understanding of how our government works.



Stepping Out Program

The Pennsylvania Bar Association's "Stepping Out" program, offered in the spring, is designed to help graduating seniors make the first step into adulthood by providing them with valuable information on legal matters. This program offers a booklet dealing with various areas of law including renting an apartment, consumer credit, civil litigation, criminal penalties for driving under the influence, voting, jury services, plus



many other interesting topics. The booklet also informs the students of their legal rights as adults, and fosters an appreciation of the responsibilities that go along with those rights. An attorney or judge will visit the school, distribute the booklets, and present a one (1) hour program to discuss the subject in greater detail and to answer questions the students may have about their legal rights and responsibilities.

REPLY FORM

We are interested in the following programs.

Name of School _____

School District _____

Name of Teacher _____

Grade Level _____

Number of Students _____

____ "Celebrate the Constitution" Program

____ Mock Trial Program

____ Law Day

____ Stepping Out Program

Return this portion of form to:

Beaver County Bar Association

788 Turnpike Street

Beaver, PA 15009

BEAVER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Beaver County Bar Association
788 Turnpike Street
Beaver, PA 15009
Phone: 724.728.4888
Fax: 724.728.7717
E-mail:
Website: bcba-pa.org