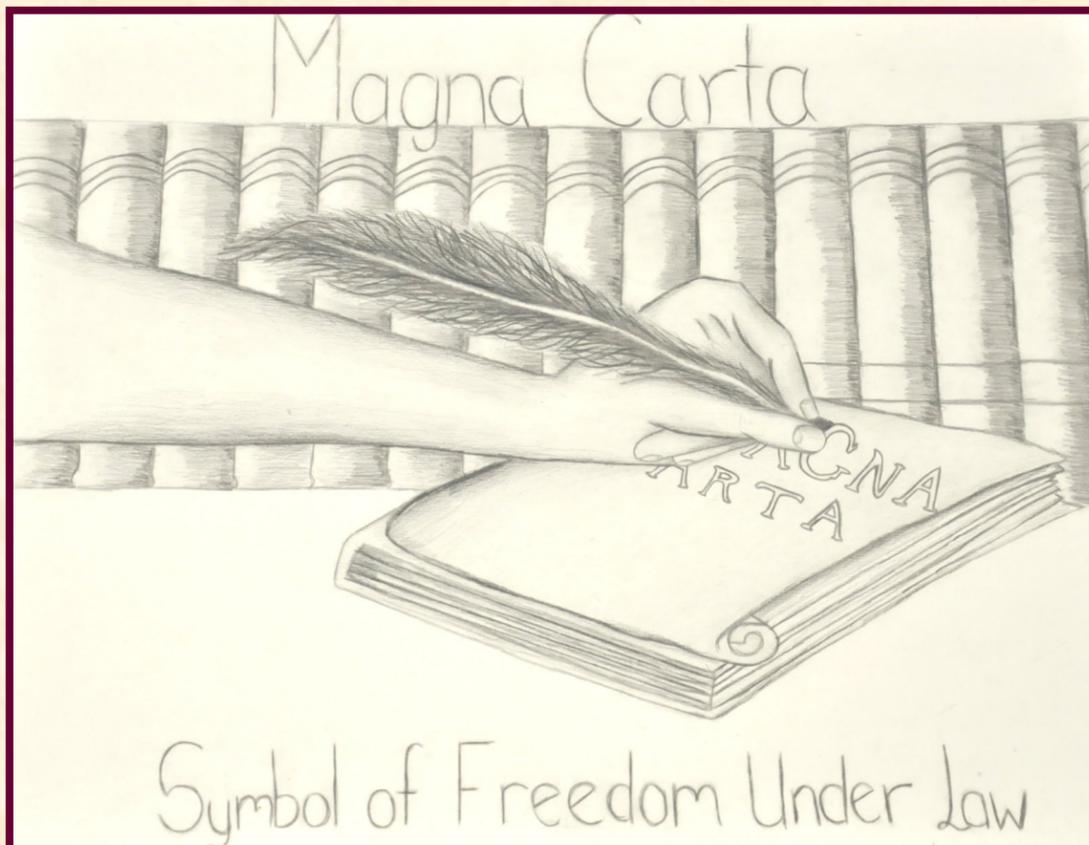


Superior Court of New Jersey - Essex Vicinage

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law



First Place Poster

By Mell Bravo

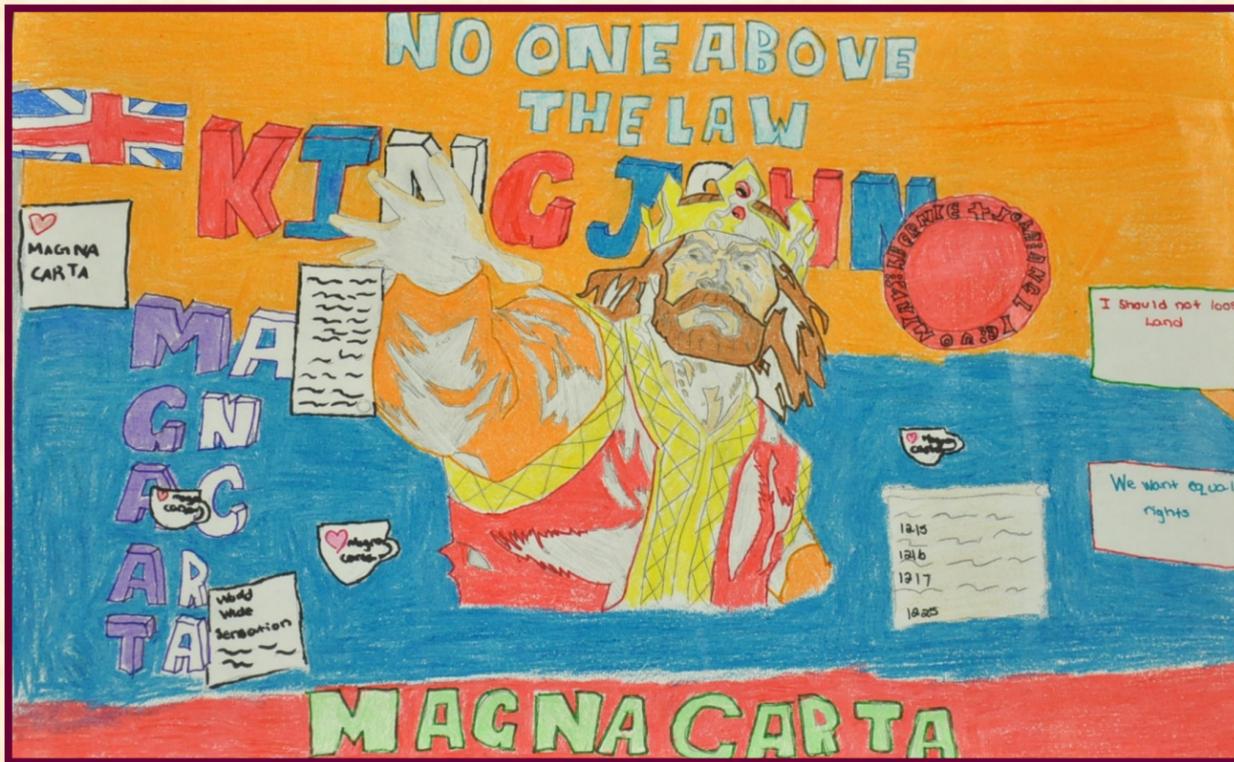
