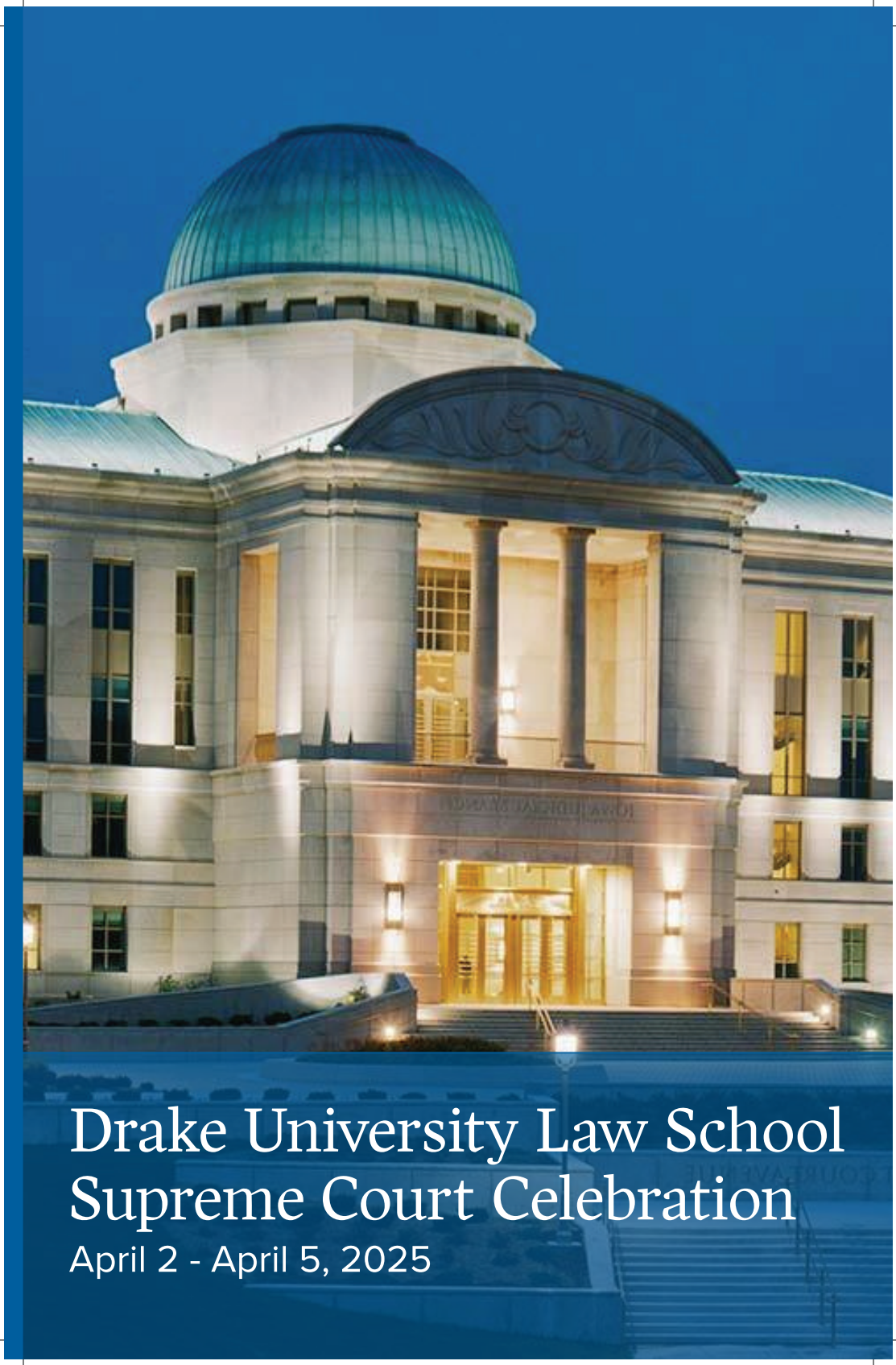

Drake University Law School Supreme Court Celebration

April 2 - April 5, 2025

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88th ANNUAL SUPREME COURT CELEBRATION BANQUET

Drake University, Olmsted Center, Parents Hall

WELCOME
Roscoe Jones, Jr.
Dean, Drake University Law School

CELEBRATION OF SUPREME COURT COMPETITION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RODNEY L. HUDSON APPELLATE ADVOCACY AWARD
Hon. Susan K. Christensen
Chief Justice, Iowa Supreme Court

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ALUMNI AWARDS
Dean Jones, Hon. Richelle Mahaffey, President, Recent Alumni Engagement Board, and William Miller, President, Board of Counselors

-- Dinner –

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS
Kayla Hruska
2024-25 President, Student Bar Association

REMARKS, PRESENTATION OF FACULTY AWARDS, AND PORTRAIT UNVEILING
Dean Jones and Erin Lain, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Hon. Susan K. Christensen
Chief Justice, Iowa Supreme Court

ANNOUNCEMENT OF STUDENT AWARDS
Dean Jones, Dean Lain, and John Edwards, Associate Dean for Information Resources and Technology

Special thanks to

Nyemaster Goode, PC

for sponsoring the Moot Court, *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law*, and *Drake Law Review* Banquets earlier this week.

Thank you to

The Iowa State Bar Association

for sponsoring the reception this evening.

Thank you to the following table sponsors:

Ahlers & Cooney, PC

Dentons Davis Brown (2)

Dickinson Bradshaw

Dorsey & Whitney, LLP

Drake Law School Class of 1996

Goodman/Keller PC

Harbinger Jury Consultants, Inc.

Nyemaster Goode, PC

Sullivan & Ward, PC

Whitfield & Eddy P.L.C

Supreme Court Celebration award recipients, Alumni of the Year winners, Supreme Court Competition finalists, *Drake Law Review*, *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law* and Moot Court award recipients, and recognition of student achievement will be posted at *www.drake.edu/law/alumni/events/supreme-court*.

2025 Keynote Speaker

Hon. Susan K. Christensen

Chief Justice, Iowa Supreme Court

Chief Justice Christensen was appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court in 2018. The members of the Court selected her as chief justice in February 2020.

Chief Justice Christensen was born and raised in Harlan, Iowa. She earned her bachelor's degree from Judson College and her law degree from Creighton University School of Law.

Prior to her appointment to the Iowa Supreme Court, Chief Justice Christensen served first as a district associate judge and then district court judge in the Fourth Judicial District of Iowa. Before becoming a judge, she practiced law in Harlan for 16 years.

