



Katy Bar Association (KBA) Competition and Scholarship Program

Each year the Katy Bar Association (KBA) sponsors a scholarship program for deserving students who will be continuing their education beyond high school graduation. This year, the KBA is combining its program with the State Bar of Texas 2023 Law Day Competition.

Although the State Bar of Texas (SBOT) competition includes three (3) events: editorials, photography and posters, the KBA program will be limited to only editorials.

The 2023 Law Day contest theme is:
VOICES OF DEMOCRACY

All entries should reflect the student's interpretation of the 2024 Law Day theme by responding to the following prompt:

In light of the upcoming presidential election, submissions to the Law Day contest will explain or depict the value of voting and expressing political views pursuant to the rule of law and the voting rights protected by our court system.

Our competition is open to **all interested high school students** in Katy Independent School District (KISD). The contest is not limited to seniors.

KBA will select a first-place winner, a second place winner, and a third place winner and plans to award those winners \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500 scholarships, respectively, to be used to defray future education expenses.

The first-place winner will advance to the SBOT's statewide competition, where additional cash awards and a trip to Austin for Law Day events may be won. Please review the SBOT contest brochure for additional details. (The SBOT contest rules are described within the contest description and in the accompanying Law Day brochure. The SBOT rules may also be accessed through the website of the State Bar of Texas.)

Contest Rules

1. Please note a distinction between the SBOT competition and the KBA program. All entries must satisfy the technical requirements of the SBOT contest, but because our prize is intended to be used for advanced education expenses, KBA is opening its competition only to KISD high school students who plan to pursue a formalized course of study for a degree or professional certification or occupational license thereafter. Each entry must be accompanied by a short summary of the student's plan for post-high school education even if the student has not yet been accepted to any particular school. Seniors who have been accepted for post-high school education are encouraged to submit a copy of the acceptance letter from the school the student plans to attend, with a short description of the student's planned course of study.
2. The editorial must be a student's original work. The editorial must be typewritten and double spaced. It should be no longer than 500 words.
3. The editorial must include a header which shows only the title and page number. Each editorial must include a cover page which provides the name of the student, title of the editorial, name of the high school, and the city of residence.
4. The student must submit both an electronic version of the editorial and a paper copy. The paper may be emailed or provided on a standard portable storage device.
5. KBA must judge, select its winners, and provide those entries to the SBOT no later than **Wednesday, March 27, 2024**. Therefore, we must receive all entries, accompanied by both the completed State Bar 2023 Law Day Awards Entry and Release Form (found in the Law Day brochure) and the completed KBA entry and

release form (also attached) no later than **5:00 p.m. on March 15, 2024**. All entries must be mailed or delivered to this location:

Katy Bar Association
c/o R. MELISSA MASOOM
Hunt Law Firm PLLC
23212 Red River Drive, Katy, TX 77494

The materials may be left with a receptionist.

6. Please direct any questions regarding the KBA program to Melissa Masoom via any of the following:

Email: rmasoom@huntlawtexas.com
Telephone: 832-315-5494
Mail: Using the above-provided address

7. The KBA asks high school counselors and teachers alert their students to this great opportunity. Our contest is open to all high school grades, not just seniors.
8. The Houston Bar Association also sponsors a local competition in coordination with the SBOT Law Day Competition. KISD students are eligible to enter posters and photographs in the HBA's contest. Students may also elect to enter an editorial into the HBA contest; however, **students may not submit editorials to both the HBA and the KBA contests. Any student who submits editorials to both the KBA and HBA contests is disqualified from the KBA contest.**

Students may obtain information about the contest sponsored by the Houston Bar Association at: www.hba.org.