6th Grade - Wilson Avenue School

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law



Second Place Poster

By Edwin Durand

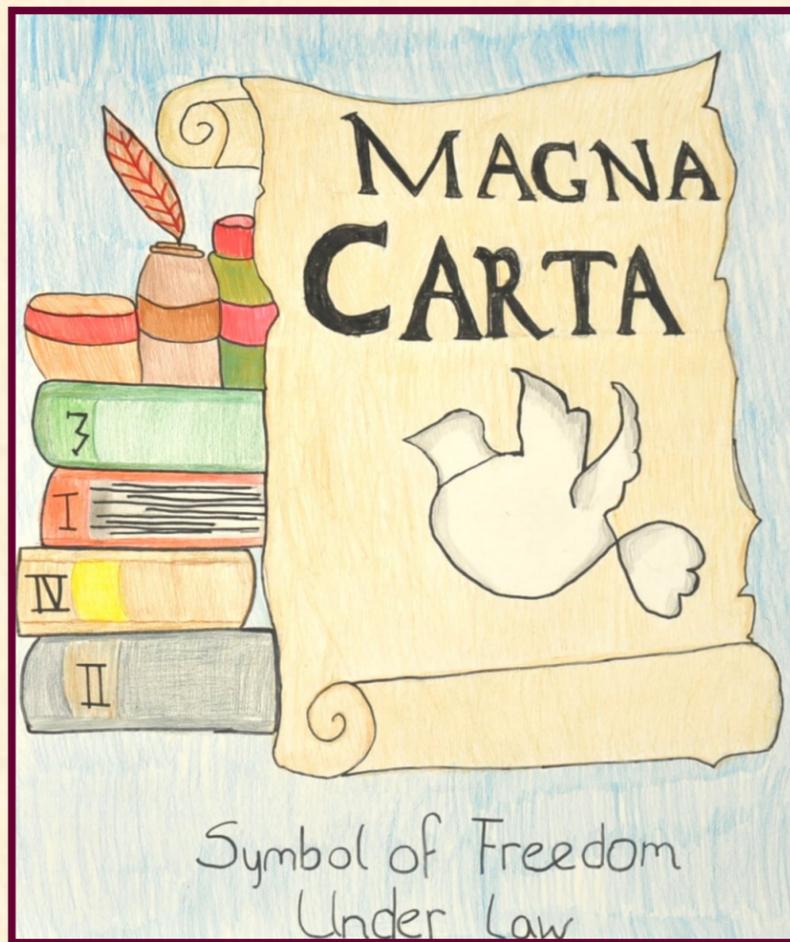
