

# Focus on Diversity

For more information on items in this section, visit [www.lsba.org/diversity](http://www.lsba.org/diversity).

## Volunteer opportunities open for 2020 Suit Up for the Future Program

The Louisiana State Bar Association, in partnership with the Louisiana Bar Foundation and Just the Beginning, is again hosting the Suit Up for the Future program this summer, a free three-week legal institute for high school students and recent graduates interested in pursuing careers in the legal profession. The 2020 program is set for June 15-26 and July 6-10.

During the program, students attend an abridged law school session, take field trips to law schools and courts, and participate in an internship consisting of shadowing at area law offices and courts.

Legal professionals may participate in one of two ways.

► **Volunteer for one hour.** Attorneys are invited to volunteer their time from noon-1 p.m. to talk to the students about legal careers. Anyone interested in participating should email the Member Outreach and Diversity team at [diversity@lsba.org](mailto:diversity@lsba.org).



► **Shadowing opportunities.** During the program's second week (June 22-26), students will be assigned to "shadow" attorneys at firms, courts and organizations. This is an opportunity for the students to see for themselves what attorneys do on a daily basis and to spend one-on-one time with attorneys in the workforce. Attorneys and firms interested in providing a shadowing opportunity for one or more students should

email [diversity@lsba.org](mailto:diversity@lsba.org).

The program application deadline is May 11 for high school juniors, seniors and students entering their first year of college in fall 2020. Students may apply online at: [www.lsba.org/goto/suitup](http://www.lsba.org/goto/suitup).

For more information on the Suit Up For the Future Program, go to: [www.lsba.org/Diversity/DiversityStudentResources.aspx](http://www.lsba.org/Diversity/DiversityStudentResources.aspx).



## Nominations accepted through June 30 for Citizen Lawyer Award

Nominations will be accepted through June 30 for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) *Citizen Lawyer Award*, a service award that recognizes individual attorneys and judges who have performed public services out of a sense of duty, responsibility and professionalism.

In 2001, the LSBA instituted the Crystal Gavel Awards. This award program was updated in 2014 and renamed the Citizen Lawyer Awards.

To be nominated, the lawyer must be admitted to practice in Louisiana, and the judge must have been elected or appointed

to a state or federal court in Louisiana. Nominees must have made a difference in their local communities, in local organizations, or in the life of one person, and have served the public in a number of areas, including:

- Aiding the administration of justice.
- Assisting groups or individuals on a volunteer basis in a non-legal capacity.
- Educating the public or individuals or students about legal matters.
- Providing pro bono legal services in a matter of a significant nature, or in a significant number of cases, or in a way that significantly changed the life of a person or group.

► Working in conjunction with the court system to make it more welcoming, inviting and understandable for jurors, witnesses or victims of crime.

Awards are presented in local communities throughout the state. There is no limit to the number of awards which will be presented, as the LSBA wishes to recognize all deserving individuals.

For more information about the award or to submit a nomination, go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CitizenLawyerAward>. Or email the LSBA's Member Outreach and Diversity Department at [outreach@lsba.org](mailto:outreach@lsba.org).

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13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONCLAVE ON DIVERSITY IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION**

The Conclave will encourage discussion among judges and attorneys, primarily hiring and managing attorneys with law firms and law departments, about the importance of diversity and inclusion within the legal profession and how to improve diversity and inclusion within the profession in Louisiana.

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For up-to-date information or to register, please visit [www.lsba.org/goto/conclave](http://www.lsba.org/goto/conclave)