

LCE News- May 2006

Greetings!

The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education in its effort to broaden its outreach has expanded its communication to electronic newsletters. Through this medium, we will update you on LCE programming monthly so that either as a volunteer, teacher, student or supporter you have the opportunity to learn more about the LCE's work across Louisiana.

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SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATORS

Summer Institute for
Louisiana Educators



The LCE is now accepting registrations for its annual Summer Institute for Louisiana Social Studies Educators, **July 17, 2006 - July 20, 2006**, at the Baton Rouge Bar Association. Please visit www.lsba.org/lce to download a printable registration information. Seating is limited. Register now. For additional information, please contact: Maria@lsba.org

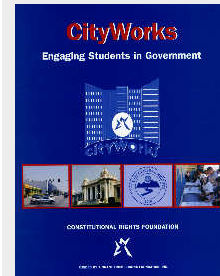
The Summer Institute will offer educators hands on training in interactive teaching methods that bring the law and the legal system alive to the students. Further, educators will also meet directly with legal professionals and members of the community who can serve as additional resources to your classroom.

The last two days of the program, will showcase "**We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution**" which is an excellent curriculum to enhance your current civic education lessons.

[Summer Institute Registration](#)

LAW DAY YOUTH SUMMIT - US DISTRICT COURT ALEXANDRIA, LA.

CITY WORKS - Engaging Students in Government



CityWorks, developed by the Constitutional Rights Foundation, is a standards-based, local government curriculum designed to fit into any civics or government class for students in grades 9-12. An independent, multi-year, research-based study released in 2002 concluded that classes using *CityWorks* improved student knowledge of both regular and local government and helped prepare students for effective citizenship by increasing student civic competencies as compared to students in traditional government courses.

CityWorks
provides



The LCE held an exciting Law Day Youth Education program at the Federal Courthouse for the Western District of Louisiana. Attending the day-long program, were Central Louisiana middle and high school students. The LCE would like to thank and acknowledge the **U.S. District Court Judge Dee D. Drell** and the following volunteer attorneys who lent their time and expertise to the students.

Stacy Auzenne, Lottie Bash, Gay Coleman, Erik Cooker Sarah Spruill Couvillon, Miranda Doming, John Ellis, George Gaiennie III, Donna Johnson, Jay Luneau, Walter McClatchey Jr., Paula Miles, Curtis Nelson, Jr., Brent Pearson, Laura Picard, Stephanie Prestridge, Misty Prudohme, The Reverend Joe Sharp, Laura Sylvester and Sarah Stark.

75 students from **Alexandria Middle Magnet, Peabody Middle Magnet, Bolton High School, Our Lady of Prompt Succor and Northside High School** spent the day learning about civic engagement and opportunities when called upon to respond to crisis, analyzed the role of the media, and role-played various legal scenarios that brought the law alive. Program funding was provided through a grant received from **The Rapides Foundation**.

interactive lessons in which students become citizens of the fictional city of Central Heights to learn about issues of state and local government and practice critical-thinking skills. Along the way they take on the role of local political leaders and active citizens to address political and social issues facing the community.

To learn more about this curriculum, please contact the Constitutional Rights Foundation at www.crf-usa.org.

CHECK LCE OUT: LSBA VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FORMS



Donations received from lawyers will allow the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCE) to continue its educational activities across Louisiana and provide students with quality law and civic education programming and opportunities. Please consider the LCE when you complete your upcoming LSBA membership dues registration form. The LCE is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

RESOURCES IN LAW AND CIVIC EDUCATION

[Constitutional Rights Foundation](#)

[Street Law](#)

[Center for Civic Education](#)

[LCE Lending Library](#)

SOUTHERN COALITION ON CIVIC EDUCATION

Louisiana LCE leaders joined colleagues from neighboring Southern states at a conference held in Louisville, KY, April 20-22, 2006. The conference presented a forum for the Southern States to collaborate and share resources and ideas related to civic education and engagement. Further, the members developed an action plan to further advance civic education across the southern states.



This first annual meeting was hosted by the **Secretary of State of Kentucky, Trey Grayson** in partnership with the **Center for Civic Education** and the **Kentucky Coalition on Civic Education**. For information on Louisiana's efforts to advance civic education, please contact the LCE via maria@lsba.org.

LAW DAY AT BANNAKER ELEMENTARY

LCE Board member **Brian Engeron**, an attorney with *Abbott, Simses & Kuchler* spent Law Day assisting young students at Bannaker Elementary School in New Orleans. Through a law-related lesson plan, he had the students examine individual rights and devise a list of rights as if the class was responsible for starting its own country. The students were placed into groups, made team lists of individual rights they would support, and presented their lists to the class. This is a school under the purview of the Louisiana Department of Education. Supporting the students participation at this Law Day event are educator, **Cecil Catolos** and school principal, **Cheralyn Branch**.



GRACE KING WINS TITLE IN NATIONAL "We the People" FINALS

Grace King High School A.P. Government class represented Louisiana at the National Finals for "We the People" in Washington D.C. A prestigious academic competition organized by the Center for Civic Education, the program tests student knowledge of U.S. history, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Supreme Court in a simulated congressional hearing. After two days of intense presentations to elite panels of judges, the students were finally rewarded for their hard work when teammates **Caitlyn Clarke**, **Aaron Baer-Harsha**, and **Sara Sands** became the **Unit Five National Champions**. Proud teacher **Jamie Staub**, states "*Taking home a prize shows that Louisiana is truly competitive with the rest of the nation. I am proud of my students and their hard work.*"

