

Theme: **Toward a More Perfect Union:** The Constitution in Times of Change

Date: May 6, 2022

Time: 10:00-12:00

Location: Yosemite Valley

Dear Students,

This year, the Law Day Yosemite Committee wants all students to take an active role in this year's event. We are inviting you to think critically about this year's theme, and then get creative with it! You might sing a song, write an essay, or paint a picture. You can even work with a group of friends to build a website, produce a documentary, or perform a dance. The choice is yours!

The best way to get started is to consider the theme and read the prompt:

Toward a More Perfect Union: *The Constitution in Times of Change.*

You should address the theme by exploring the relationship between the US Government and Indian tribal governments which have sovereignty in the United States. You may focus on a specific tribe or address tribal governments as a whole. You should evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the current arrangement(s). Do you see a need for any change to move toward a more perfect union? Why or why not?

Now, do some research, read a book, or watch a video. Your teachers, your library, and your family are valuable sources to learn about the topic and get inspired. A good starting point is the recent US Supreme Court decision in *McGirt v. Oklahoma*, 140 S.Ct. 2452 (May 11, 2020) (copy attached).

We are looking forward to seeing you and your projects on May 6.

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

THEME: Your entry must relate to this year's theme and the prompt.

IDEATION: Your entry must have a clear idea and/or creative concept.

ARTISTRY: Your entry should show how skillful you are at the medium you have chosen.

(Skilled writers use proper grammar; skilled dancers perform with confidence; a good documentary tells a good story.)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic integrity refers to the honesty and originality of the project. Your project must reflect your research, your ideas, and your design. And always give credit to outside sources.

HOW TO ENTER:

Entries should be submitted by your teacher.

In the interest of fairness, please do not include your name on the actual works.

In the email, your teacher will include the following:

Student's Name

Title of work

School

Teacher

SOME BASIC GUIDELINE:

Essays should be 650 words, double spaced typed (about 2.5 pages)

Poetry should be 15-30 lines long.

Performances (dance, music, etc) and documentaries should be 3-5 minutes long and sent

Artwork, photos, exhibits, etc: A good picture or scan of the work should be sent via email

Links to websites or youtube can also be sent.