5th Grade - Ivy Hill Elementary School

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law



Third Place Poster

By Maria Medeiros

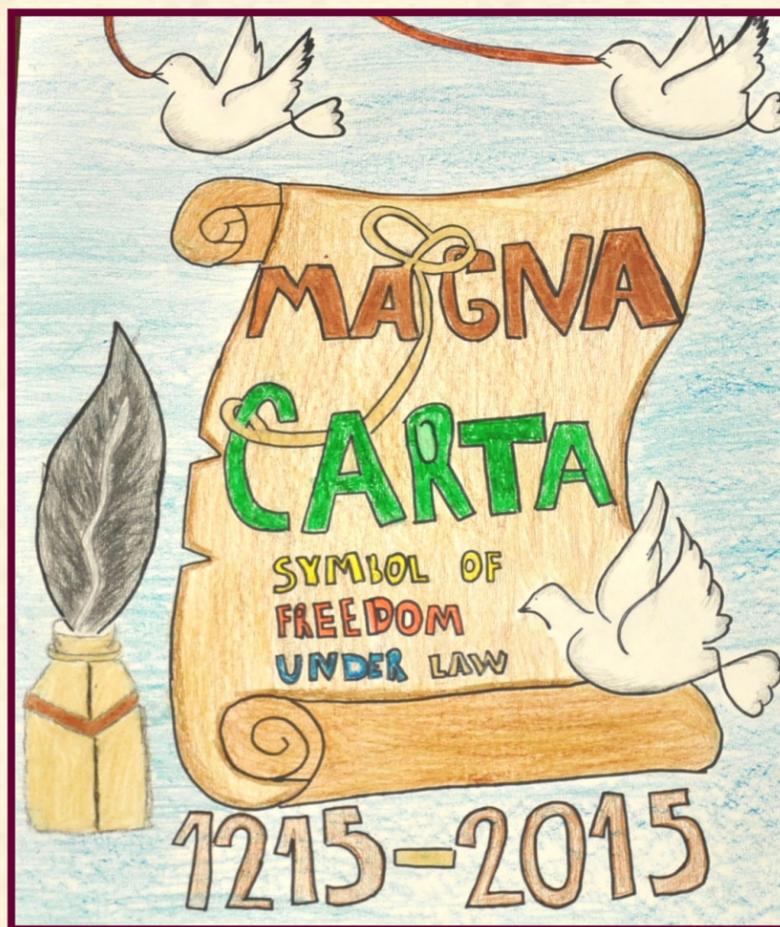
6th Grade - Wilson Avenue Elementary School

