

UpFront

By Samantha Meinke

U-M Law School Marks 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation



Onlookers discuss the University of Michigan's "Proclaiming Emancipation" exhibit in the Hatcher Graduate Library.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation as an executive order. The University of Michigan Law School, in partnership with the William L. Clements Library, the art museum, and the university libraries, is commemorating the 150th anniversary of that order in an exhibit called "Proclaiming Emancipation." The exhibit runs through February 18 from 8:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m. in the Audubon Room and Gallery at the Hatcher Graduate Library.

The exhibit aims to offer viewers an opportunity to further a critical understanding of a complex moment in the history of slavery, emancipation, and freedom. It features artifacts from the William L. Clements Library's collection—many on display for the first time—including a never-before-seen image of Frederick Douglass discovered in a nineteenth-century scrapbook by the library's curators. ■



Participate in SBM's Second Annual Law Day Creative Contest

This winter, you can devote the dark, dreary months to business as usual. Or you can take a little bit of time to reach out to a group in your community and remind them why maintaining a system of government based on the rule of law is vital to keeping our country the land of opportunity.

The State Bar of Michigan encourages all members to participate in our second annual Law Day Creative Contest, which will accept entries until Friday, April 5. To participate, you need to partner with a group in your community—it could be a classroom, a scouting group, a youth group, or any other group of nonlawyers. Together you should produce a creative entry illustrating the 2013 Law Day theme, "Michigan—Realizing the Dream: Equality for All,"

using content from one or more Michigan Legal Milestones.

The Michigan Legal Milestones program was created in 1986 to highlight the state's important cases, laws, and individuals. Bronze plaques commemorating the history of each of the 38 milestones have been placed throughout the state. Participants may utilize any Michigan Legal Milestone in their submission, but four suggested milestones to consider include "Murphy's Dissent," "One Person, One Vote," "Sojourner Truth," and the "Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act." To participate in the Law Day contest, entrants should tie one or more milestones to the 2013 theme in a creative project. Examples of creative projects include essays, debates, mock trials, podcasts, dramatic or musical

plays, reenactments, short documentaries, board games, video games, and more. Electronic submissions are highly encouraged.

A \$1,000 cash prize will be awarded to the top winner, up to two second-tier winners will receive \$750, and up to three third-tier winners will get \$500. All winning submissions will be eligible for statewide recognition as a Michigan Model Law Day project and entry into the American Bar Association Law Day national awards competition.

For more information or to see the winning entry from the 2012 Law Day contest, visit <http://www.michbar.org/programs/lawday/home.cfm>. ■

2013 Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament Seeks Volunteers

The Michigan Center for Civic Education needs attorney volunteers to serve as judges and bailiffs for its 2013 Michigan High School Mock Trial Tournament. The competition includes regional tournaments in Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids on March 2, a regional

tournament in Pontiac on March 9, and state finals in Lansing on March 23. To volunteer, visit <http://www.miciviced.org/mock-trial/mhsmtt-volunteer-registration>. ■