

## **2016-2017 NCSA STATE "TAKE NOTE" COMPETITION**

*"The spirit of Court Reporting & Captioning Week reflects the spirit and pride we have as members of this profession. It is never too soon or too late to share that spirit and pride with the members of our communities and to spread the word about the endless opportunities court reporting and captioning offer as a career path. I'm looking forward to learning about the many ways our members across the nation celebrate our wonderful profession,"*

*NCRA President Tiva Wood, RDR, CMRS.*

We are all familiar with the findings from the 2013-2014 Industry Outlook Report by Ducker Worldwide that predicts there will be a shortage of 5,500 court reporters by 2018. We know our numbers are dwindling. We know we need students in our schools, and we know we need students graduating from court reporting programs. Is this challenging? Yes it is, but we are court reporters, and we face challenges every day.

### **HOW CAN WE HELP?**

Just as colleges and universities engage in athletic rivalries, you can join forces with court reporters and captioners in your state for a little friendly competition across state borders. In our profession, we are silent as we diligently do our jobs, but we really have a lot to say about our great profession. Now is the time to say it.

Where can we let our voices be heard?

- Presentations and demonstrations at high schools or career fairs in our communities
- Presentations and demonstrations at guidance counselor conventions in our states
- Participation in a Veterans History Project Day
- Participation in and promotion of Court Reporting & Captioning Week 2017

### **WHEN IS THE COMPETITION?**

The competition will begin Monday, August 8. We do not want to waste any time spreading the message about our wonderful profession! Let's get the ball rolling! While we will award the prizes at the culmination of Court Reporting & Captioning

Week, February 11-18, 2017, we want the Take Note Competition to be a year-round event.

### **WHERE CAN I FIND MATERIAL FOR A PRESENTATION?**

If you're preparing a presentation, there is no need to look any further than the NCRA website to find a wealth of information at your fingertips.

- [ncra.org/awareness](http://ncra.org/awareness)
- [ncra.org/Foundation/content.cfm?ItemNumber=14993&navitemNumber=14994](http://ncra.org/Foundation/content.cfm?ItemNumber=14993&navitemNumber=14994)
- [crtakenote.com](http://crtakenote.com)
- [crtakenote.com/schools/](http://crtakenote.com/schools/)
- [careersincourtreporting.com](http://careersincourtreporting.com)

You can also contact NCRA's Communications Team at [pr@ncra.org](mailto:pr@ncra.org) for additional assistance.

Consider contacting the business education, English, or music department at your local school to set up a presentation. Consider taking along a short transcript to school presentations. Let the students do some play acting so they can experience what goes on in a court proceeding or deposition. Everyone likes to be the judge! If you have an idea that really works well for you and you want to share it with other states or if you are having difficulty getting the ball rolling and you are looking for ideas, e-mail your regional rep or reach out to [Leaders@lists.ncra.org](mailto:Leaders@lists.ncra.org). We are all working together to fill our court reporting and captioning schools with students, and we are all here to help each other.

### **HOW DO WE DOCUMENT OUR STATE'S ACTIVITIES?**

Documenting your presentations or demonstrations is quick and easy. Just click on [this site](#), fill in the information, and your event will be entered in the contest. There is no limit to the number of contest entries your state can have. The greater the number of entries you have, the better the chances your state wins the competition. Did your state, county, and city government offices issue a proclamation commemorating Court Reporting & Captioning Week? Did you participate in a Veterans History Project Day? Did you present at a school, conference, or career fair? These are all great ways to receive recognition for your hard work, and they're each additional entries for your state in the competition.

Don't stop there, though. Post pictures of your presentations on your state association's website and social media pages, and don't forget to use the hashtag [#crTakeNote](#) so NCRA can share your hard work. (Note that only entries submitted through the online application qualify for the competition.) Contact NCRA's Assistant Director of Communications Annemarie Roketenetz at [aroketenetz@ncra.org](mailto:aroketenetz@ncra.org) for possible inclusion in the *JCR Weekly*. Let everyone across the country hear about your successful campaign to promote court reporting and captioning.

### **WHAT ARE THE PRIZES FOR THE COMPETITION?**

The prizes for the competition are tiered. Each entry into the raffle-type competition qualifies for the first prize. Each prize awarded is to be used at the state's discretion, i.e. registrations for the president/delegate, raffle items/fundraising for future conventions, student gifts, et cetera. In addition, there is a grand prize for an individual reporter or captioner.

**First Prize:** Five free webinars.

**GRAND PRIZE:** A complimentary registration to the 2017 NCRA Convention & Expo will be awarded to the individual reporter or captioner who does the greatest number of school, career day, guidance counselor convention presentations, VHP Days, and/or Court Reporting & Captioning Week events. In case of a tie, the prize will go to the reporter or captioner who completed and submitted their presentations first.

**GOOD LUCK! LET THE WORLD KNOW ABOUT YOUR GREAT CAREER!**