Chief Justice Christensen chaired the Children's Justice State Council and the Family First Task Force and served on the Supreme Court's Family Law Pro Se Forms Committee, Child Support Guidelines Review Committee, Parents Representation Standards Committee, Guardianship & Conservatorship Task Force, as well as the Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee.

She is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, The Iowa State Bar Association, the Southwest Iowa Bar Association, and the Shelby County Bar Association.

Previous Supreme Court Banquet Speakers

2024	Roscoe Jones, Jr., Dean-elect, Drake University Law School
2023	Deborah Enix-Ross, President, American Bar Association
2022	Ronald L. Olson, BN'63, Partner, Munger, Tolles & Olson, LLP
2021	Jim Overdorf, JD'86, Senior Vice President of Football Administration, Buffalo Bills
2019	Akhil Reed Amar, Sterling Professor of Law, Yale Law School
2018	Hilarie Bass, President, American Bar Association
2017	The Hon. Solomon Oliver Jr., Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
2016	Paulette Brown, President, American Bar Association
2015	Earl F. "Marty" Martin, President-elect, Drake University
2014	Guy Cook, President, Iowa State Bar Association
2013	The Hon. John Jarvey, Chief District Court Judge, U.S. District Court

For a complete list of past speakers please visit:
drake.edu/law/alumni/events/supreme-court/

Justices of the Iowa Supreme Court

Chief Justice Susan K. Christensen

Justice Thomas D. Waterman

Justice Edward M. Mansfield

Justice Christopher McDonald

Justice Dana L. Oxley

Justice Matthew McDermott

Justice David N. May

The Supreme Court Competition

Each year, outstanding advocates in the Law School compete in the Supreme Court Competition for the honor of presenting final arguments to the Iowa Supreme Court. The problem is based on a real case, using an actual record that was pending before an appellate court and involving an unresolved legal issue, thus giving competitors a realistic experience.

The competition is open to second- and third-year law students and consists of writing a brief and arguing in two preliminary rounds. The competition has been incorporated into an Appellate Advocacy skills course that provides students with an opportunity to develop their persuasive writing and oral advocacy talents. The brief-writing process has been supplemented with an ongoing, in-depth discussion of best practices in appellate briefing, and the preliminary rounds were preceded by a series of practice rounds that enabled students to sharpen their advocacy skills and prepare to give the very best version of their arguments. The top four advocates based upon the scores from the preliminary rounds advance to the final round before the Iowa Supreme Court. The award for Best Oralist in the final round will be announced tonight.

2025 Supreme Court Competition Problem

Dale Gilbert is an ordinary graduate student, except he is one of four identical quadruplets. One of his brothers, TBD Gilbert, was the subject of an arrest warrant. Dale was arrested on that warrant by a Story County deputy who thought that "TBD" was an alias or a placeholder. The deputy confirmed that Dale's last name and birth date matched the warrant, so he arrested Dale and took him to the Story County Jail. That was around 4:45 p.m. on Friday, December 22.

As soon as Dale figured out that they were looking for "TBD Gilbert," he told every deputy within earshot that he was not TBD and that he could prove that TBD Gilbert was a separate person. The four of them used to be in a boy band called 2winz, and their last music video opened with a graphic of each brother's name. That music video was the top search engine result for 2winz (and it still is — seriously, go look).

Dale repeatedly asked the deputies who monitored the jail to take a few seconds to access the publicly available proof that Dale Gilbert and TBD Gilbert were two separate people. None of the deputies would do it; they told him that he could say what he needed to say during his appearance before the next available magistrate, as was standard procedure.

No magistrates were available over the weekend or on Christmas day. Dale stayed in jail until the morning of December 26, when he had his virtual appearance before the magistrate who issued TBD's arrest warrant. The judge immediately knew that Dale was not TBD. He ordered the Story County deputies to release Dale and apologize for ruining his holiday weekend.

Dale sued Story County, alleging that the deputies violated his constitutional rights. He has two claims. His first alleges that they violated his Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable seizures. He argues that, even if the arrest was a reasonable mistake of fact, it *stopped* being reasonable as he repeatedly told them that he was not TBD and offered readily available proof. It's not clear where this Court should draw the line between a reasonable seizure that arises from ordinary execution of an arrest warrant in good faith, and an unreasonable seizure that even a valid arrest warrant can't salvage. How should a court tell the difference?

Dale's second claim alleges that the deputies violated his Fourteenth Amendment guarantee against deprivations of liberty without due process. The U.S. Supreme Court said that a three-day stint in jail in a similar case of mistaken identity didn't establish a due process violation, in *Baker v. McCollan*. How should this Court apply *Baker*? And *Baker* was decided in 1979 — have subsequent cases (or other developments) changed how courts should apply *Baker* in cases like these? It's up to our intrepid student advocates to try to guide the Court to satisfying answers to those difficult constitutional questions — and they've got just one day to do it.

Supreme Court Competition Finalists

2024	Ankit Pal	NaRayah Runyon	Nadia Valentine	Ben Wolf
2023	Elizabeth Boyer	Phillip José	NaRayah Runyon	Ben Wolf
2022	Elizabeth Boyer	Kyle Dawson	Jordan Gehlhaar	Caleb Piersma
2021	Logan Brundage	Joshua Hughes	Janise Lane	Cory Mullins
2020	Lucas Asbury	Tim Cullen	Joshua Hughes	Kerrigan Owens
2019	Zach Goodrich	Amy Howells	Chelsey Knapp	Jackson O'Brien
2018	Victoria Haag	Robert Howard	Elizabeth Johnson	
2017	Adam Babinat	Samantha Farmer	Stephanie Sailer	Johnathan Sears
2016	Anna Bergman	Kylie Crawford	Meret Thali	Alexis Warner
2015	Nathan Arnold	Anna Bergman	Robert Conklin	Louis Sloven
2014	Lori Bullock	Austin Mouw	David Ranscht	Kevin Rutan
2013	Matthew Jarvey	Rebecca Reif	Patrick Shanahan	Joshua Strief

For a complete list please visit:
drake.edu/law/students/activities/teams/supreme-court-comp/

2025 Alumni Award Winners

ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Angela A. Shutts, JD'96

Member Attorney
Whitfield & Eddy Law

ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Hon. Mark W. Bennett, JD'75

Former Director
Drake Institute for Justice
Reform and Innovation
Ret. U.S. District Court Judge
United States District Court -
Northern District of Iowa

RECENT ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Elizabeth A. Van Arkel, JD'12

