



FOR THE RECORD

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SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL YOUTH COURT MONTH

September 2005 marks the beginning of the 20th year of operation of Midland Teen Court, as well as the 4th Annual National Youth Court Month, *Young People Delivering Justice*. 1,035 youth courts/teen courts operate in 48 states and the District of Columbia.

Midland Teen Court proudly announces the selections of Judge Marwin L. Moore (Midland County Court-at-Law #2) and teen attorney Adam Rivera (LHS) to the National Youth Court Hall of Honor. Their exemplary volunteer assistance, along with many other volunteers, contributes to the success of Midland Teen Court.

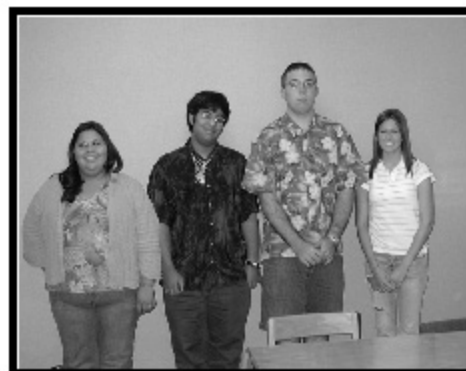
The Junior League of Midland, Inc., began Midland Teen Court in coalition with the City of Midland, Midland County, and Midland ISD. Judge Robin Smith, City of Midland Municipal Court, wrote the first enabling legislation for Teen Courts in Texas, allowing Class C

misdemeanors to be deferred to an approved teen court. On September 22, 1986, Midland Teen Court held its first court session, hearing the cases of three defendants. Through the years, Midland Teen Court has handled over 11,450 cases of Midland youth, giving these young people the opportunity to have an offense removed from their record and to save the cost of a fine. Youth volunteers assume the roles of attorneys and jurors to participate in a process that delivers justice in the form of a constructive sentence.

Teen Court provides young people a voice and an active role in addressing local problems through volunteer service in their community and offers young offenders constructive sentences handed down by their peers. These sentences help offending youth repair the harm they have caused, while teaching them valuable life skills in an effort to redirect them toward becoming contributing members of the community.

TEEN ATTORNEYS

JUNE 2005--Board President Ellen House and staff trained six new teen attorneys for Midland Teen Court. Douglas Clinton (MFHS), Adela Hernandez (GHS), David Mathew (Trinity HS), Sarah Morton (LHS), Ainsley Rea (LHS) & Andrea Skaggs (Greenwood MS) joined the ranks of Midland Teen Court teen attorneys following training sessions over both restorative justice and Teen Court procedures. Teen Court thanks experienced teen attorneys Adam Rivera (LHS) & Justin Stephenson (LHS) who helped with the training and Wesley Dearen (LHS) who attended the training to refresh his knowledge and hone his skills.



Adela Hernandez, Dave Mathew, Justin Stephenson & Sarah Morton at attorney training.



Adam Rivera, Ainsley Rea & Andrea Skaggs share a fun moment following training.

Following multiple evenings of jury service, youth 8th grade and above may request training to be a teen attorney. Teen attorneys become officers of the court and prosecute or defend non-traffic cases. Trainings are held at the beginning of each semester and start of the summer. Students interested in the September 1, 2005, or February 2, 2006 training must contact the Midland Teen Court Office, 432-689-1065 or mbeck@midlandteen court.org for applications and details.

THANK YOU TEEN COURT VOLUNTEERS FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR!

Midland Teen Court appreciates our volunteers and court workers for their exemplary work during the 2004-2005 fiscal year. The wonderful adults listed below gave more than 645 hours of time to Teen Court. Our fantastic teen volunteers (too numerous to mention) gave 2,673 hours! It is a true joy to have so many volunteers who take pride in giving their time to Midland Teen Court.

"Volunteer

—not so

you can

build your

resume, but

so you can

build

yourself."

—Author

unknown



Vince & Jann Bash
Doug Bryant
Matt Catalano
Judge David M. Cobos
Chief David Colburn
Matt Cooper
Suzanna Cooper
Judge Robin Darr
Ernie Davis
Marcia Denny
Cassie Dresel
Melissa Eastham
Tim Flatheys
Janet Foster
Linda Foster
Billy Futrell
Tim Galyon
Dr. Ketha Garduno
Galen Gatten
Judge George D. "Jody" Gilles
Shannon Goldapp

Sean Guerrero
Russell K. Hall
Holly Hamm
Judge Sharon Hatten
Ellen House
David Hurta
Judge John G. Hyde
Jay Isaacs
Tracie Kenan
William B. Kent
Roy Key
David Lausitzen
Terri Marroquin
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Judge Joe Matlock
Jane McCoy
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Celia Morales
Judge Wm. C. Morrow
Karen Nicholson
Jill Pennington

Wes Perry
Kevin Petty
Josie Ramirez
Deputy Chief Price Robinson
Mary Rowe
Judge Dean Rucker
Jimmy Smith
Judge Robin D. Smith
Carla Smith
Mike Stamper
Angela Staples
Bob Statton
Dale Strauss
Alma & Mike Thompson
Melanie Turnbough
Judge Michael Wallace
Judge Al Walwood
Abby Warren
Mary Wilhite
Mike Willson
Judge George D. Zimmerman

YEAR IN REVIEW: 2004-2005 MIDLAND TEEN COURT STATISTICS

From June 1, 2004 to May 31, 2005, Midland Teen Court held 64 sessions on 32 Monday evenings, hearing the cases of 587 youth. Traffic citations accounted for 342 cases. Other cases included curfew violations, disorderly conduct, alcohol offenses, drug paraphernalia, fireworks, theft under \$50 & violation of school rules & regulations. Participants included 1,379 volunteer youth, among the 3,099 youth present at Teen Court sessions. Teen juries assigned constructive sentences: 1 to 5 evenings service as a teen court juror, 5-50 hours of community service, and other possible requirements, such as letters of apology. 589 youth successfully completed their cases and served 9,551 hours community service for local non-profit organizations. These numbers show that when given the opportunity, young people do, in fact, deliver justice when called upon to do so in a responsible setting like Midland Teen Court.