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Law Day 2015

Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law



Honorable Mention Poster

By Beatriz Barbosa Lima

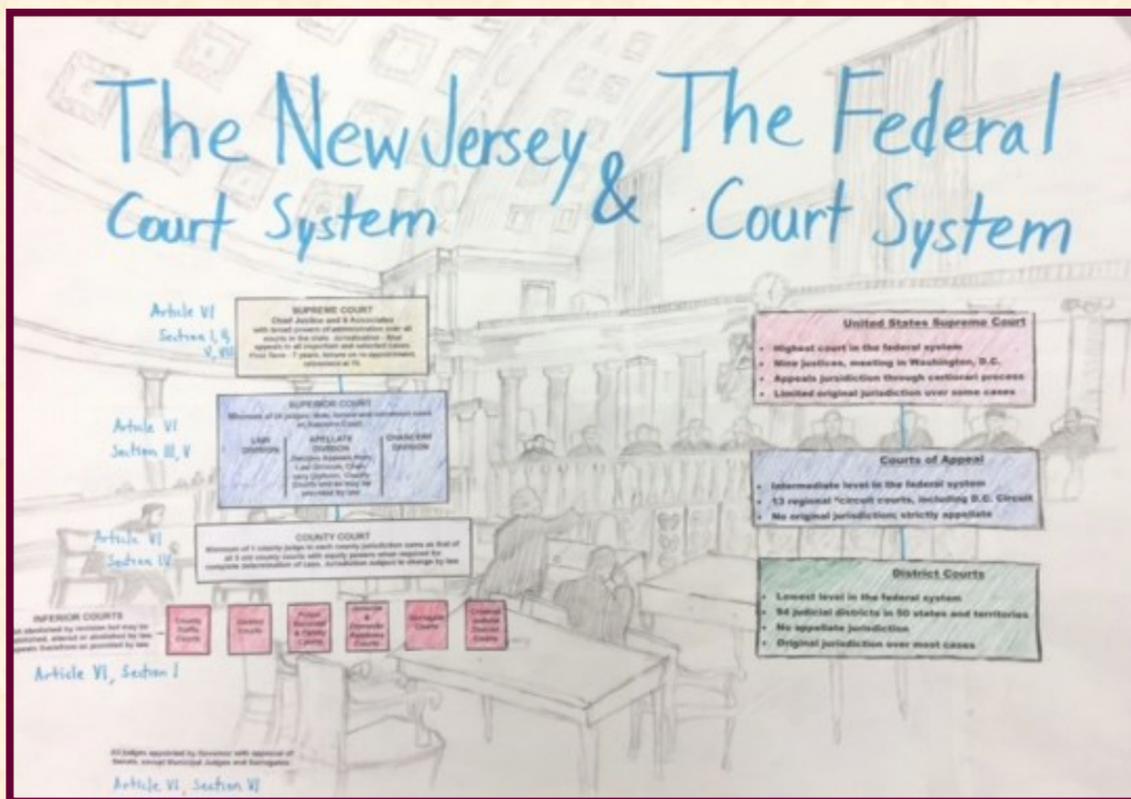
5th Grade - Wilson Avenue Elementary School