Shareholder
Dentons Davis Brown

Previous Alumni of the Year

2024 Romonda Belcher, JD’95
2023 Roland Dale Peddicord, BN’61, JD’62 and Joan McKown, JD’83
2022 David M. Erickson, LA’74, JD’79
2021 Joe P. Crookham, JD’68, and Jeffrey Goodman, JD’85
2019 Johnny C. Taylor Jr., GR’91, JD’92
2018 Karen Shaff, JD’79
2017 Pat Houlihan, JD’82, and Dan Jacobi, LA’76, JD’86
2016 Terry E. Branstad, JD’74
2015 Kimberly Stamatelos, LA’78, JD’81
2014 Larry Eisenhauer, JD’75
2013 Jane Lorentzen, JD’91

For a complete list please visit:
drake.edu/law/alumni/awards/alumni-of-the-year/

Recent Alumni of the Year

2024 Nawi Ukabiala, JD’11
2023 Richelle Mahaffey, JD’16
2022 Ann E. Naffier, JD’11
2021 Adam C. Gregg, JD’09
2019 Emiliano Lerda, JD’08
2018 Kristina Stanger, JD’05
2017 Kathleen Law, JD’05, and Nate Boulton, JD’05, GR'05

Alumni Distinguished Public Service Award

2024 Deborah Turner, JD’07
2023 John Sarcone, JD’75
2022 Nan M. Horvat, JD’81
2021 Janet Phipps Burkhead, JD’05
2019 Jerry Foxhoven, JD’77
2018 Robert Oberbillig, LA’56, JD’58

Stevens Faculty Scholar of the Year

This award was established in 2017 by an anonymous donor to honor a Drake Law School faculty member for excellence in scholarship during the previous academic year.

2024 Christoph Henkel
2023 Anthony Gaughan
2022 Allan Vestal
2021 Melissa Weresh
2020 Andrew Jurs
2019 Melissa Weresh
2018 Jonathan D. Rosenbloom
2017 Maura Strassberg

Adjunct Faculty of the Year

This award was established in 2022 to honor exemplary service by a member of the Drake Law School adjunct faculty.

2024 Jeffrey Noble
2023 Hon. Edward Mansfield
2022 Ed Sease, LA’64, JD’67

Student Bar Association
Recognition of Achievement

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION 2024-2025

Kayla Hruska, *President*
Aubrey Kohl, *Vice President*
Arturo Montes, *Treasurer*
Mackenzie Roberts, *Secretary*
William Keck, *Faculty Representative*
Darvin Pineda-Donis, *American Bar Association Representative*
Maci Kluesner, *University Representative*
Abby Sheffer, *Career Development Office Representative*
Jessa Marfal, *Diversity Representative*
Karrecia Crawley, *Diversity Representative*
Emily Murphy, *Event Co-Chair*
Danielle Neu, *Event Co-Chair*

Third-year Representatives
Danielle Neu, Emsada Osmic, Michael Taylor, Ryan Youngstrom

Second-year Representatives
Johnathan Bartholomew, Mikayla Ganan, Wyatt Harlan, Zach Miller

First-year Representatives
Kendall Antle, Gabrielle Kilpatrick, Lucas Vroom, Samuel Lederman

Honor Board Representatives
Jack Lander, Samantha Ruhland, Wayne Edmiston

At-large Representatives
Shaye Coughlin, Ankit Pal, Thomas Armstrong, Allie Rupp, Caleb Lahr, Olivia Cooney

Student Bar Association Awards

These awards honor individuals who have made an extraordinary contribution to the success of Student Bar Association programs or to the life of the student body as a whole.

2025 awards were announced at a program on Wednesday afternoon.

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

Camryn Huyser, Oulimata Sow, Michael Taylor

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD'S OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADER AWARD

Kendra Betz, Aubrey Kohl, Emily Murphy

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD'S STAFF SERVICE AWARD

Sara Hughes, Assistant to the Dean

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD'S FACULTY SERVICE AWARD

Roscoe Jones, Jr., Dean, Drake University Law School

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION SHANE SWEENEY SUPPORTIVE PARTNER AWARD
This award is given annually by the Drake Law School Council of Leaders in memory of Shane Sweeney. It recognizes the partner/spouse of a law student who has shown outstanding support of his/her spouse and the Law School. Shane Sweeney was the spouse of Meghann Sweeney, JD'09.

2025 recipient will be announced this evening.
2024 recipient: Thomas Noel

THE LELAND FORREST OUTSTANDING PROFESSOR AWARD
The recipient of this award is selected each year by students of the graduating class. The award recognizes outstanding contribution to quality legal education both in and out of the classroom.

2025 recipient will be announced this evening.
2024 recipient: Miguel Schor, Class of 1977 Distinguished Scholar and Professor of Law

Drake Law School Awards

2025 awards will be announced this evening.

JEFFREY AND ELIZABETH GOODMAN DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATE AWARD
This award was established in 2003 by Jeffrey and Elizabeth Goodman, 1985 graduates of Drake Law School. Its purpose is to recognize a Drake Law student who demonstrates excellence and proficiency in client representation and advocacy.

2024 recipient: Catherine Dukelow

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF TRIAL LAWYERS
The International Academy of Trial Lawyers (IATL) award is made possible by the IATL and Drake Law alumna Roxanne Barton Conlin, LA'64, JD'66, GR'79. The award recognizes the student who best demonstrates the qualities of a good trial practitioner based on his or her excellence in legal clinic courses.

2024 recipient: David Kacmarynski

THE ROBERT J. KROMMINGA AWARD
This award is given to an outstanding clinical student in client representation and advocacy in the criminal defense program. The award is made possible by the Iowa Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

2024 recipient: Geoffrey Van Deusen III

THE TIMOTHY N. CARLUCCI AWARD
This award was established in honor and memory of Timothy N. Carlucci, JD'87. The award is given to the law student who best exemplifies civility and professionalism in his or her dealings with fellow students and others in the profession. The Timothy N. Carlucci Award is sponsored by Belin McCormick, PC.

2024 recipient: NaRayah Runyon

THE MARTIN TOLLEFSON AWARD
The Student Bar Association created this award to recognize the student leader who best exemplifies the hopes and aspirations of the late Dean Martin Tollefson. This award is the highest form of recognition for leadership and service to Drake Law School. Selection for this award is by election of the graduating class.

2024 recipient: Chantry Noel

2025 awards will be announced this evening.