To help Midland Teen Court continue its operations, please clip this section & mail to Midland Teen Court.

Yes! I want to help Midland Teen Court continue its great momentum!

Name: _____ Company: _____
(as it will appear for donor recognition) (if applicable)
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Enclosed is my donation made out to **Midland Teen Court, Inc.**, 615 W. Missouri #226, Midland, TX, 79701-5017.
A gift of ANY SIZE is needed and appreciated. Donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged promptly.

Operating fund: \$ _____ Scholarship fund: \$ _____

For more information, please call 432-689-1065 — www.midlandteencourt.org

The IRS recognizes Midland Teen Court, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization; therefore, any contribution should be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Thank you for supporting Midland Teen Court.

EIGHT GRADUATING SENIORS RECEIVE TEEN COURT SCHOLARSHIPS



Front left to right: Mary Lynn Meadows & Krista Knight
Back left to right: Matthew Evans, Tina Williams, Mandy Fly, Jenni Brown, James Pritchard & Emily Fanning.

MAY 2005—Midland Teen Court honored 8 scholarship recipients at the annual awards luncheon on Thursday, May 5, at The Junior League

of Midland Building. The scholarship honorees were seniors who volunteered for Midland Teen Court during their junior and senior high school careers and will be attending an accredited college or university. Receiving a scholarship from Midland High School was Matthew Evans, and from Midland Christian School was AreTina Williams. Lee High School recipients included Jennifer Brown, Emily Fanning, Amanda Fly, Krista Knight, Mary Lynn Meadows, and James Pritchard. These young people volunteered as teen jurors and teen attorneys. Thanks to the generosity of donors, these new graduates were rewarded for the many Monday nights they sacrificed for Midland Teen Court. The participation of these students and hundreds of others enables Midland Teen Court to maintain its tradition of excellence and success.

THANK YOU 2004-2005 FISCAL YEAR OPERATING FUND DONORS!

Abell-Hanger Foundation
Abertston's
Anonymous
Perry & Ernest Angelo
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Jann & Vincent Bash
Sydney R. Beal, C.P.A.
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Ruth Beck
Tracy & Larry Brown
Craig A. Campbell
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THANK YOU 2005 TEEN COURT SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS AND DONORS!

Midland Teen Court thanks the following scholarship sponsors and donors for their generosity during the 2004-2005 Scholarship year:

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Karen & Jim Nicholson
Linda Powell
Josie Ramirez
Mary Rowe
Carla & Roy Smith
Jimmy Smith
Randy Stevens
Betty Tonde
Vision Health Specialties





Midland Teen Court, Inc.

615 W. Missouri, #226

Midland, TX 79701

Phone: 432-689-1065

Fax: 432-689-1087

www.midlandteencourt.org

Mr. & Mrs. John Doe
123 Anywhere Lane
Middle America, TX 98765

WHAT IS "RESTORATIVE JUSTICE?"

Midland Teen Court often uses the phrase "restorative justice," which is an *alternative philosophy* for addressing crime. Restorative justice is a theory of justice that emphasizes repairing the harm caused or revealed by illegal behavior. In the case of Midland Teen Court, restorative justice requires that the youth with cases before Midland Teen Court take responsibility for their offenses.

Three principles form the foundation for restorative justice: (1) Justice requires the repair of harm and work to restore those who have been injured (often the family of a youth); (2) those most directly involved and affected by a crime should have the opportunity to participate in the response if they wish; and (3) the government's role is to preserve a just public order, and the community's is to build and maintain a just peace.

Restorative justice views crime as a violation of people and relationships. Restorative justice views the outcomes of justice by focusing equally on repair of harm, competency development and public safety. Defendants are held responsible for their actions and encouraged to accept responsibility by completing their case requirements.

Teen courts across the country enable offenders to understand the harm caused by their behaviors and to make amends to their victims. One of the biggest challenges to youth courts is to assist defendants in becoming aware of the impact their offenses have had on others. Teen Court uses a hearing and deliberation process that focuses on repairing any harm... rather than meting out punishment for punishment's sake. The defendants receive opportunities such as community service, jury duties, educational programs and oral/written apologies, so they may be able to fully repair the harm caused by their actions and become better citizens.



Midland Teen Court 2005 - 2006 Calendar

All Teen Court Sessions
are held at the
Midland County Courthouse
200 W. Wall, Midland, Texas
Court begins on set Mondays
at 5:00 p.m.
and usually ends by 7:00 p.m.

2005

June	6, 13, 20, 27	5:00 p.m.
July	18, 25	5:00 p.m.
August	8, 22, 29	5:00 p.m.
September	12, 19, 26	5:00 p.m.
October	10, 17, 24	5:00 p.m.
November	7, 14, 28	5:00 p.m.
December	5, 12	5:00 p.m.

2006

January	9, 23, 30	5:00 p.m.
February	6, 13, 27	5:00 p.m.
March	13, 20, 27	5:00 p.m.
April	3, 10, 24	5:00 p.m.
May	1, 8, 15	5:00 p.m.
June	5, 12, 19, 26	5:00 p.m.
July	17, 24	5:00 p.m.