

UF-CSRRR

GRIOT JUSTICE ORAL COMPETITION 2008

Topic: RACE-BASED HATE SPEECH

The Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations (CSRRR) is pleased to announce the first Griot Race, Law, and Justice Oral Competition.

In West Africa, the griot is a respected traveling historian who keeps the history and genealogy of a community alive through skilled oral presentations and storytelling. In the U.S. the griot takes on a more urgent role – part town-crier, part prognosticator. In the face of continuing racial inequality, disparity and insensitivity, the griot enters the public sphere – through the courtroom, the boardroom and legislative convention– equipped with the best data, keen analyses, and polished presentation skills in order to shed light and understanding on the most pressing issues of the day.

The Griot Race, Law, and Justice Oral Competition is designed to support the development of legal oratory and research skills in defense of racial equality and justice.

1st Place - \$2,500; 2nd Place - \$1,500; 3rd Place - \$1000

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Griot competitors must be 2L or 3L students at the Levin College of Law during the spring 2008 semester.

This is a team competition. Teams of two but no more than three law students may apply. Team members may divide their tasks as they deem appropriate. Please note, however that only **one** team member student will make the oral presentation. Award money will be divided evenly among the team members of the winning teams. A panel of judges will score the competition.

The oral competition will be held in February, 2008. Competitors will be required to give a 12-15 minute talk on the selected topic.

A student orientation will be held on **Monday, October 19 at 12 p.m.** (Room 382). Students interested in participating in the competition are encouraged to come and learn more about the process.

The application deadline: **Friday, November 16, 2007 at 12:00 p.m.** To apply, please submit: (1) A cover sheet that includes the names of the team members and contact information (name, address, phone and e-mail) for each person; (2) a brief biography for each team member; and (3) A letter from the Office of Student Affairs verifying good academic standing for each team member.

Submit materials to Patricia Hancock, Room 340, Holland Hall. No e-mail or fax applications will be accepted.

Direct questions to CSRRR Assistant Director, Melissa Bamba, 370 Holland, (352) 273-0614, or bamba@law.ufl.edu

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