

# UpFront

By Samantha Meinke

## SBM Honors Law Day Winners in Bloomfield Hills on June 4



Photo by Samantha Meinke

From left to right: Greg Nowakowski, Theresamarie Mantese, and Gerard Mantese, attorney advisors for the SBM Law Day award winners; SBM Law Related Education & Public Outreach Committee members Mark Plaza, Susan Learman, Bart O'Neill, and Margaret Krasnoff; SBM President-Elect Brian Einhorn; SBM Law Related Education & Public Outreach Committee member Jeff Paulsen; and special guest Hon. Fred Mester.

A group of 21 sixth graders from Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School in Bloomfield Hills won the \$1,000 grand-prize award in the State Bar of Michigan's second annual Law Day Contest. The \$750 second-place prize went to a group composed of leaders of the Davis-Dunnings Bar Association, youth involved in the Turning Point of Lansing, and various volunteers.

The grand-prize winners, led by attorney advisors Gerard Mantese, Theresamarie Mantese, and Gregory Nowakowski, wrote, acted in, and submitted a 34-minute video discussing the United States' internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II and Justice Frank Murphy's famous dissent from the majority Supreme Court opinion upholding this internment. The trial was the subject of a 1996 State Bar of Michigan Legal Milestone. Contest entrants had to link this year's Law Day theme, "Michigan—Realizing the Dream: Equality for All," to one or more Michigan Legal Milestones.

The Cranbrook Kingswood Girls Middle School donated the prize money to Child Safe, a foster care, adoption, and mentoring agency that works with neglected, abused, and at-risk children.

Cranbrook student winners include Mahshad Afshar, Yasmeen Amjad, Srujana Annavarapu, Julia Bolton, Kalah Brown, Gabrielle Gross, Sofie Harb, Zehra Husaini, Emily Jones, Swathi Karthik, Abigail Laveroni, Isabel Mantese, Sophia Moustakas, Claire Pearce, Hanna Rodriguez, Anya Shah, Eliana Silverman, Paige Tar, Ava Trepek, Natalie Wilcox, and Dina Zreik. ■

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## Young Lawyers Gather in Detroit for Sixth Annual Summit

The Young Lawyers Section hosted its sixth annual summit to foster professional development and establish networking opportunities for its members June 7–8 at the Greektown Casino & Hotel in Detroit. The summit included educational seminars on topics such as criminal law, legal writing, oral advocacy, evidence, depositions, technology, and social media. Dennis W. Archer, chairman emeritus of Dickinson Wright PLLC, served as the keynote speaker.

Ronda Tate, an associate attorney at Lewis & Munday P.C. in Detroit, was presented with the Regeana Myrick Outstanding Young Lawyer Award for her leadership and volunteer efforts. Tate is president-elect of the Wolverine Bar Association and the youngest member appointed to the Institute for Continuing Legal Education's Labor and Employment Advisory Board. She also received the Pro Bono Recognition Award from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. ■



Photo by Tammy Allen

2013 Young Lawyers Section Summit participants included, from left to right: Mark Jane, YLS treasurer; Hope Shovein, YLS chair-elect; Dennis Archer; Felicia Johnson, YLS chair; Brandy Robinson, YLS ex officio member; and Andrea Irons, YLS secretary.

## SBM Animal Law Section Honors Recent Graduate for Animal Advocacy



Courtesy photo

From left to right: Cooley Law School adjunct professor Ginny Mikita (who nominated Edmonson for the award); Renee Edmonson; Donald Garlit, SBM Animal Law Section chair; and Nelson Miller, Cooley Law School associate dean.

The SBM Animal Law Section presented its Wanda A. Nash Award to Renee Edmonson for her commitment to helping animals. Edmonson played a significant role in creating animal protection bills with the Michigan legislature. One bill would require individuals convicted of animal abuse to register with their local governments; another would establish procedures and minimum requirements for animal adoptions.

The Wanda A. Nash Award, named for the Animal Law Section's first chairperson, was created to honor a Michigan law student for contributions to animal law. Edmonson graduated from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in May. ■