



To commemorate Mediation Week Oct. 13-19, 2019 and Conflict Resolution Day Oct. 17, 2019, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association (PBCBA) is sponsoring an essay and video contest on the theme:

“Win-Win Through Mediation”



All public high school students in Palm Beach County are eligible to enter.

12 Cash Prizes (for a total \$1,400)
for the winning students and their teachers
for those entries judged the top 3 per (essay or video) category:

1st Place \$200 per student and per teacher

2nd Place \$100 per student and per teacher

3rd Place \$50 per student and per teacher

Essay or Video **Submission Deadline of Oct. 4, 2019** for teachers to submit their students' entries to Dr. Lori Dool, Secondary Social Studies Program Planner at lori.dool@palmbeachschools.org

Cash prizes will be awarded at the October meeting of the Palm Beach County School Board.

The winning students and their teachers will also be featured on the PBCBA's website and Facebook page, and in the PBCBA Bar Bulletin.

See p. 2 for contest background, rules, and guidelines



PBC HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY AND VIDEO CONTEST MEDIATION WEEK 2019 Background, Rules, and Guidelines

The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association is organizing with the Palm Beach County School District a high school essay and video contest to promote the use and value of mediation in resolving disputes in commemoration of Mediation Week (Oct. 13-19, 2019) and Conflict Resolution Day (Oct. 17, 2019). The contest theme is “Win-Win Through Mediation.”

The contest is open to all Palm Beach County high school students currently enrolled. There are two entry categories: (1) essays or (2) videos. A student may only submit one entry, either an essay or a video.

Submissions must indicate the student’s name, school, grade, and teacher. Students must submit their entries to their teachers in time for the teachers to evaluate them, to make a first cut, and to transmit the entries that they have selected in digital form to Dr. Lori Dool, PBC Secondary Social Studies Program Planner at lori.dool@palmbeachschools.org by no later than Oct. 4, 2019, to qualify for final judging.

Cash prizes will be awarded by the PBCBA ADR Committee to students and their teachers whose entries are judged the top three per (essay or video) category.

Guidelines for Teachers

- Introduce the contest early and often to maximize student participation
- Emphasize the cash prizes for those judged best in each essay or video category: \$200 to both student and his/her teacher each for First Place; \$100 to both student and teacher each for Second Place; and \$50 to both student and teacher each for Third Place
- Remind students to follow the rules on theme, prompt, entry criteria, and timeliness
- Think of ways to get students to participate
- Refer to the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution as a resource
- Inform students about the judging criteria
- Evaluate your students’ entries, make a first cut, and submit in digital form those you select to lori.dool@palmbeachschools.org by Oct. 4, 2019 for final judging.

Guidelines for Students (Essay Entries)

- Essays must be 500-1000 words, double-spaced
- Define mediation and explain its guiding principles, application, and operation
- Use the essay prompt/Stay true to the theme
- Essay judging criteria include: scope and breadth of research on topic; expression of theme; technical writing style and clarity of expression; overall impression/impact

Guidelines for Students (Video Entries)

- Running time limit is 5 minutes
- Define mediation and explain its guiding principles, application, and operation
- Use the essay prompt/Stay true to the theme
- Observe copyright laws
- Video judging criteria include: scope and breadth of research, concept and writing; theme integration; technical execution; audiovisual appeal/quality; originality; overall impression/impact