THE FERGUSON PRIZE
The Ferguson Prize Gold and Silver Awards are presented to the students who best exemplify the commitment of Drake Law School and the legal profession to public service and who have rendered outstanding service, primarily legal assistance, to eligible individuals or groups in the Drake Legal Clinic or to other public service projects integrated with the Law School. The Ferguson Prize was established by Edwin Earle Ferguson Sr., JD'34.

2024 recipients
Gold Award: Payton Kitterman *Silver Award:* Taylor Thomas

THE JUSTICE DAVID AND MADONNA HARRIS AWARD
This award honors Justice David Harris, who served on the Iowa Supreme Court from 1972 to 1999. It is presented to the graduating student who demonstrates the greatest promise as an advocate, public servant, and practitioner. Like Justice Harris, the recipient of this award has demonstrated not only academic promise, but also leadership ability, the speaking and writing skills of an effective advocate, and a commitment to public service and Drake Law School. The Justice David and Madonna Harris Award is sponsored by William P. Hoye, JD'87, and Kathleen Crombie.

2024 recipient: Danielle Havel

THE K.M. WAGGONER PEER MENTORING AWARD
This award recognizes a Drake Law School student who embodies Dr. K.M. Waggoner's spirit of mentoring and has made a significant positive impact on fellow students through peer mentoring. Recipients of this award are nominated by their peers and selected by the Law School faculty. The K.M. Waggoner Peer Mentoring Award was established by Philip De Koster, JD'10.

2024 recipient: Jonathan Lewis

MERSEAL PRIZE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
The Merseal Prize for Social Justice recognizes a student whose Drake Law career demonstrates a commitment to advancing social justice. The award was established by Karmen Anderson and Hon. Brent Pattison to honor the memory of Kacy Merseal, JD'16.

2024 recipient: Madalyn Grask

Drake Law School Awards, cont.

2025 awards will be announced this evening.

DRAKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE AND INCLUSION
The Drake University Law School Award for Excellence and Inclusion acknowledges and honors a student's outstanding contributions to promoting understanding and inclusion within the Law School community. This award is sponsored by Michael Traxinger, JD'12, and Jack Schuler, JD'23.

2024 recipients: Natalie Massey and Teresa Otanez-Ortiz

MARSHA TERNUS OUTSTANDING CHILD ADVOCATE AWARD
This award recognizes the student in the Children's Rights Clinic who best lives up to the ideals of former Iowa Supreme Court Chief Justice Marsha Ternus, who said, "Iowans like to say that we put our children first; it's now time to show that we mean it."

2024 recipient: Hannah Wieland

IOWA COUNTY ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION PROSECUTION EXCELLENCE AWARD
The Iowa County Attorneys Association sponsors this award to recognize a student's outstanding achievement in the prosecution internship program. The award acknowledges a student who rendered outstanding performance in prosecutorial trial advocacy, and who exhibited excellent ethical conduct and a commitment to criminal prosecution work.

2024 recipient: Conner Greene

JUSTICE DARYL HECHT AWARD
The Justice Daryl Hecht award was created in 2019 to honor the life and legacy of Iowa Supreme Court Justice Daryl Hecht. This award is presented to a student who exemplifies Justice Hecht's passion for fairness, equality, kindness, integrity, civility, and professionalism.

2024 recipient: Charles Murphy

CLEA OUTSTANDING CLINICAL STUDENT AWARD
The Clinical Legal Education Association created this award to honor a law student at each law school who has excelled in clinical courses.

2024 recipient: Justin Kaltmayer

2025 awards will be announced this evening.

G.R. NEUMANN MEMORIAL AWARD
The G.R. Neumann Memorial Award recognizes a graduating student who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the field of corporate and transactional law. This new award honors a student who has attained a strong foundation in corporate law, including expertise in general corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, financial literacy, contract drafting, negotiation, and critical deal-making skills. The Nyemaster Goode law firm established this award in memory of their colleague G.R. "Rick" Neumann, Jr. (JD'76), to celebrate the knowledge, professionalism, and practical abilities essential for success in a transactional law practice.

RICHMAN BLUE RIBBON AWARD
The Richman Blue Ribbon award is sponsored by Drake Law alumna Andrea Hardesty, JD'22, to honor long-time Drake staff member Lori Richman. The award is given to a student that has strong character, treats everyone with the respect they deserve, and is dedicated to making Drake Law and the community a better place. Selection for this award is by election of the Drake Law Staff.

2024 recipient: NaRayah Runyon

DEAN'S LEADERSHIP AWARD
This award recognizes the student-leader who demonstrates a strong and effective commitment to improving the law to promote the better administration of justice.

2024 recipient: Ami Penquite

IOWA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD
The Iowa State Bar Association Award is given to the graduating student who, by service, attitude, and ability, is expected to be the most successful member of the class in leadership in the Iowa Bar. The award will officially be presented during the ISBA annual meeting in June.

2024 recipient: Chantry Noel

SINCLAIR AWARD
The Drake Law Library established the Sinclair Award in 2007 in memory of Cyrus Sinclair, a 2L desk supervisor who passed away after a long battle with sickle cell anemia. The award recognizes a student desk supervisor for commitment to the Law Library and student colleagues; courteous, friendly, and professional demeanor in dealings with colleagues and patrons; and effective communication with supervisors and colleagues.

2024 recipient: Riley Sternhagen

Dean's Service Awards

The following students have provided leadership and service during the 2024-2025 school year.

American Constitution Society
Kelsey Sissel

Asian Pacific American Law Student Association
Hanna Chang

Black Law Student Association
Karrecia Crawley

Business Law Society
Abby Sheffer

Christian Legal Society
Ryan Lee

Criminal Law Society
Johnathan Bartholomew

Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity
Emily Murphy

Drake Agricultural & Environmental Law Association
Wyatt Harlan

Drake Journal of Agricultural Law
Kendra Betz

Drake Law Democrats
Jack Harper

Drake Law Republicans
Kendal Zylstra

Drake Law Review
Johnny Nguyen

Drake Law Women
Casey Middleswart

Drake OUTLaws
Kaille Simmons

Federalist Society
Nick Nyblom

First-Generation Lawyers
William Keck

If/When/How
Casey Middleswart

Intellectual Property Law Society
Erin Stender

International Law Society
Jaswinder Nagra

La Alianza
Darvin Pineda-Donis

Moot Court Board
Kelsey Schott

National Lawyers Guild
Collin Merschman

Older and Wiser Law Student Society
Sean Henderson

Public Interest Law Association
Aubrey Kohl

Sports and Entertainment Law Society
Spencer Warfield

Student Bar Association
Kayla Hruska

Victory Club
Will Humphreys

Youth Law Society
Abby Sheffer

Drake Law Review
Recognition of Achievement

DRAKE LAW REVIEW

The *Drake Law Review* is published four times each year. In 2012, the *Law Review* launched *Discourse*, the online component of the *Drake Law Review*. The *Law Review* and *Discourse* are edited and prepared by student editors and staff. Students are chosen on the basis of high scholastic achievement and writing ability.

