



First-place winner Sarah Alberstein, CENTER, is congratulated by, SEATED, FROM LEFT, California Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and Selma Moidel Smith, who initiated and conducts the competition; Richard Rahm, STANDING LEFT, president of the California Supreme Court Historical Society and a shareholder at Littler, and, STANDING RIGHT, recently retired California Supreme Court Justice Kathryn Mickel Werdegarr.

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This year, a second-place prize of \$500 was also awarded, recognizing the paper submitted by Parthabi Kanungo, a second-year student at Maastricht University Faculty of Law in the Netherlands. Her paper, “The Right of Free Speech in Privately Owned Premises: Following up with the *Robins v. Pruneyard* Judgment,” will also appear in this year’s volume of *California Legal History*.

This year’s competition marks two “firsts”: a first-place winner from a state outside of California, and a winner in any category from outside the United States.

Kanungo’s paper discusses the continuing expansion of the California Supreme Court’s 1976 *Pruneyard* decision, which established a right of free speech in privately owned shopping centers, to include other, seemingly less “public” venues.

The Society’s annual competition is open to all law and graduate students. Papers must be written during school enrollment and may address any aspect of legal history dealing significantly with California, ranging from the justices and opinions of the Supreme Court itself to local events of legal and historical importance. The papers are judged by a panel of legal historians and law professors. The deadline for the next competition is June 30, 2020. This year, with the generous support of recently retired Justice Kathryn Werdegarr, the Society established a Research Travel Grant in Smith’s honor to facilitate research in California legal history (see facing page). ★

2019 Student Writing Competition Winners Announced

THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY is pleased to announce the results of the 2019 Selma Moidel Smith Student Writing Competition in *California Legal History*.

Sarah Alberstein, a third-year student at the University of Richmond School of Law in Virginia, won first place. She receives a prize of \$2,500 and publication in the 2019 volume of the Society’s annual scholarly journal, *California Legal History*. Her paper is titled, “Right of Publicity in the Era of Celebrity: A Conceptual Exploration of the California Right of Publicity, as Expanded in *White v. Samsung Electronics*, in Today’s World of Celebrity Glorification and Imitation.” She contends that in the current digital age the right of publicity recognized in California creates a paradox wherein individuals are simultaneously incentivized to participate in, and mirror, celebrity culture but are barred from doing so.

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Second-place winner
Parthabi Kanungo