

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNSEL FOR CHILDREN



NEWS RELEASE

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STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION ON THE LEGAL INTERESTS OF CHILDREN

\$1,000 PRIZE

DENVER, COLORADO March, 2009 – The National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) is accepting essays for the 2009 LAW STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION.

Essay Submission Guidelines:

1. The recommended essay length is 10,000 words
2. Essays will be evaluated on the importance of the topic to advancing the legal interests of children, originality, persuasiveness, and the quality of research and writing.
3. Essay topics of national importance are given preference.
4. Essays must be submitted electronically to: Kellogg.Anne@tchden.org.
5. The student should include in the body of the email the following: school name, expected graduation date, and contact information for both the school year and the summer (including phone numbers, mailing addresses, and email addresses).
6. Essays must be received by **June 1, 2009**.

The NACC will publish the winning essay in its 2009 Children’s Law Manual. In addition, the winner will be awarded \$1,000 and be given a scholarship to the 2009 NACC National Juvenile and Family Law Conference in Brooklyn, NY.

Recent winners of the NACC’s Law Student Essay Competition include:

- 2008 – *Ensuring Equal Access to Education: Ending Racial Isolation in Public Schools in Light of Parents v. Seattle School District No. 1* by Manali Shah, Catholic University Columbus School of Law
- 2007 – *Prevention and Rehabilitation of Youth Who Commit Sexual Offenses: The Importance of an Inter-Agency Approach* by Andrea Randisi, UC Davis Law School
- 2006 – *Adequate Access or Equal Treatment: Looking Beyond the IDEA to Section 504 in a Post-Schaffer Public School* by Christopher J. Walker, Stanford Law School
- 2005 – *Free Exercise in Foster Care: Defining the Scope of Religious Rights for Foster Children and Their Families* by Kelsi Brown Corkran, University of Chicago
- 2004 – *Child, School, and Police: Reappraising the “Special Needs” Doctrine in an Era of School-Law Enforcement Entanglement* by Joshua Kagan of New York University Law School, and *A Child’s Due Process Right to Legal Counsel in Abuse and Neglect Dependency Proceedings* by Jacob Smiles, Washington University School of Law

The NACC recognizes that the development and maintenance of the field of juvenile law as a legal specialty requires the recruitment of students into the profession. The student writing competition serves to enhance interest in juvenile law, as well as to reward students for their writing accomplishments.