Editorial Board

Johnny Nguyen, Editor-in-Chief
Monica Pietig, Executive Editor
Chloe Dinardo, Research Editor
Kendra Sparby, Research Editor
Cameron Cooper, Managing Editor
Makenna Konkol, Production Editor
Karlie Reagan, Project Editor
Camryn Huyser, Note Editor
Erin Stender, Note Editor
Aiden Ruble, Article Editor
Kendal Zylstra, Article Editor
Jasmine Yant, Associate Editor
Dylan Schuchard, Associate Editor
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Kayla Hruska, Media Editor

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Payton Rochford

Junior Staff

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Thomas Armstrong
Sarah Bigley
Michael Blankenship
Brooke De Noble
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Andrew Fisher
Daniel Fournier
Marie Gernes
Katherine Greenwood
Eli Harris
Brigid Hecht
Kate Husted
William Keck
Maxwell Oelmann
Kaylee Olivares
Rachel Rozendaal
Katelyn Schmitz
Rylie Smith
Alex Stegen
Samantha Stewart

Faculty Advisor

Professor Natalie B. Lynner

Drake Law Review Awards

2025 awards were presented at the
***Drake Law Review* Banquet on Friday evening.**

THE H.G. CARTWRIGHT LAW REVIEW AWARD
This annual award is presented to the student who submits the best note to the *Drake Law Review* during the year. The award is named in honor of the late Harold G. Cartwright, LW 1925, who participated actively in founding the *Law Review* and was a loyal supporter of the Law School.

Dylan Schuchard

THE JEFF GILBERT MEMORIAL AWARD
This award is named in honor of the late Jeffrey S. Gilbert, a member of the class of 1986, who was named to the 1985-86 editorial board shortly before his untimely death in 1985. The award is presented to the member who has made the greatest contribution to the success of the *Drake Law Review*.

Daniel Fournier

THE MORRIS A. HAFT AWARD
This annual award, established by Howard S. Haft, JD'53, in honor of his father Morris A. Haft, Esq., recognizes the role of the *Law Review* in fostering the ardent study and scholarly discussion of law, which Morris A. Haft personally championed and exemplified in his life and practice. The award is given to the graduating member of the *Law Review* staff or editorial board who, through individual effort, service, and leadership, has contributed most to the overall success and quality of the *Law Review* during the student's membership on the *Law Review*.

Johnny Nguyen

FRIEND OF THE LAW REVIEW
This award is presented to the Drake Law School faculty or staff member whose contributions toward the *Law Review* and support of the students have made the *Law Review* a success this year.

Natalie Lynner

Drake Journal of Agricultural Law
Recognition of Achievement

DRAKE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL LAW

The *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law* was initiated in the fall of 1994. The *Journal*'s focus is to provide a quality publication to benefit the courts, practicing attorneys, professors, students, and others in the community who are interested in researching international and domestic matters relating to agricultural and food law.

Editorial Board

Kendra Betz, Editor in Chief
Abigail Goulding, Executive Editor
Kelsey Schott, Associate Editor
Jack Harper, Managing Editor
Emily Barrett, Article Editor
Aubrey Kohl, Article Editor
Keaton Newgren, Article Editor
Bryce Schulte, Article Editor
Shaye Coughlin, Production Editor
Cara Teigum, Projects Editor
Terumi Wayne, Projects Editor
Adi Peppels, Media Editor
Melissa Curry, Research Editor
Ryan Youngstrom, Research Editor
Delaney Kelly, Note Editor
Emily Murphy, Note Editor
Danielle Neu, Note Editor
Elena Pinnow, Note Editor
Jack Lander, Senior Staff

Editorial Staff

Sarah Abu-Nameh
Ashley Beitelspacher
Katherine Chapman
Karrecia Crawley
Nicholas DeAngelo
Margaret Garbin
Jack Groepper
Wyatt J. Harlan
Carter Hartman
Jordan L. Heeter
Wiley Hunt
Stephen Moehlman
Jack Norton
Anna Olson
Ellen N. Phillips
Lauren Ratliff
Jebadiah Schwager
Kelsey Sissel
Jon Sterk
Isaac O. Strohman
Joseph Swinton
Abby Thomas
Ryleigh Travers
Allison Van

Faculty Advisor

Professor Jennifer Zwagerman

Drake Journal of Agricultural Law Awards

2025 awards were presented at the *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law* Banquet on Thursday evening.

FRIEND OF THE *JOURNAL*
This award is presented to an individual who has offered his or her support and assistance to the *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law*. This individual is not a staff member of the *Journal*, but through giving time and effort helped to make it a success.

Karen Wallace, Circulation/Reference Librarian and Professor of Law Librarianship

OUTSTANDING EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER AWARD
This award is presented annually to a member of the editorial board to recognize outstanding commitment and dedication to the *Drake Journal of Agricultural Law*.

Elena Pinnow

OUTSTANDING EDITORIAL STAFF MEMBER AWARD
This award is presented annually to a member of the *Journal* staff who is a second-year law student. The award recognizes outstanding commitment and dedication to the *Journal.*

Anna Olson

OUTSTANDING NOTE AWARD

Jack Lander for *Where Property Lives and Dies: How Iowa's Adoption of the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Would Eliminate the Practice of Probate Law*

OUTSTANDING NOTE AWARD – Honorable Mention

Katie Scott for *How the Shortcomings of Federal Soil Conservation Programs Have Implicated Crop Nutrient Deficiencies*

Moot Court Recognition of Achievement

MOOT COURT BOARD
The Drake Law School Moot Court Program included three intra-school competitions and ten regional inter-law school competitions this year. The Moot Court Board members are responsible for organizing all aspects of each team's involvement in the moot court and mock trial competitions. In addition, the members may serve as student coaches to the competitors.