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law



Honorable Mention Poster

By Jason Singh

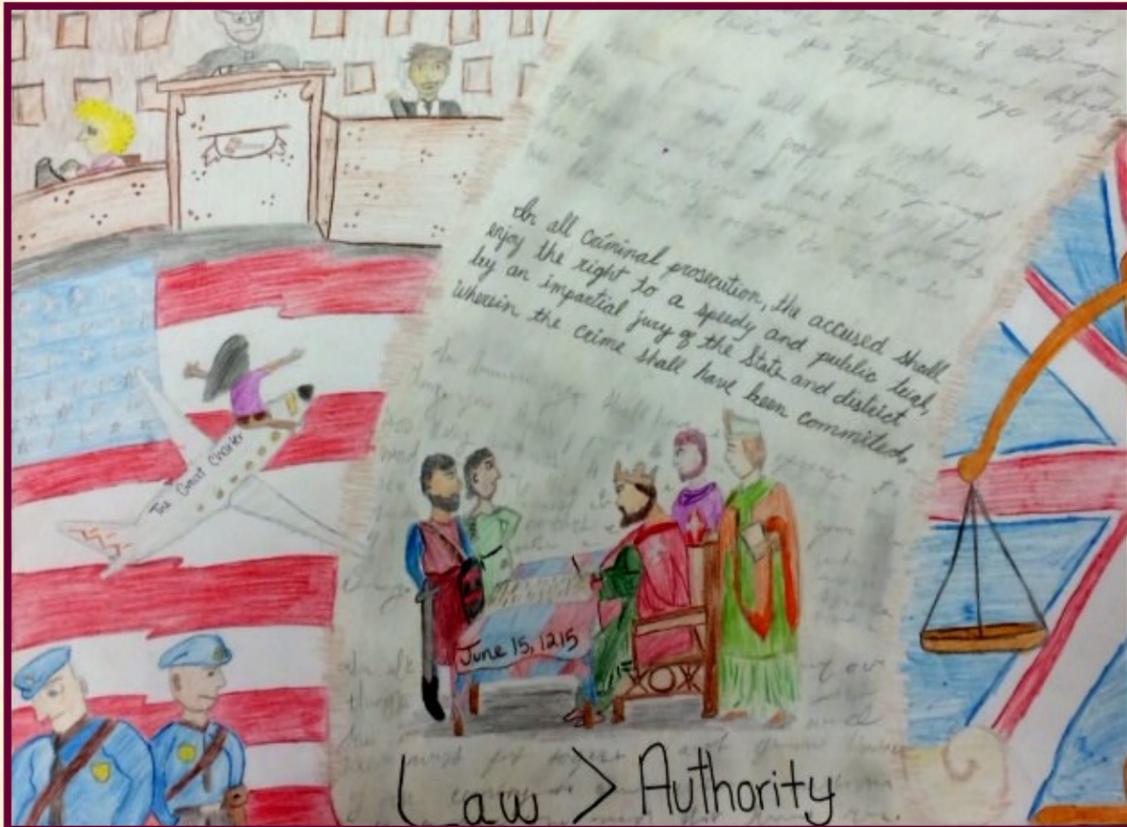
12th Grade – Bloomfield High School

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Law Day 2015

Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law



Honorable Mention Poster

By Sherley Arias-Pimentel

8th Grade – Newark Christian School

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Superior Court of New Jersey - Essex Vicinage

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

"The Magna Carta"

High taxes were passed by England's King John
English nobles and the people rebelled
They have decided that the King is a subject to law
Just as other English citizens were

Magna Carta was made to resemble those thoughts
Archbishop of Canterbury marched on
Straight to the king the Great Charter was brought
"Sign it, sign it, King John!"

Magna Carta was signed
And the document tells:
"He is a subject to law
Just like everyone else"

People could not be deprived of their rights
Except by the law of the land
People deserve property, liberty and lives
And should be judged by fair hand

Many years have passed by, the U.S. had awakened
In the Constitution, people saw
An idea: people's right can't be taken
Without fair trial or due process of law

Magna Carta had influenced the modern U.S.
Like the U.S. Bill of Rights
Many years have passed by, but it is still a success
The past and the future always unites

First Place Poem

By Diana Malenkova

8th Grade – Science Park High School

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

"Magna Carta, Magna Carta"

Magna Carta, Magna Carta, without you where would we be
You have brought forth the spark for liberty to come and take the lead
And forever vanquish the cruel taxations and laws of King John
Beginning the journey for freedom and justice for all

Inspired the writings of the Declaration of Independence for our beloved nation
And the United States Bill of Rights, protecting our rights of our creation
With you, our rights have been known by the law and followed by everyone
People will be punished unless given a trial for justice, just what you have promised

A world without you Magna Carta is a world filled with people without a destination
The United States wouldn't have existed at all without your inspiration
And King John would have led his kingdom to its grave
Our rights would have been just a false dream

For without you, we would have no purpose in this life
Our liberty would have been cut in half with a sharp knife
Magna Carta, Magna Carta you have protected and inspired us
Magna Carta, Magna Carta where would this world be without you

Second Place Poem

By Britney Solano

8th Grade – Science Park High School

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

"Law Above a King"

Law above a King
Law above a Pope, a Leader
All at its mercy

Mohandas Gandhi
George Washington, our founder
Nelson Mandela

How many leaders
Were influenced because of
The Magna Carta

Japan mistreated
Prisoners in WWII
Defeated, condemned

Communism spread
Lenin killed the Czar. Justice
On a gold platter

Without the totem
"Great Charter of Liberty"
Equity would fall

Third Place Poem

By Chase Engel

8th Grade – Newark Christian School

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

"Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom under Law"

The Magna Carta which was created in 1215, England
Has been used as a model for the U.S. to keep in order of its land
The Magna Carta and the U.S. Constitution go hand in hand
They worked together strong, do they stand
The founding founders of the U.S. were inspired by the Magna Carta
And knew their people needed to understand

Something like the U.S. Constitution, knowing that it was grand
Such as the right to life, liberty, and prosperity,
The people having the right to demand
Originated from Section 39 of the Magna Carta, there was no need to reprimand
The Magna Carta, which we the people appreciate so
Ensures that laws are fair for everyone, high class or low
We the people have these rights influenced by the Magna Carta, which was
Fought for so long ago
A man shall not be imprisoned, but has rights, in which they know
In times of chastity, the Magna Carta lends a hand to keep everything in order
To help the U.S. flow

