



OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM COURTROOM ARTIST COMPETITION Official Rules

1. All courtroom artist contestants must be affiliated with a Mock Trial team and enrolled at the team's school.
2. All courtroom artist contestants must sign the code of ethics promising to work independently on the contest entry before the beginning of the first round of competition.
3. All courtroom artist contestants must sign a permission slip authorizing publication or reprinting of their Courtroom Art Contest submissions for educational purposes. No financial compensation will be awarded.
4. Each team may have 1 courtroom artist contestant.
5. The courtroom artist contestants may not fill in for any attorney, witness, or timekeeper position.
6. All courtroom artist contestants must remain with their team during competition and may only draw scenes from their team trials.
7. All courtroom artist contestants must check in with the trial site coordinator before each round of competition begins for courtroom assignment and seating instructions.
8. All courtroom artist contestants must sit in the jury box away from the scorers. If a scorer, trial site coordinator, or the presiding judge ask you not to sit in the jury box, you may sit in the front row of spectator seating, away from the witnesses.
9. Once seated, **courtroom artist contestants may not have any contact with anyone from their school** (including parents, visitors, teachers, coaches, fellow students). You must create your drawing independently. Any communication will be a violation and risk disqualification of the artist and/or the team.
10. Once seated, courtroom artist contestants may not move about the courtroom.
11. All courtroom artist contestants will sketch rounds in which their schools' teams are on trial.
12. Sketches must depict actual courtroom scenes observed by the courtroom artist contestant in that trial and must be created and completed solely by the courtroom artist contestant submitting the sketches for judging without help from any outside sources.

13. All sketches must be created during **Round 2** of the competition.
14. Courtroom artist contestants may attend Round 1 competition with their team for practice sketching.
Courtroom artist contestants may not submit their Round 1 practice sketch for judging.
15. All entries may be done in color or black and white. If courtroom artist contestants use charcoal or pastel pencils, some type of spray sealer or other fixative must be applied to any medium that requires it to reduce smudging or rubbing.
16. The drawing must be on paper of the dimensions 11" x 14" with a horizontal format.
17. Any dry medium may be used. No watercolors or paints are allowed.
18. Courtroom artist contestants must supply all their materials.
19. Courtroom artist contestants may make as many drawings as they wish during the Round, but may only submit one to the trial site coordinator for judging.
20. Courtroom artist contestants must place their name label, which will be issued by the trial site coordinator at check in, onto the back of the drawing you submit.
21. Courtroom artist contestants must submit their work to the trial site coordinator at the conclusion of the debriefing remarks by the presiding judge.
22. Only drawings timely submitted to the trial site coordinator will be entered into the contest.
23. Because the pictures may be reproduced, they need to have strong enough line value and shading to be seen clearly once scanned.
24. All entries become the property of the Oklahoma Mock Trial Program and the Oklahoma Bar Association and may be used by the Mock Trial Committee for whatever purpose is deemed appropriate.
25. All entries will be judged anonymously by a judging panel selected by the Mock Trial Committee based on the criteria included on the Courtroom Artist Score Sheet.
26. The top four artists will be invited to the state final competition where the second through fourth place winners will receive a certificate and the State Champion will receive a plaque.

COURTROOM ARTIST COMPETITION SCORE SHEET

- A) **Telling the Story:** Does the illustration give the view an immediate feeling of an event taking place? Does the artwork evoke an emotion or show action? Does the sketch provide enough information to hold the eye for a period of time?
- B) **Composition:** Is there a definite indication of Courtroom interior to describe place? Are the figures in the illustration large enough to focus on, yet small enough to be placed within the structure of the courtroom? Are the elements of witness, judge, attorneys, etc. placed in an arrangement proportionate to the page, and create balance on the page?
- C) **Color/Contrast:** Is the illustration harmonious in a distribution of line, color, and tone? Are there good balances of dark and light that play off each other to give richness to the artwork? Is the medium of choice, be it colored pencil, marker, etc. used to the best advantage in documenting the illustration?
- D) **Authenticity:** Does the artwork convey a professional feeling, without seeming cartoonish? Is the illustration, no matter the style, i.e. sketchy, ultra-realistic, highly-rendered, or loosely drawn, carry the idea of adhering to a respectful, convincing depiction of a courtroom event?

SCORES:

3-4 FAIR

5-6 AVERAGE

7-8 GOOD

9-10 EXCELLENT