Moot Court Board 2024-2025

Kelsey Schott, President
Danielle Neu, Vice President
Jessica Menken, Treasurer
Maryellen Reden, Secretary

Senior Board Members

Jack Anderson
Kendra Betz
Logan Kelleher
Aubrey Kohl
William Kunkle
Jack Lander
William Laursen
Haley Ledford
Kendal Zylstra

Junior Board Members

Katy Ammon
Abigail Bechtel
Ashley Beitelspacher
Ali Bestell
Matthew Clarke
Andrew Fisher
Mikayla Ganan
Marie Gernes
Eli Harris
William Keck
Maci Kluesner
Irelynn McMurphy
Jebadiah Schwager

Faculty Advisor
Professor Julia Steggerda-Corey

Moot Court Awards

2025 awards were presented at the Moot Court Banquet on Wednesday evening.

DENTONS DAVIS BROWN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
This award is presented to the finalists in the Supreme Court Celebration Moot Court Competition. Finalists will be recognized during this evening's program.

THE RODNEY L. HUDSON SENIOR ADVOCACY AWARD
This award is presented to a third-year student who is judged by the Moot Court Board advisor to have given outstanding overall performance in moot court competitions throughout his or her law school career. The annual award is made possible by the Rodney L. Hudson Family Foundation established in honor of Rodney L. Hudson, LW 1916, whose career exemplified excellence in advocacy.

Kelsey Schott

THE M. GENE BLACKBURN AWARD
This annual award, funded by the Cedar Rapids law firm of Simmons Perrine Moyer & Bergman, is presented to the student who submits the best brief for the Supreme Court Celebration Moot Court Competition. The recipient is chosen on the basis of superior writing skills that communicate an issue position based upon an innovative, creative, and concise approach. The award is named for M. Gene Blackburn, JD'55, in recognition of his dedication to the development of appellate advocacy while a professor at Drake Law School.

Jordan Heeter

Honorable mentions are awarded to:

Kendra Betz
Anna Olson
Alicia Rupp
Nadia Valentine

DRAKE LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD
This award is given annually to an alumnus for his or her generosity and dedication to the Drake Law School Moot Court Program.

Thomas E. Bakke, JD'16

Moot Court Awards, cont.

ORDER OF THE BARRISTERS
The Order of the Barristers is a national society whose purpose is to recognize special efforts and contributions to moot court programs in American law schools. Membership is voted on the basis of outstanding participation in moot court competitions and service to the Drake Moot Court Board.

Order of the Barristers 2025

Kendra Betz
Aubrey Kohl
Irelynn McMurphy
Brianne Miller
Danielle Neu
Ankit Pal
Maryellen Reden
Kelsey Schott
Kendra Sparby
Erin Stender
Nadia Valentine
Kendal Zylstra

HONORARY MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE BARRISTERS
This award is given annually to an alumnus or friend of Drake in recognition of his or her contribution to the Moot Court Program and example as an outstanding advocate in practice.

Sayoko Blodgett-Ford

Appellate Competitions

NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION
The National Moot Court Competition is sponsored by the New York Bar Association Moot Court Committee and the American College of Trial Lawyers. It is one of the longest-running and most honored competitions of its kind.

In a regional tournament hosted by Marquette Law School in Milwaukee, Wisc., the team of Kendra Betz, Ankit Pal, and Samantha Stewart competed admirably in their rounds. The team of Jordan Heeter, Anna Olson, and Nadia Valentine placed second overall and went on to compete in the national competition in New York.

2024-2025 National Moot Court Teams:

Blue Team	White Team
Jordan Heeter	Kendra Betz
Anna Olson	Ankit Pal
Nadia Valentine	Samantha Stewart

The teams were coached by Louis Sloven, JD’15.

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION NATIONAL APPELLATE ADVOCACY COMPETITION
The ABA Moot Court team competed in the regional Moot Court competition at the federal courthouse in San Francisco. The teams performed exceptionally throughout the initial rounds. The team of Brianne Miller and Kelsey Schott advanced to the semi-finals.

2024-2025 ABA Moot Court Teams:

Team 1	Team 2
Brianne Miller	Andrew Fisher
Kelsey Schott	Marie Gernes
	Eli Harris

The teams were coached by Thomas Bakke, JD'16.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMPETITION
Two Drake Law teams competed in the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition sponsored by the International Trademark Association (INTA). The team of Cameron Annis, Benjamin Bouwkamp, and Joseph Swinton represented Drake Law very well and were chosen for the INTA Foundation Regional Travel Scholarship. The team of Tristan Poirier, Katelyn Schmitz, Dylan Schuchard, and Erin Stender successfully placed at Regionals and advanced to nationals in Washington D.C.

2024-2025 Intellectual Property Moot Court Team:

Team 1	Team 2
Tristan Poirier	Cameron Annis
Katelyn Schmitz	Benjamin Bouwkamp
Dylan Schuchard	Joseph Swinton
Erin Stender	

Team 1 was coached by Michael C. Gilchrist and Nicholas Krob, JD'15. Team 2 was coached by Professor Sayoko Blodgett-Ford.

ENVIRONMENTAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION
The Jeffrey G. Miller National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition is hosted by the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University in White Plains, New York. Karrecia Crawley, Danielle Neu, and Oulimata Sow represented Drake Law School in this year's competition. The team competed very well. Karrecia Crawley was named best oralist out of the 144 students who were at the competition.

2024-2025 Environmental Moot Court Team:

Karrecia Crawley
Danielle M. Neu
Oulimata Sow

The team was coached by Tess Pocock, JD'19, and Sheridan DeJong, JD'20.

Mock Trial Competitions

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF JUSTICE MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION
The AAJ Mock Trial Competition is an inter-law school trial advocacy competition sponsored by the American Trial Lawyers Association. The team represented Drake Law School at their regional competition in Denver and did an excellent job.

2024-2025 AAJ Mock Trial Team:

Alli Cummings
Jae Fehrle
Irelynn McMurphy
Nick Nyblom

The team was coached by Jeff Noble, JD'90, Kevin Hathaway, JD'10, Levi Grove, JD'16, and Bryanna Walton, JD'20.

NATIONAL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION
The National Mock Trial Competition is an inter-law school trial advocacy competition sponsored by the Texas Young Lawyers Association. The two Drake Law teams dominated at the regional competition in Omaha. The White Team placed third and the Blue Team won the competition. The Blue Team will compete at nationals in Houston this month.

2024-2025 National Mock Trial Teams:

Blue Team	White Team
Delaney Buisker	Abby Bechtel
Tess Paxson	John Humphrey
Maryellen Reden	Kendal Zylstra

The teams were coached by Jeff Noble, JD'90, Kevin Hathaway, JD'10, Levi Grove, JD'16, and Bryanna Walton, JD'20.

