

Court Information Release



United States District Court
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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the Northern District of Illinois
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Chicago High School Senior Wins U.S. Courts' Bill of Rights Day Essay Contest

Chicago high school senior Collin Kenyon won the 2nd Annual Bill of Rights Day Essay Contest in the 9th-12th age group. [Kenyon's essay](#) was selected as the winner from among hundreds of entries from students across ten states. Kenyon attends Saint Ignatius College Prep in the Near West Side of Chicago.

We who work in the federal court are moved by the creative, inspiring, and thought-provoking entries from students across the Northern District of Illinois. Their passion and talent give us hope for the future," said Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer.

The contest was sponsored by U.S. Courts from the Seventh and Eighth Judicial Circuits. Students in grades 3-12 from Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin were invited to submit art and essays about the importance of the Bill of Rights.

Finalists were selected within grade levels 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, and 9th-12th from each of the participating federal district courts and then forwarded to the grand prize judging committee. The grand prize winners were announced during the "Bill of Rights and You!" live webinar on December 1, 2021.

December 15 is recognized as Bill of Rights Day. The Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments of the Constitution, spell out our individual rights as Americans and the limits on government power.

The winning entries and a list of district finalists can be viewed on the contest website at <https://judiciallearningcenter.org/bill-of-rights-day/>

Finalists from the Illinois Northern District are listed below:

Essay

Grades 3-5	Adella Rebmann	View Essay
Grades 6-8	Rebecca Hirsh	View Essay
Grades 9-12	Collin Kenyon	View Essay

Honorable Mention

Grade 6-8	Lily Santos-Merritt	View Essay
Grade 6-8	Matti Wachalski	View Essay

Artwork

Grades 3-5	Sophia Wikell & Hannah Mulcahy	View Artwork
Grades 6-8	Elsa Sowka	View Artwork

Honorable Mention

Grade 6-8	Olivia Nomikos	View Artwork
Grade 9-12	Ximena Hernandez	View Artwork

U.S. Courts' coverage of the 2020 event can be found here;
<https://www.uscourts.gov/news/2020/12/10/judges-bring-students-and-their-families-inside-look-bill-rights>



Above: Collin Kenyon