ABOUT MOCK TRIAL

“Not all students who participate in mock trial become lawyers. What they do become is better and more active citizens.”

The Hon. Gene E. Franchini

SEND DONATIONS TO

2012 National High School Mock Trial Championship

2012 National Mock Trial
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2012 NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL Mock Trial Championship

ALBUQUERQUE
NEW MEXICO

The 2012 National High School Championship is dedicated in loving memory to Justice Franchini, the “Godfather” of mock trial in New Mexico. He was a dedicated CCV Board member and a passionate champion of this program that has touched the lives of thousands of our state’s high school students since 1978.
Every fall, more than 20,000 teenagers across the country get ready to go to court, not because they have to, but because they want to. From September to April, these young people immerse themselves in the inner workings of our system of justice. After school, in the evenings, on weekends, learning rules of evidence and procedure, and confronting the complexity – in concrete cases – of some of our most challenging current issues.

By the spring, they are ready. In 44 states and territories, in real courtrooms, before real judges, they try the cases they have been preparing since the fall. From opening statements, through direct and cross examination of witnesses, to closing arguments, each trial takes about two and a half hours. Every team from every school has its own “attorneys” and “witnesses” and must be ready to present either side of the case before “juries” who score their performances.

Trial by trial, the teams compete for the championship of their jurisdiction, vying for the opportunity to compete against all the other winners at the national championship each May. The victors have only five weeks to get ready to try a brand new case against the best of the best.

In 2012, they will all be coming to New Mexico! The event will attract students, teachers, attorneys and judges from across the country, representing the state champion teams from 40-plus states, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and South Korea.

New Mexico was asked to host the 2012 event, in large part because we staged such an outstanding National Championship in 1998 in Albuquerque. We agreed to host Nationals again because we want to:
- introduce New Mexico to more than 1,000 championship attendees;
- create favorable publicity for the legal and civic communities; AND,
- provide a priceless educational experience for America’s young people.

Our fundraising goal is $100,000 to underwrite the costs of the National Championship. This is less than 50% of what we raised in 1998 when we hosted last, and we’re already on our way.

We invite YOU to join us! You may make a one-time contribution or donate over time. Visit civicvalues.org and select “Donate Now.”