

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**THE DELAWARE COURT OF CHANCERY ANNOUNCES WINNERS IN
STUDENT ART CONTEST**

The Delaware Court of Chancery announced the winners of its 2nd annual Legal History Art Contest on Monday, April 22, 2024, at a reception on the 12th floor of the Leonard L. Williams Justice Center in Wilmington.

Amaurie Yip, 16, of Middletown High School, won the \$500 first-place prize for her work, “Torn Remembrance,” and Nevaeh Rumbley, 16, of Dover High School won the \$300 second-place prize for her work, “The Law of Equity.” Josie Petrak, 18, of Brandywine High School won the \$200 third-place prize for her work, “Segregation in School.”

Magistrate in Chancery Loren Mitchell said, “It was an honor to serve as one of the judges for the art competition. All the students did such an amazing job. I enjoyed seeing the various creative ways the students interpreted these historic cases for their artwork.”

The contest, which was conducted in partnership with the Court of Chancery Historical Society, was open to Delaware students in grades 7-12 and was announced in February to mark the upcoming 70th anniversary of the United States Supreme Court’s historic *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling desegregating public schools and the Delaware Court of Chancery’s key role in that decision.

The *Brown* decision was in fact a consolidation of four appeals to the United States Supreme Court, including the decisions by Court of Chancery Chancellor Collins J. Seitz, Sr. in *Belton v. Gebhart* and *Bulah v. Gebhart*. Chancellor Seitz ruled that the schools involved were not in fact equal and urged the United States Supreme Court to reject the “separate but equal” doctrine. The Delaware ruling was the only one of the state cases, that made up the consolidated *Brown* case, where the plaintiffs prevailed in their challenge to segregation on the state level.

Winners of the art contest were chosen by a three-person panel including a judicial officer from the Court of Chancery, a member of the Court of Chancery Historical Society, and a representative from the Delaware College of Art and Design.

Miss Yip wrote that her artwork, “Torn Remembrance,” depicting a black girl holding a ragged book on a packed subway car and a white girl reaching for a book in a library, “depicts the illusory ideals of separate but equal and highlights the unequal gap and discomfort that African Americans experienced.”

Miss Rumbley's artwork, "The Law of Equity," depicts "how the equity of the ruling of *Brown v. Board* both protected and affected the community and show[s] how important the case was to the history of Delaware and its students."

Miss Petrak's artwork, "Segregation in School," shows "the perfect and damaged books separat[ing] two young school girls."

Chancellor Kathaleen St. J. McCormick said, "The Delaware Court of Chancery, along with the Court of Chancery Historical Society, would like to thank all the students who submitted their artwork to the 2nd Annual Legal History Art Contest. Thanks also goes to the three judges who took the time to review all the submissions."

The winning artwork has been posted on the contest webpage:
<https://courts.delaware.gov/chancery/art-competition.aspx>.