Introduction: The Recording Academy Entertainment Law Initiative Legal Writing Competition 2001-02

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THE RECORDING ACADEMY®
ENTERTAINMENT LAW INITIATIVE
LEGAL WRITING COMPETITION 2001-02

The *DePaul-LCA Journal of Art and Entertainment Law* is proud to present the winners of the Recording Academy's® Fourth Annual Entertainment Law Initiative Legal Writing Competition.

This annual legal writing competition, which was co-sponsored by the American Bar Association, actually began last fall. Participants in the competition, law students from across the country, submitted a 3,000-word essay about a compelling legal issue currently facing the music industry.

The culmination of the writing competition was the ELI Luncheon and Scholarship Presentation held on February 26. The awards luncheon was held at the Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills, California, and featured addresses by both Jack Valenti, Chairman/CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, and California state senator Kevin Murray, sponsor of legislation to limit the term of recording contracts.

The winner of this year’s Entertainment Law Initiative Legal Writing Competition was Tieffa Harper from the Rutgers School of Law. Harper’s winning essay, "Much Ado About The First Amendment: Does the Digital Millennium Copyright Act Impede The Right to Scientific Expression?: *Felten v. Recording Industry Association of America,*" discussed challenges to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

The Entertainment Law Initiative also recognized four runners-up. These four individuals were Connie Chang from the University of Southern California Law School, Merritt Gardiner from the University of Miami Law School, Alisa Roberts from the George Mason University School of Law, and Richard Siegmeister from the Fordham University School of Law.

Harper received a cash scholarship of $5,000. Each of the four runners-up received a $1,500 scholarship. In addition, all five authors received airfare, hotel accommodations, and a ticket to the GRAMMY® Awards telecast on Feb. 27, as well as invitations to
other GRAMMY® week activities.

Below are the five winning essays:


- Connie Chang, University of Southern California Law School, "Can't Record Labels And Recording Artists All Just Get Along?: The Debate Over California Labor Code Section 2855 And Its Impact On The Music Industry"

- Merritt Gardiner, University of Miami School of Law, "The Music Online Competition Act of 2001"

- Alisa Roberts, George Mason University School of Law, "Congress' Latest Attempt To Abrogate States' Sovereign Immunity Defense Against Copyright Infringement Actions: Will IPPRA Help The Music Industry Combat Online Piracy On College Campuses?"

- Richard Siegmeister, Fordham University School of Law, "Will MOCA Leave a Bitter Taste?"

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