



MINNESOTA WOMEN LAWYERS
Equality • Leadership • Community

2019 MWL EQUAL JUSTICE AWARD

All Minnesota law students are invited to submit papers or articles they have written on a topic involving law and social justice. The writer(s) of the selected article or essay will be awarded a cash prize of \$1,000.00 (total) at MWL's 47th Annual Meeting luncheon (April 26th, 2019). All topics related broadly to law, liberty, justice, and equality are eligible, whether or not related to women's rights or feminist theory.

ELIGIBILITY: A paper is eligible for the 2019 MWL Equal Justice Award if it was completed by the student while attending law school. Papers written by individuals or with student co-authors are accepted. Papers completed by members of the class of 2018 while attending law school are also eligible if they were completed after the deadline for submitting for the 2018 Equal Justice Award (February 28, 2018). A paper may only be considered once for the Equal Justice Award.

Submissions will be accepted at any time but must be made by February 28, 2019 by 4:00 p.m.

CRITERIA: Submissions will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Significance: Does the work address an important legal and social issue of justice and equality?
2. Originality: Does the work make an original contribution to the topic? For example, does it reinterpret an issue, offer new solutions to a problem, or suggest new connections between areas of analysis? Does it draw on materials that shed new light on a topic? Does it offer a new perspective, solution, or approach to an issue?
3. Presentation: Is the scholarship factually accurate? Is the paper well written? Does the author address the issue using appropriate methodology, well designed to serve the author's purpose? Does the paper display appropriate depth of research? Does the paper place its analysis appropriately in the scholarly field?
4. Persuasiveness: Does the paper present a cogent defense of the position taken? Does it give appropriate attention to competing views? Does the author's argument persuade the reader?
5. Impact: Does the work present ideas that are applicable in practical contexts? Are the ideas useful to the educated reader?

SUBMISSIONS: Submissions should include:

1. A cover letter—separate from the paper or article being submitted—with the writer's name, address, phone number, school of attendance, month and year of law school graduation (actual or anticipated) and date (month and year) when paper was completed.
2. In an accompanying, separate document, the paper or article submitted for the competition. This document must NOT include the student's name, school, or other identifying information. Any identifying information MUST be deleted from the article's title, cover page, header, footers, and footnotes before submitting the paper or article.
3. If the essay or article as submitted has been edited by or with the assistance of a third party, provide a detailed description of the editing process (for example, who provided the editing assistance, what changes were made as the result of the third party editing, how many drafts went through the editing process, etc.).

Only electronic submissions will be accepted. Submissions should be sent by February 28, 2019 via e-mail to dpexa@mwlawyers.org. Failure to comply with the instructions for submission detailed above may result in disqualification of the paper from the competition. Please contact MWL (dpexa@mwlawyers.org; 612/338-3205) with any questions.

To be considered for the 2019 MWL Equal Justice Award, complete submissions must be received at MWL by Wednesday, February 28th, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.