



NEWS RELEASE

Los Angeles Superior Court Public Information Office

Website: www.LACourt.org

E-mail Address: PublicInfo@LACourt.org

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L.A. SUPERIOR COURT ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Los Angeles Superior Court is pleased to announce the inaugural Young Women's Leadership Conference to be held on March 3, 2016, at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse, located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles. The Court will host over 100 students from 28 LA County high schools.

The purpose of the conference is to provide an opportunity for young women, particularly young women of color, to learn about the legal profession and possibly a career on the bench. During the invitation only event, the students will hear from a number of distinguished speakers, participate in question and answer sessions with speakers and panelists, and take part in breakout sessions with judicial officers and attorneys. Also in attendance will be representatives from various diversity bar organizations.

Anticipated guest speakers are, in order of appearance: Los Angeles Superior Court Presiding Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl; Justice Audrey B. Collins, Associate Justice, 2nd District Court of Appeal; Judge Nicole C. Bershon, Los Angeles Superior Court; Judge Beverly Bourne, Los Angeles Superior Court. Sheila Kuehl, Los Angeles County Supervisor for District 3, will give the closing remarks.

Expected panel participants include: Justice Lee Smalley Edmon, Presiding Justice, 2nd District Court of Appeal; Janice Fukai, Los Angeles County Alternate Public Defender; Jackie Lacey, Los Angeles County District Attorney; Judge Raquel A. Marquez, Riverside County Superior Court; Judge Conseuelo B. Marshall, Senior Judge of the United States District Court, Central District of California; Judge Sunshine S. Sykes, Riverside County Superior Court; and Mia Yamamoto, Esq., criminal defense attorney.

More-more-more

The student attendees, who represent Los Angeles County's varied communities, were hand-picked as the result of the promise they demonstrated during their involvement with the Teen Court program. Teen Court is a diversion program for young offenders designed to keep them out of the criminal justice system. Students who volunteer to participate in Teen Court as jurors and other roles learn how courts operate and what it is like to be a part of the justice system. Many Teen Court jurors later express an interest in studying law.

Participating high schools include Anahuacalmecac, Antelope Valley, Birmingham, Canoga Park, Cesar Chavez Continuation, Harriet Tubman, Columbus, Compton, Dorsey, Downey, El Rancho, Gardena, Inglewood, Los Angeles, Lawndale, Narbonne, New West Charter, Pasadena, R. Rex Parris, Redondo Union, Roosevelt, Sacred Heart, Santee Education Complex, Torres, South Gate, Taft, Warren, West Covina, and Wilson high schools.

The conference has been designed to bring together the students and professional women with diverse backgrounds to discuss their personal and professional journeys in the justice system. It is hoped that by exposing these young women to others who have reached the very apex of their careers, the trend of under representation from these communities within the legal profession can be decreased.

Lunch will be provided to the participants courtesy of grant funds contributed by the California Judges Foundation.

The conference is another of LASC's creative and dynamic community outreach programs which include Teen Court, SHADES (Stop Hate and Delinquency by Empowering Students), Power Lunch, Court-Clergy Conference, Teachers Courthouse Seminar, etc.

WHO: Female students from 28 Los Angeles County high schools, judicial officers, justice partners, members of the bar.

WHAT: Students will hear from distinguished speakers, participate in question and answer sessions, and take part in breakout sessions with judicial officers and attorneys.

WHEN: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Thursday, March 3, 2016.

WHERE: Stanley Mosk Courthouse, 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles 90012, Presiding Judge's Courtroom, Room 222.

Please contact the Court's Community Outreach Office at 213-633-1016, or the Public Information Office at 213-830-0801 for further information. Note: filming opportunities will be limited – please contact the Public Information Office for details.

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