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## H.S. Mock Trial looks for legal professionals to volunteer their expertise

Submitted by Jonathan Lance



Bay Area soon-to-be, practicing, and retired law professionals are invited to provide assistance to their future brethren at the upcoming 39th Annual Contra Costa County High School Mock Trial Program, held on seven weekday early evenings, during January and February, in the Martinez court rooms. Last year, close to 80 Bay Area practicing and retired attorneys and sworn judges, as well as third-year law students volunteered their time with the Mock Trials.

Coordinated by the Contra Costa County Office of Education, Mock Trial is an academic event provided for high school students. The hands-on educational program was created to help students acquire a working knowledge of our judicial system, develop analytical abilities and communication skills, and gain an understanding of their obligations and responsibilities as participating members of our society.

Schedule for 2020 Contra Costa County High

School Mock Trials:

Preliminaries: Jan. 28, 30; Feb. 4, 6 - 5 to 8 p.m. (Eight competitions each night)

Quarterfinals: Feb. 11, 5 to 8 p.m. (Four competitions)

Semifinals: Feb. 13, 5 to 8 p.m. (Two competitions)

Final and Consolation: Feb. 18, 5 to 8 p.m. (Two competitions)

Mock Trial will be headquartered at the A.F. Bray Courthouse, 1020 Ward Street, in Martinez.

Interested volunteers can learn more by visiting the CCCOE's Mock Trial web page ([https://www.ccco.e.k12.ca.us/programs/for\\_parents\\_students/academic\\_events/mock\\_trial](https://www.ccco.e.k12.ca.us/programs/for_parents_students/academic_events/mock_trial)) or contacting Jonathan Lance at (925) 942-3429.

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