

Courtroom Artist Contest 2023-24 Criteria

Each courtroom art entry will be judged based on the following criteria:

Telling the Courtroom Story:

Does the illustration give the viewer an immediate feeling of an event taking place? Does the artwork evoke an emotion or show action? Does the sketch provide enough information to hold the eye for a period of time?

Composition:

Is there a definite indication of the Courtroom interior to describe the place? Are the figures in the illustration large enough to focus on, yet small enough to be placed within the structure of the courtroom? Are the elements of witness, judge, attorneys, etc., placed in an arrangement proportionate to the page, and create balance on that page?

Color/Contrast:

Is the illustration harmonious in the distribution of line, color, and tone? Are there good balances of dark and light that play off each other to give richness to the artwork? Is the medium of choice, be it color pencil, marker, etc. used to the best advantage in documenting the illustration?

Authenticity:

Does the artwork convey a professional feeling, without seeming cartoonish? Does the illustration, no matter the style, i.e., sketchy, ultra-realistic, highly rendered, or loosely drawn, carry the idea of adhering to a respectful, convincing depiction of a courtroom event?

Holistic Evaluation:

Taking into account the evaluator's thoughts on the above criteria plus professional expertise in illustration, art, and storytelling, provide the artwork a holistic score.