LCLCE Conducts Summer Institute for Louisiana Educators

Louisiana elementary, middle and high school teachers participated in the 2012 Louisiana Summer Institute in July, coordinated by the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCLCE). Teachers, representing all of Louisiana’s congressional districts, received training in interactive strategies to add to their existing civics and law-related curriculum. The program was made available to Louisiana educators at no cost.

The program began with welcoming remarks by LCLCE board member Judge Randall L. Bethancourt, 32nd Judicial District. Judge Scott J. Crichton, 1st Judicial District Court and president of the Louisiana District Judges Association, addressed attendees on “Sexting, Texting and Beyond.” Loyola University College of Law Professor M. Isabel Medina provided specialized instruction on “Street Law.” In addition to training in the “We the People” and Street Law programs, teachers received an introduction to the “Citizens, Not Spectators” voting curriculum that allows schools to earn up to $300 for the purchase of civics and law-related education materials for use in the classroom. The culminating activity was a mock trial of Minnesota v. Ronald Riff: A Criminal Mock Trial by the Summer Institute participants. The mock trial was conducted in the courtroom of U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby.

Also participating on the faculty were Ann Majeste, Robert Rome and Liz Tullier.


The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCLCE) received the 2011 Sandra Day O’Connor Award for the Advancement of Civics Education at ceremonies in July in conjunction with the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators. The award honors an organization, court or individual who has promoting, inspired, improved or led an innovation or accomplishment in the field of civics education related to the justice system. Judge C. Wendell Manning, center, of Louisiana’s 4th Judicial District Court accepted the award on behalf of the LCLCE. Presenting the award were Eric T. Washington, chief judge of the District of Columbia and president of the Conference of Chief Justices, and Rosalyn W. Erierson, South Carolina State Court administrator, president of the Conference of State Court Administrators and vice chair of the NCSC board of directors.