

Press Release



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Sun Prairie West student wins first-ever courtroom artist competition

MADISON, Wis. (March 9, 2025) – Katie Maloney, a student at Sun Prairie West High School, is the winner of the first-ever **Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Courtroom Artist Competition**. The competition, held at the Wisconsin State Capitol on March 8-9 is part of the annual Wisconsin High School Mock Trial program sponsored by the [Wisconsin Law Foundation](#), the charitable arm of the [State Bar of Wisconsin](#).

Maloney's artistic talent captured the intensity and professionalism of the courtroom proceedings. The competition challenges students to create detailed, real-time sketches of mock trial participants while adhering to strict guidelines. Artists must remain seated during the trial, refrain from communicating with teams or spectators, and submit their completed drawings to the presiding judge at the conclusion of Round 3.

The competition allows students to showcase their artistic abilities while gaining insight into the legal system. Participants must create their artwork on 11" x 14" paper in a horizontal format, using mediums such as colored pencils, ink, pastels, or markers. Maloney's work stood out for its composition, accuracy, and ability to convey the atmosphere of the trial.

"Katie's talent truly brought the courtroom to life," said Fran Deisinger, president of the Wisconsin Law Foundation. "Her ability to translate the energy of the trial into her artwork is remarkable."

The Wisconsin High School Mock Trial program provides students with an opportunity to develop critical thinking, public speaking, and analytical skills while deepening their understanding of the legal



Katie Maloney of Sun Prairie West is the winner of the first-ever courtroom artist competition at the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial, held March 8-9 at the Wisconsin State Capitol.

process. The courtroom artist competition adds a creative dimension to the experience, allowing students like Maloney to engage with the legal field through art.

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*The **Wisconsin Law Foundation** is the charitable arm of the State Bar of Wisconsin that serves to promote public understanding of the law, improvement of the administration of justice and other law-related public service through funding of innovative and creative programs that improve the vision of the American justice system.*

*The **State Bar of Wisconsin** is the integrated professional association, created by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, for attorneys who hold a Wisconsin law license. With more than 25,000 members, the State Bar aids the courts in improving the administration of justice, provides continuing legal education for its members to help them maintain their expertise, and assists Wisconsin lawyers in carrying out community service initiatives to educate the public about the legal system and the value of lawyers. For more information, visit www.wisbar.org.*