If the Magna Carta did not exist, the U.S. would not be where it is now
There wouldn't be any liberty or life, as we now are allowed
Things like freedom of speech simply wouldn't exist
Rebellion and dysfunction, wouldn't be able to resist
Without the Magna Carta, needless to say
The U.S. as we know it, wouldn't be this way

Honorable Mention Poem

By Nelisa Cirilo

8th Grade – Science Park High School

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

The Magna Carta was established in 1215, when King John of England was forced to sign the document and in doing so, reduce the magnitude of power he held. This significant document demonstrated that the authority of a leader can be limited, as well as serving as a symbol of freedom under law. In 1791, the Founding Fathers of the United States carried on many principles first stated in the Magna Carta onto the United States Constitution. They understood the basic rights and freedoms the Magna Carta guaranteed and it was taken as inspiration for the basic rights protected in the United States Constitution. These principles include the right to be judged fairly by the laws, right to trial by jury, right to travel, and habeas corpus. The Magna Carta was an important step in the development of a democratic government; since it was the first a legal contract between the government and the governed that was created.

In the absence of the Magna Carta, democratic government and basic civil human rights would not be as advanced nor as effective as they are today. Not only was this document used as a model for the United States Constitution, but there is also clear evidence of the Magna Carta's principles used in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. All three documents share one purpose, to guarantee all people receive fair and equal treatment and ensure basic human rights are never violated. The Magna Carta was created to ensure no one is above the law, the United States Constitution's purpose is to give people a voice in their government, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was written to promote all people be treated with respect and dignity. Three different documents were all written in three different eras, but all promote the same democratic principle.

First Place Essay

By Dareana Hidalgo

11th Grade - Bloomfield High School

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Superior Court of New Jersey - Essex Vicinage

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Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

The Magna Carta is an extremely important document in the founding of the United States. It is a document that rooted a belief of democracy and protection under the law. Amazingly, this document, made eight centuries ago, has incredible influence on this country.

It was a key document in founding the U.S. for many reasons. One reason being that it disempowered the monarchy. The Magna Carta made it so that no one was above the law. Previously, land nobles and kings did not have to answer for their crimes. Also average everyday people could be executed with no trial. The Habeas Corpus forced there to be due process of law. This was also very important to the founding of the U.S. It says those being accused of a crime must be brought to court and judged among a jury of their peers.

The Magna Carta is still important today because the U.S. still needs structure in the court system. Issues such as embezzlement are dealt with in laws found in the Magna Carta. If a politician were somehow stealing from the public, he or she would be subject to due process just as a normal person. Also it makes sure any prejudice is irrelevant in the court room since the jury can prevent the judge from making any illogical choices not based on facts.

Without the Magna Carta, the world would basically be a monarchy or dictatorship. Politicians could do whatever they want without any consequence. Also people could be prosecuted with no trial. Whether they were guilty or not wouldn't matter. They would just be judged based on what people think they did. This makes the Magna Carta a key document in the United States.

Second Place Essay

By Vernon Thomas

8th Grade - Union Avenue Middle School

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Superior Court of New Jersey - Essex Vicinage

Law Day 2015

Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

“Perhaps more than any other document in human history, Magna Carta has come to embody, a simple but enduring truth: No one, no matter how powerful, is above the law. In the eight centuries that have elapsed since Magna Carta in 1215, it has taken root as an international symbol of the rule of law and as an inspiration for many basic rights Americans hold dear today, including due process, habeas corpus, trial by jury, and the right to travel. We commemorate this “Great Charter of Liberties”, and rededicate ourselves to advancing the principle of rule of law here and abroad.” Magna Carta is known as the symbol of freedom under law. There are many benefits that the Magna Carta provides to individual and society, still to this day and society would be very much different without it. Magna Carta is seen as a key document in the founding of the US and that is why it still important today and the world would be different without it.

The Magna Carta was an agreement between the nobles and the monarch and was created on June 1215, outside of London. The Magna Carta’s purpose was to only protect rights & privileges of nobles. What the Magna Carta did was give: Rule of Law, Balance of power, power of the purse, security of private property, Limited Government, Due Process of Law (Fair Judgment), and Judgment by one’s own peers. The phrase “Judgment by peers” is referring to the jury in trial. The Magna Carta limited the power of the king and gave certain rights to English people. The Magna Carta had effects on European society, effect on the feudal system, and its contribution to the development of representative government in England.

