



New Hampshire Bar Association

Law Related Education

“Working Together to Learn to ABC’s of LRE”



Law Related Education (LRE) encompasses a variety of programs for students in grades K-12, designed to teach students about law, the legal system, and the fundamental principles and values upon which our constitutional democracy is based. Activities are intended to foster partnerships between schools and lawyers and judges who volunteer their time to work with these programs.

A Lawyer and Judge in Every School (Spring)

This annual spring event pairs attorneys and judges with classrooms throughout the state to discuss concepts of law, rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and additional legal issues consistent with student interest and the course curriculum. School requests are coordinated by one designated person in a school who receives match-up information from the LRE Coordinator, and disseminates materials within the school. The LRE Coordinator provides attorney/ judge volunteers to the school coordinator.

With thousands of students and over 100 lawyers and judges participating annually in this program, as part of the NHBA’s “Law Week” activities, it is the Bar’s largest law-related education program. Lesson plans that



address various aspects of law are available to support the teacher and volunteer Bar member teams. Bar members and schools often form long-term partnership for this program. To be a part of the “A Lawyer and Judge in Every School” program, or for more information please contact LRE Coordinator [Robin E. Knippers](#) at 603-224-6942, ext. 3259 or use the form on page 3.

We the People: Project Citizen (May)

“We the People: Project Citizen” promotes competent and responsible participation in state and local government. It actively engages students in learning how to monitor and influence public policy and encourages civic participation among students, their parents, and member of the community.



As a group project, students work together to identify and study a public policy issue, eventually developing an action plan for implementing their policy. The final product is a portfolio displaying each group’s work.

In a culminating activity, the group presents its portfolio in a simulated legislative hearing, demonstrating its knowledge and understanding of how public policy is formulated. Participants are encouraged to enter their portfolios in the state showcase held in May at the Legislative Office Building in Concord. The portfolio receiving the highest rating at the state showcase will go on to be evaluated at the National Showcase, held each year in conjunction with the National Conference of State Legislatures.

For more information on how you can participate in this or any other LRE program, please contact [Robin E. Knippers](#) at 603-224-6942, ext. 3259 or use the form on page 3.

We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution (December & January)



This nationally acclaimed civic education instructional program enhances students' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy while allowing students to discover the contemporary relevance of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

The primary goal of "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" is to promote civic competence and responsibility among the nation's elementary and secondary students. The design of the instructional program, including the innovative culminating activity, is what makes the program a success.

The culminating activity is a simulated congressional hearing in which students "testify"

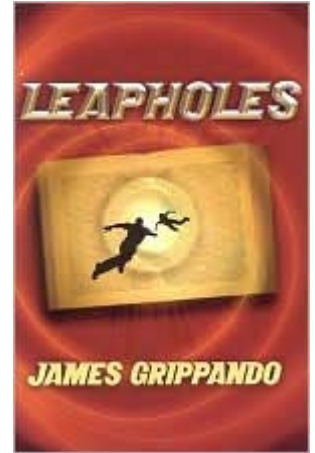


before a panel of judges. At the high school level, schools participate in Regional and State Competitions, held in December and January each year, performing units before a panel of notable governmental and political leaders. The top performing high school team has the opportunity to represent NH at the National Finals in Washington, D.C.

As always, volunteers are needed to act as facilitators, timers, judges and/or scorers. If you are interested in volunteering your time to be a part this phenomenal program, please contact [Robin E. Knippers](#) at 603-224-6942, ext. 3259 or use the form on page 3.

Leapholes

"Leapholes" by James Grippando tells the story of Ryan, a middle school boy who hates school and is in trouble with the law. The one person that can help him is a mysterious magical old attorney named Hezekiah. Together they do their legal research by zooming through "Leapholes"; physically entering the law books and coming face-to-face with actual people from famous cases- like Rosa Parks and Dred Scott- who will help Ryan defend himself in court.



In 2007 the NH Bar Association invited several middle schools from around the state to participate in the "Leapholes" pilot project. The NHBA provided the classes with books for each student, teacher and attorney volunteer. The students read the book and, with the help of an attorney volunteer, discussed the legal aspects of the book. Classrooms participating in a culminating activity were invited to meet James Grippando at a "Meet the Author" event held on May 21, 2008.

Moving forward, information about using the Leapholes book in the classroom is available to schools who are interested. For information about this program and how to order books at a reduced rate, contact Robin E. Knippers or call 603-715-3259.

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LRE Information Request Form

Please complete this form if you would like more information on how to participate in any of these LRE Programs and Events. Thank you!

Name

NH Bar ID #

Address

Town/State/Zip Code

Phone

E-mail

Program(s) of Interest:

All LRE Programs []

A Lawyer & Judge in Every School (ALIES) []

Project Citizen []

We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution []

Leapholes []

For more information on any of these Law Related Education Programs or on how you can volunteer, please return this form to Robin E. Knippers, Law Related Education Coordinator, NHBA, 2 Pillsbury Street, Suite 300, Concord NH 03301 or email Robin at [Hreknippers@nhbar.org](mailto:reknippers@nhbar.org)H.

Visit the Law Related Education pages at [Hhttp://www.nhbar.org/law-related-education/default.asp](http://www.nhbar.org/law-related-education/default.asp)H.