ONLINE NATIONAL COMPETITION
Two Drake Law teams participated successfully in the Online National Competition hosted by Drexel University, Hofstra University, and UCLA. The team of Sydney Kirk and Samantha Stewart won the entire competition. Katherine Chapman, Mary Kate Wille, and Samantha Stewart received individual outstanding attorney awards.

2024-2025 Online National Mock Trial Teams:

Team 1	Team 2
Katherine Chapman	Sydney Kirk
Mary Kate Wille	Samantha Stewart

The teams were coached by Jeff Noble, JD'90, Kevin Hathaway, JD'10, Levi Grove, JD'16, and Bryanna Walton, JD'20.

Skills Competitions

ARBITRATION COMPETITION
The Arbitration Competition is sponsored by the American Bar Association. Two Drake Law teams competed in the regional competition in Lubbock, Texas. Both teams excelled during the preliminary rounds. The team of Alli Cummings, Tess Paxson, Maryellen Reden, and Kendal Zylstra placed third and advanced to nationals in Chicago, where they placed fifth overall.

2024-2025 Arbitration Teams:

Team 1	Team 2
Carter Forrest	Alli Cummings
Jack Lander	Tess Paxson
Nick Nyblom	Maryellen Reden
Mary Kate Wille	Kendall Zylstra

The teams were coached by Ronald Forsell, JD'15.

The arbitration teams are sponsored by Ruth M. Robinson, JD'75, Ruth Robinson Arbitration and Mediation.

CLIENT COUNSELING COMPETITION
The Client Counseling Competition is sponsored by the American Bar Association. Two Drake Law teams competed in the regional competition in Houston hosted by Texas State University-Thurgood Marhsall School of Law where they performed well.

2024-2025 Client Counseling Teams:

Team 1	Team 2
Haley Ledford	Ali Bestell
Kendra Sparby	Sean Henderson

The teams were coached by Tyler Adams, JD'20.

ABA NEGOTIATIONS COMPETITION
The Negotiations Competition is sponsored by the American Bar Association. Two Drake Law teams competed in the regional tournament at Texas Tech University School of Law. The teams thrived in each round with the team of Nicole Frazier and Kendra Sparby advancing to the final round of the competition.

2024-2025 Negotiations Teams:

Team 1	Team 2
Abbey Goulding	Nicole Frazier
Isaac Strohman	Kendra Sparby

The teams were coached by Jessie Benson, JD'18, and Kayli LeSher, JD'20.

Order of the Coif

Drake Law School's chapter of The Order of the Coif, the national law school scholastic honor society, was chartered in 1951. Members are selected annually from students who rank in the top 10 percent of the graduating class.

Members elected in 2024

Emily Bell
Rebecca Coleman
Catherine Dukelow
Conner Greene
Johnathon Harris
Alexander Lee
Natalie Massey
Harry Merz
Ami Penquite
Benjamin Wolf
Lora Wright

Inns of Court

American Inns of Court have been formed throughout the United States for the purpose of promoting and improving trial and appellate advocacy skills, adherence to ethical ideals, and professionalism among members. Members, who are limited in number to 65, include judges, senior and new attorneys, and law students who meet regularly throughout the year to participate in demonstrations of forensic techniques, critiques and evaluations, and collegial discussion and dining. Two Inns of Court have been formed in Des Moines, and Drake Law students and faculty are members of each.

Blackstone Inn of Court

Paula Carlson
Kayla Hruska
Camryn Huyser
Erik Johnson
Irelynn McMurphy
Madelyn Waddell

C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court

Sean Henderson
Jack Lander
Haley Ledford
Keaton Newgren
Kelsey Schott
Kendal Zylstra

CALI Excellence for the Future Awards

The CALI Excellence for the Future Awards are given to students attaining the highest grade for selected courses leading to a JD degree.

Fall 2023

Kendra Betz – Environmental Law
Kendra Betz – Constitutional Law II
Kendra Betz – Land Use Control
Michael Blankenship – Civil Procedure Con Fr
Cameron Cooper – Criminal Procedure Invest.
Brooke De Noble – Torts
Catherine Dukelow – Contract Drafting
Andrew Fisher – Contracts I
Daniel Fournier- Torts
Connor Greene - Constitutional Controversies
Katherine Greenwood – Contracts I
J.T. Harris – Business Associations
Sean Henderson – Constitutional Law II
Payton Kitterman – Worker's Compensation
Jonathan Lewis – State & Local Government
Jonathan Lewis – Pretrial Advocacy
Emily McNab-Wright – Refugee Legal Clinic
Max Oelmann – Civil Procedure Con. Frame.
Johanna Olson – In-House Counsel
Ami Penquite – Wills & Trusts
Ami Penquite – Introduction to Ag Law
Ami Penquite – Administrative Law
Ami Penquite – Constitutional Controversies
Jacob Schrader – Secured Transactions
Dylan Schuchard – Trademark & Unfair Comp.
Rylie Smith – Criminal Law
Riley Sternhagen – Children's Rights Clinic
Benjamin Wolf – Federal Courts & Jurisdiction
MaryEllen Wooten – Trial Advocacy
Noell Young – International Human Rights

Spring 2024

Ally Bedwell – Current Issues in Food & Ag
Emily Bell – Children & the Law
Kendra Betz – Evidence
Kendra Betz – Family Law
Michael Blankenship – Property
Jasmine Carbine – Children's Rights Clinic
Noel Chantry – Wrongful Convictions Clinic II
Katherin Chapman – Chantry Noel
Katherine Chapman – Civil Proc. Process of Lit.
Katherine Chapman – Contracts II
William Cooney – Gaming Law
Brooke De Noble – Contracts II
Brooke De Noble – Property
Chloe Dinardo – Business Associations
Chloe Dinardo – Employment Discrimination
Claire Dupuis – Race, Law & Social Science
Sara Edgar – Secured Transactions
Daniel Fournier - Property
Connor Greene – Federal Criminal Law
Connor Greene – Wills & Trusts
Diana Kajtazovic – Entrepreneurial Clinic
Daniel Keough – International Trade
William Laursen – Criminal Procedure Invest.
Alexander Lee – Copyright Law
Alexander Lee – Criminal Procedure Adjudicat.
Jonathan Lewis - First Amendment Seminar
Maxwell Oelmann – Civil Procedure Proc of Liti.
Ami Penquite – Sexual Harass. Modern Torts
Karlie Reagan – Conflict of Laws
Karlie Reagan – Scientific Expert Evidence
Rachel Rozendaal – Constitutional Law I
Aiden Ruble – Sports & Antitrust
Isabelle Sanstead Eastin – Real Estate Trans.
Dawnelle Schlagel – Estate Planning
Dawnelle Schlagel – Pretrial Advocacy
Katelyn Schmitz – Legal Writing II
Kelsey Schott – Administrative Law
Jacob Schrader – Mergers & Acquisitions
Dylan Schuchard – Patent Law
Alexander Stegen – Civil Proc. Process of Lit.
Erin Stender – Patent Law
Emma Terrell – First Amendment Seminar
Nadia Valentine – Criminal Procedure Invest.
Jackson Westen – Secured Transactions