The Magna Carta was written in England in 1215 and was directed to King John. The reasoning as to why he signed the Magna Carta is because he was forced to. The Magna Carta is seen as a key document in the founding of the US because King John who was on the throne and was excommunicated due to a disagreement with the pope. In order to appease the pope and get back on his good side, he was required to pay money to the Pope. For King John to get the money to pay back to the pope, he imposed heavy taxes on his subjects. The Magna Carta is a good example of democracy and is a very important document. The Magna Carta was also the first constitutional text. The reason why the Magna Carta was so important in terms of the founding of the United States was that the Founding Fathers used many of the principles first codified in the Magna Carta. Many of them studied English Law and understood this document’s part in guaranteeing basic rights and freedom for the English.

The Magna Carta is still important today and considered important to the U.S. is because it is one of the most important documents in history as it established the principle that everyone is subject to the law, even the king, and guarantees the rights of individuals, the right to justice and the right to a fair trial. Magna Carta still has huge significance for us today as it is directly relevant on so many areas of our lives, especially those concerning human rights and the establishment of the Human Rights Act in 1988. Among the most important rules from the Magna Carta we still used today. There are many parts of the Magna Carta that still apply to British law today, for example it stated that no land or rent would be seized in payment of debt, while the debtor had removable goods sufficient to discharge the debt; it stated that a free man should only be fined in proportion to the offence he had committed in the case of a serious offence should not be so heavily fined as to deprive him of his livelihood; or crucially it stated that no free man shall be seized or imprisoned, or stripped of his rights or possessions, or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any other way, nor would the King proceed with force against him, or send others to do so, except by the lawful judgment of his equals or by the law of the land and the King would neither sell, nor deny or delay justice to any free man. This was the basis of trial by a jury of one’s peers, which is the cornerstone of British justice today, and upon which many other countries run their own legal systems.

What the world would be like with the Magna Carta is like a world without democracy. If there is any way to make us appreciate what we have, it is by envisaging what life would be like without it. Just like the saying, “You never know what you have until it’s gone.” Democracy is a thought provoking experience. Democracy is a system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives. We take democracy for granted day by day; now just imagine life without it. Without democracy, the demographic of Britain today would be entirely different. Some might argue that without documents such as the Magna Carta, or the English Civil War, democracy would have inevitably emerged as the dominant political form.

In conclusion, there are so many benefits that that Magna Carta provides to individuals and society, still to this day and society would be very much different without it. Magna Carta is seen as a key document in the founding of the US. The Magna Carta was an agreement between the nobles and the monarch and was intended for King John to sign. The Magna Carta promised the protection of the church rights, protection for the barons from illegal imprisonment, access to swift justice, and limitations on feudal payments to the crown, to be implemented through a council of 25 barons.

Third Place Essay

By Azahria Robinson

9th Grade – Science Park High School

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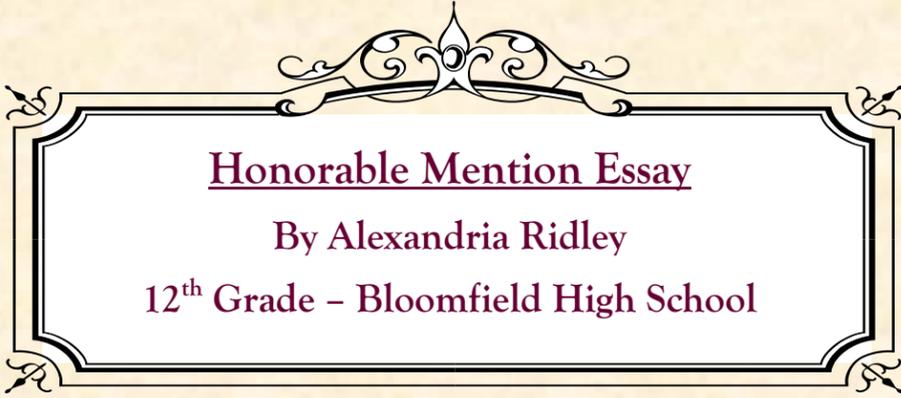
Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

"Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law"

June 15, 2015 marks the 800th anniversary of one of the most important documents in world history. In fact, the Magna Carta has been the base for many documents in the United States. These documents include the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, our basic due process rights, habeas corpus, and even establishing the rule of law. The Magna Carta guaranteed a limited government - a government by the people for people. It was first issued in 1215 when a civil dispute between King John of England and his people who began to feel stripped of their traditional basic right. Thus, beginning an idea of equality and justice for all should be respected and idolized all throughout the world.

The Great Charter has done more than its original responsibility set so many years ago. The Magna Carta has set universal standards and framed American government. The U.S. Supreme Court has reported some 175 cases in which cited the great document over the years in American history. The Sugar act of 1764, the Stamp Act of 1765, and the Townshend Acts of 1767 would be declared null and void because of the violations outlined in the Magna Carta. The Bill of Rights of 1789 reaffirmed the Magna Carta's guarantee of our 5th and 6th Amendment rights that exist today. Without the Magna Carta existing in world history, it is strongly believed that America would've been under an extreme unjust government. The Magna Carta established peace and equality through America and its people.

The Magna Carta was set in stone to keep higher and lower power on the same level. It was a major step in English and American governments. Perhaps this is the most important early example of fair and just government and why it is still praised and respected today.



Honorable Mention Essay

By Alexandria Ridley

12th Grade - Bloomfield High School

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Law Day 2015

Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law

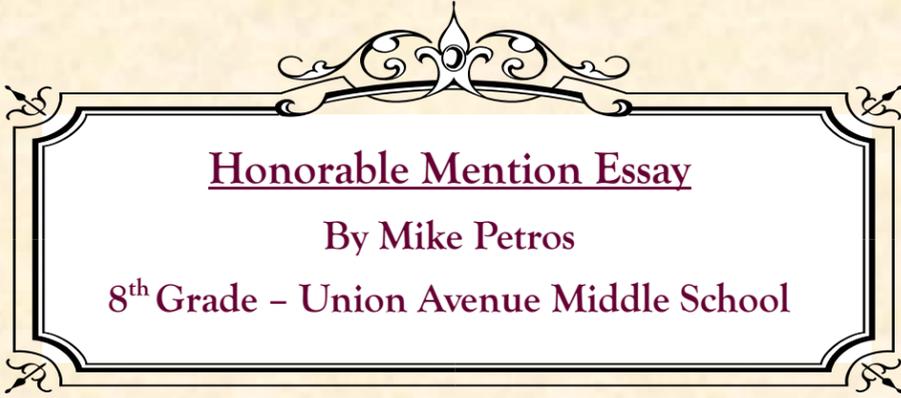
"Magna Carta: Symbol of Freedom Under Law"

Magna Carta, meaning 'The Great Charter', is one of the most famous documents in the world. Originally issued by King John of England as a practical solution to the political crisis he faced in 1215, Magna Carta established for the first time the principle that everybody, including the king, was subject to the law. Magna Carta remains a cornerstone of the British constitution.

The Magna Carta was the first constitutional text and one of the most important documents on the path to democracy. The reason why the Magna Carta was so important in terms of the founding of the United States was that the Founding Father used many of the principles first codified in the Magna Carta. Many of them studied English Law and understood this document's part in guaranteeing basic rights and freedoms for the English. Up until its creation, monarchs ruled supreme. With the Magna Carta, the king, for the first time, was not allowed to be above the law. Instead, he had to respect the rule of law and not abuse his position as king.

The Magna Carta is considered one of the first steps taken in England towards establishing parliamentary democracy. In the century after Henry III's version of the Magna Carta, parliament interpreted the document's message as a right to a fair trial for all subjects. During the Stuart period, and particularly in the English Civil War, the Magna Carta was used to retrain the power of monarchs at a time when monarchs on the continent were supremely powerful.

Without the Magna Carta there would basically be no democracy. This constitutional text was one of the greatest influence on modern-day democracy. We would probably still be under a monarchy.



Honorable Mention Essay

By Mike Petros

8th Grade - Union Avenue Middle School

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