

CALLING ALL ATTORNEYS & JUDGES!

The John Marshall Center is recruiting attorneys and judges to participate in our new K-12 programs. Let us connect with eager students and teachers!

Why are you recruiting us?

Based on our conversations with classroom teachers and social studies specialists, we have learned that there is an interest in connecting K-12 students directly with members of the legal profession. We knew that educators needed help deepening their students' understanding of civics and constitutional history; we now know that the JMC has a unique opportunity to do that by connecting them directly with lawyers and judges.

Will I have to lead a program by myself?

No. Each virtual visit will be led by the JMC Director of Education. In addition to a pre-program conversation with the Director of Education, each participant will receive a set of materials to help them prepare for their visit with students.

How much of a time commitment is required?

We ask that lawyers and judges commit to being available for at least one virtual program a quarter. This would include some preparatory time both with JMC staff and on your own.

What age range will these programs serve?

We are currently focused on serving middle and high school students.

What if a student asks a question that I don't know how to answer?

Because your JMC program partner will be (virtually) alongside you for all of your on-camera appearances, you are always allowed to defer to them for assistance in answering question from students. Our staff will send materials to teachers before the program that will help guide the Q&A session, and we'll also give each volunteer tools to deal with difficult subjects with patience and grace.

If I volunteer to participate, what am I signing up for?

You would be expected to be our on-camera talent for virtual visits with classrooms in the region. These 45-minute programs will include a 30-minute discussion with a JMC Director of Education about a selected topic, and a 15-minute Q&A session where students can ask questions of you directly.

How much work will I have to do for these programs?

All you will be asked to do is appear on camera for your program window, and spend 30 minutes or so with our staff preparing for the session before the lesson begins. All of the booking, logistical coordination, communication with teachers, and technical setup will be taken care of by our staff. Your only task is to show up and participate in a great conversation.

What are the topics a program might cover?

Among the themes we will offer are:
Principles of Rule of Law
The Constitution & its Origins
Principles of Government
Federal & Virginia Courts Judicial Review Basics
Criminal & Civil Cases

Is there anything else I should know about your programs?

As we pilot these programs, we hope that our lawyer and judge partners will maintain a degree of flexibility about how their involvement might shift as these programs evolve. We plan to prioritize the needs of our student audiences, and will gather feedback from teachers that will allow us to tweak and improve our offerings as time goes on. We will ask you to adapt with us as these ideas take shape, we hope that the opportunity to help build these programs from the ground up will excite you.

Interested in learning more? Contact JMC Director of Education at carolinelegros@johnmarshallcenter.org or 804-647-4794