Summer 2024

Margaret Garbin – European Union Law (Fr)
Margaret Garbin – European Mig. Law (Fr)
Natalie Gislason – Trial Advocacy
Jordan Heeter – Evidence
Rachel Rozendaal – Change & Dev. In Europe.
Alicia Rupp – Comparative Corporate Law (Fr)
Alicia Rupp – Transnational Civil Litigation (Fr)
Alicia Rupp – Global Issues in Criminal Law (Fr)

Student Ambassadors

Student Ambassadors are volunteers selected to assist the Drake Law School Office of Admission and Financial Aid in representing the Law School to students visiting the campus.

3L Student Ambassadors

Emily Barrett
Kendra Betz
Cameron Cooper
Sara Edgar
Jae Fehrle
Kayla Hruska
Camryn Huyser
Aubrey Kohl
Makenna Konkol
Eric Lee II
Brianne Miller
Danielle Neu
Keaton Newgren
Johnny Nguyen
Nick Nyblom
Ankit Pal
Ezekiel Quattlebaum
Jim Rettenmeier
Aiden Ruble
Oulimata Sow
Kendra Sparby
Catherine Tanihu
Cara Teigum
Terumi Wayne
Kendal Zylstra

2L Student Ambassadors

Katy Ammon
Ali Bestell
Zoe Brinker
Karrecia Crawley
Nicole Frazier
Meredith Gill
Megan Gillmore

2L Student Ambassadors cont'd

Abby Ihlenfeldt
Sydni Kirk
Maci Kluesner
Kaylee Olivares
Anna Olson
Tess Paxson
Ellen Phillips
Darvin Pineda-Donis
Lauren Ratliff
Mackenzie Roberts
Rachel Sams
Pamela Sanders-Booker
Jeb Schwager
Spencer Warfield
Mary Kate Wille

1L Student Ambassadors

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Olivia Cooney
Kelly Donnellan
Emerson Drake
Hannah Fugate
Kelsey Gallant
Nadine Hamdan
Ryan Harvey
Caroline Koerner
Emma Laffoon
Samuel Lederman
Courtney Meyers
Jessica Stabler
Ella Stafford
Steven Vernitsky
Jared Zack

Drake Law School Faculty and Staff

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Liz Battles, Assistant Dean for Student Services
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Susan Edwards, Budget and Office Manager
Andrea Solomon, Advancement Officer
Theresa Howard, Director of Communications, Alumni Relations, and Special Events

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Hunter R. Clark, Professor of Law
Erica Nichols Cook, Director of the Wrongful Convictions Clinic and Clinician in Residence
Colleen Cullen, Director of Criminal Defense Clinic and Assistant Professor of Law
Steve Foritano, Practitioner in Residence
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Sydney Gangestad, Director of the Drake Legislative Practice Center and Instructor of Law
Anthony J. Gaughan, Kern Family Chair in Law and Professor of Law
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Alexa Perez, Assistant Professor of Law
Suzan Pritchett, Director of Clinical and Experiential Programs and Professor of Law

Nick Roby, Director of the Entrepreneurial/Transactional Clinic and Clinical Professor of Law
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Ellen L. Yee, Director of International Programs and Professor of Law
Jennifer Zwagerman, Director of the Drake Agricultural Law Center and Associate Professor of Law

JUDGE IN RESIDENCE

Hon. Anu Vaitheswaran, former judge, Iowa Court of Appeals

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Rebecca A. Lutkenhaus, Reference/Instruction Librarian and Professor of Law Librarianship
Karen L. Wallace, Circulation/Reference Librarian and Professor of Law Librarianship

STAFF

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Kollan Kolthoff (JD’20)
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Erin Romar (AS’14, JD’17)
Jenna Sabroske (JD’18)
Joshua Strief (AS’10, JD’14)
Kolby Warren (JD’18)

Members of the Leland S. Forrest Society - 2024

The Leland S. Forrest Society recognizes individuals and couples who provide Drake University Law School with supporting gifts of $2,500 or more.

† - Deceased

Cory and Emily Abbas (Cory, BN’94, JD’04; Emily, JO’97, MCL’09)
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Timothy and Elizabeth Coonan (Timothy, AS’96, JD’02; Elizabeth, JD’02)
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Diane Crookham-Johnson and Kevin Johnson (Diane, JD'10)
Dr. David Wilson and Mary Curd (David, JD'74)
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Denny Drake (LA'73, JD'77)
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Tye and Renee Klooster (Tye, JD'03; Renee, JD'02)
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Robyn Richards
Nocholas Roby and Deb Tharnish
Ryan Rohlfsen and Cynthia Erno Rohlfsen (Ryan, AS'96, JD’99; Cynthia, JD '99)

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Barbara Lano Rummel (JD'90)
Ed and Barb Sease (Ed, LA'64, JD'67)
Jeffrey Singer (LA'72, JD'75)
Thomas and Julie Slater (Thomas, JD'79)
Miranda Soto (JD’02)
Mr. Michael J. Staab (JD'81)
Kermit and Jenny Sutton (Kermit, JD'74)
Jay and Nikki Syverson (Jay, BN’02, JD’09; Nikki, JO’03)
Mr. Johnny C. Taylor Jr. (GR'91, JD’92)
Marsha Ternus (JD’77)
Peter and Mary Jo Thrane (Peter, JD’84)
Dr. Vernon Traster (BN'69, JD'73)
Kevin and Sharon VanderSchel (Kevin, JD’80; Sharon, MPA’79)
Rosa Ann Vasquez (JD’85)
Judge Mark Wernick and Nancy Entwistle (Mark, JD’75)
Gillian and Andrew Wilcox (Gillian, JD’07; Andrew, JD’08)
Connie Wimer
Larry F. Witte (BN’66, JD’71)
Mr. Thomas M. Zurek and Mrs. Barbara M. Zurek (Thomas, BN’70, JD’74; Barbara, MSE ’90)

Drake UNIVERSITY | Law School