In observance of Constitution Day on Sept. 17, the Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCLCE) organized 76 in-school presentations statewide, reaching more than 2,800 students. The presentations were organized through the Lawyers/Judges in the Classroom Programs.


Participating schools included Allen Ellender School, Archbishop Hannan High School, Bayou Blue Middle School, Boyet Junior High School, Cohen College Preparatory School, East Iberville School, Eden Gardens Magnet School, Edna Karr High School, Emily C. Watkins Elementary School, Folsom Junior High School, Gethsemane Christian Academy, Gramercy Elementary Magnet School, Helen Cox High School, Holy Ghost School, Huntington High School, Jefferson Chamber Foundation Academy, Lake Shore Middle School, Lawrence Crocker College Preparatory School, Live Oak Middle School, Mulberry Elementary School, New Iberia Senior High School, Park Forest Middle School, Renew Charter Organization’s Therapeutic Program, Roseland Elementary Montessori School, SJP Science & Math Academy, Southside Junior High School, St. Augustine High School, St. Helena College & Career Academy, St. James High School, Sylvanie Williams College Preparatory Charter School, West Monroe High School, Westgate High School and Woodlawn Leadership Academy.

The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education partners with the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Louisiana District Judges Association to bring lawyers, judges and educators together to deliver interactive, law-related presentations to Louisiana schools through the Lawyers/Judges in the Classroom Programs. For more information, visit the LCLCE website, www.lalce.org.

Judge C. Wendell Manning, third from left, is the recipient of the first Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education’s (LCLCE) Judge Benjamin Jones Judges in the Classroom Award. From left, Judge Benjamin Jones, Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Marcus R. Clark, Judge Manning and LCLCE President Barbara Windhorst.

Judge Manning Receives First Judge Benjamin Jones Judges in the Classroom Award

Judge C. Wendell Manning, a judge in 4th Judicial District Court, is the recipient of the first Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education’s (LCLCE) Judge Benjamin Jones Judges in the Classroom Award. Judge Manning was recognized for his contributions to the law-related education of Louisiana’s youth.

Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Marcus R. Clark presented the award to Judge Manning at the 2015 Fall Judges Conference in New Orleans.

Judge Jones, the award’s namesake, attended the inaugural presentation. Judge Jones began the Judges in the Classroom Program several years ago. Between April and September 2015, more than 8,300 Louisiana students benefited from the Lawyers/Judges in the Classroom Program, a joint venture of the Louisiana State Bar Association, the Louisiana District Judges Association and the LCLCE.
The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education (LCLCE) conducted several professional development programs for Louisiana teachers this past summer.

In addition to three back-to-school teacher training workshops for St. James Public School educators, the LCLCE coordinated the Justice Catherine D. Kimball Summer Institute, a four-day teachers’ workshop offering instruction in and educational materials for law-related curricula such as “We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution” and “iCivics.” The Institute is offered at no cost to teachers.

As an adjunct to the Institute, the LCLCE conducted “Order in the Court.” Taught by a distinguished faculty of Louisiana state and federal judges, administrative law judges and hearing officers, “Order in the Court” provided attendees a better understanding of the various courts in the judicial system and further insight into the structure of the government. Twenty-eight teachers, representing six Louisiana congressional districts at the elementary, middle and high school levels, participated.

The “Order in the Court” portion of the Institute was hosted at the Louisiana Supreme Court. The faculty included Justice John L. Weimer, Louisiana Supreme Court; Judge Candice Bates-Andersen, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court; Judge Peter H. Beer, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana; Orleans Parish District Attorney Leon A. Cannizzaro, Jr.; Judge Bernadette G. D’Souza, Orleans Parish Civil District Court/Domestic Section; Judge James E. Graves, Jr., U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals; Chief Judge Sheral C. Kellar, Louisiana Department of Labor; Judge Madeleine M. Landrieu, Louisiana 4th Circuit Court of Appeal; Judge C. Wendell Manning, 4th Judicial District Court; Judge Rebecca M. Olivier, 1st Parish Court; Jack C. Benjamin, Sr., Gainsburgh, Benjamin, David, Meunier & Warshauer, L.L.C.; Kim M. Boyle, Phelps Dunbar, L.L.P.; Danatus N. King, Danatus N. King & Associates; Thomas O. Lind, Canal Barge Company, Inc. (Ret.); and Joseph B. Stahl. Also participating were LCLCE board member Val P. Exnicios, Liska, Exnicios & Nungesser; Valerie S. Willard, Louisiana Supreme Court deputy judicial administrator, community relations; and Georgia D. Chadwick, director of the Law Library of Louisiana.

The second portion of the Institute included a presentation by Stacie Schrieffer LeBlanc on “Teens, Sex and the Law” and “Louisiana Mandatory Reporting Laws.” LeBlanc is the department head of the Audrey Hepburn CARE Center of Children’s Hospital. Additional instruction and pedagogy on law-related curricula were provided by Vickie Hebert, Ann Majeste, Michelle Molina, Chris Totaro and Elizabeth Tullier.

Emily Held, a 2014-15 senior at Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies in Metairie, is the recipient of the 2015 Civics in Action Award. Her award was presented by Louisiana Supreme Court Justice John L. Weimer at the Justice Catherine D. Kimball Summer Institute. The award recognizes a middle or high school student who has demonstrated outstanding civic virtue and involvement in the community.

Judges participating in the 2015 Justice Catherine D. Kimball Summer Institute at the Louisiana Supreme Court this past summer.