

## What is Happening at the Conference?

At the conference this year, each delegate will participate in a mock trial by serving as an attorney, a witness, a juror, or a reporter. Volunteer judges and attorneys will fill the judge roles, conference facilitators and state ambassadors will serve as clerks and bailiffs, adult conference managers will serve as bailiffs, and chaperones will serve as the audience. Each courtroom will have six attorneys (three for each side), six witnesses (three for each side, this includes the defendant), twelve jurors, and four reporters. These numbers may be adjusted for the actual number of participants. We anticipate filling seven courtrooms and using three different cases. This means more than one courtroom will be hearing the same case. It will be interesting to see how the verdicts compare in the different courtrooms.

Delegates will apply for a role and receive their assignment prior to the conference. **Each delegate is expected to arrive at the conference prepared to fill any role because not everyone will necessarily get his or her first choice.** Delegates CAN apply for a role and, IF available, MAY be assigned that role. Once at the conference, attorneys and witnesses will receive the case and prepare for the trial while jurors and reporters will discuss the aspects of the jury system and influences on jurors. On Sunday, the attorneys will present their cases. Finally, on Monday, juries will deliberate. During jury deliberation, the attorneys and witnesses will be able to discuss the aspects of the jury system and influences on jurors and the reporters will work on their broadcasts. Finally, the reporters will broadcast the verdicts at the General Assembly.

Each courtroom will have a Conference Facilitator (CF) and State Ambassador (SA) assigned to it. They will serve as the Court Clerks and Bailiffs, respectively. The SAs and CFs are a team of experienced leaders chosen by the committee and trained on the curriculum in order to facilitate the process. In addition, this team of youths and adults will lead the function groups during the sessions not in court.

### Session Agendas

Below is a rough outline of each session at the conference

#### Session A – Receive the Case

Attorneys begin dividing responsibilities, witnesses learn roles, and jurors and reporters discuss jury selection and how the media covers court cases. Experiential learning training for chaperones.

#### Session B – Prepare for Trial

Attorneys and witnesses work on questions, jurors and reporters discuss influences on juries and chaperones attend youth-adult partnerships presentation. Experiential learning training for chaperones.

#### Session C – Opening Statements and Prosecution

#### Session D – Defense and Closing Arguments

#### Session E – CSI Workshops

Workshops for jurors, attorneys, and witnesses. Reporters work on getting interviews and writing broadcasts. Experiential learning training for chaperones.

#### Session F – Cases handed to juries

Juries deliberate, reporters work on stories, and attorneys and witnesses discuss jury selection and how court cases are covered by the media. Reporters set up for their broadcast. Bailiffs hand the verdicts to the television reporters. Experiential learning training for chaperones.

#### Session G – General Assembly

Television reporters broadcast the verdicts to the entire group.

That is the conference concisely, but you may still have questions. If so, please feel free to contact Melissa Beard at [melei@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:melei@stanfordalumni.org). She will be glad to answer any questions you may have! There is no reason anyone should come to the conference not knowing what is going to happen.