



The Nancy Garms Memorial Award

The State Bar of Texas established The Nancy Garms Memorial Award in 1995 to honor an attorney or judge who emulates her tireless service to the State Bar of Texas Law-Focused Education programs. Nancy was the first female president of the Amarillo Bar Association and an adjunct professor at West Texas A&M University. She was appointed Court Master for the Ninth Administrative Judicial Region of Texas in 1992. Nancy served as president and longtime board member of Law Focused Education, Inc., a 501C3 non-profit organization of the State Bar of Texas.

The **Nancy Garms Memorial Award** is given for demonstrating a deep commitment to civic education and engagement through promotion of Law Focused Education programs in Texas. Evidence of this commitment should be seen either through his/her place of employment or volunteer work in Law Focused Education activities.

Purpose: To acknowledge an attorney or judge who shares Nancy Garms' commitment to Law Focused Education programs which promote civic education and engagement.

Eligibility

- Must be a licensed attorney or judge in the state of Texas in good standing.
- Individuals only, no groups or organizations can be nominated.

Nomination packet must include the following:

- Letter of recommendation by the person nominating the candidate.
- Applicant's resume.

March 28 2019

Re: Award Nomination

To the Award Selection Committee:

When I was a child growing up in Fort Worth, Texas, Ms. Bobbie Edmonds was a household name in my community. She was known for her great works and for being a community advocate. When I became an attorney, I had the pleasure of working with Ms. Edmonds, and saw first-hand how truly compassionate and dedicated she is to the legal profession and the community.

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Bobbie Edmonds for the Nancy Garms Memorial Award.

Over 20 years ago, Bobbie wanted to make an impact on youth in the public-school arena because most students don't get the opportunity for out-of-classroom hands on legal experiences. Therefore, Bobbie wrote a youth legal drama that would educate, inspire, expose and introduce students to a real courtroom experience and teach them the basic concepts of honesty, character and allow them to excel in education - "the key to a world of opportunities. "

Ms. Edmonds wrote the play for a cast of 5th graders, considering Texas' age for criminal culpability. The student audience of 150-170 is always from at least 3- 4 areas schools. The play has always been held at a Tarrant County Courthouse with the approval of the Tarrant County Commissioners. The youth drama event gives students an opportunity to see real judges, lawyers and the different players that make our judicial system work. It also allows them to learn while acting. The audience is educated as well.

The student cast plays all the major key people in a jury trial, including the judge, bailiff, prosecutor, defense attorney, 12-panel jury with an alternate, court reporter, and defendant - Santa Claus and media bliss from around the world since this is the highly publicized trial of the season. Local, national and international media covers the trial.

At the conclusion of the play, the jury deliberates and the foreman delivers its verdict to the judge.

Refreshments/lunch is served and each student receives a gift bag

The event always includes an educational trivia game that stimulates the students minds by answering questions on the student code of conduct handbook, law, history, civic and social events. Winners of the essay contest are announced, as well as the best actor and actress. The winners receive gifts, books and cash prizes.

Ms. Edmonds has formed a professional relationship with the FWISD and Crowley ISD principals, teachers, board of Trustees, the Tarrant County Commissioner's Court, Sheriff Department, judges, lawyers, legal associations, local businesses and the community to make this event memorial for each student.

This civic program introduces students to politicians, attorneys, judges, business people, and celebrities, etc. It is truly an enriching event that has always been covered by some print and social media.

The Rally for Education Youth Rally is educational and motivational as well. Bobbie introduces students to professionals, such as judges, lawyers, political figures etc., to help them decide their future careers. Through the years, the Rally for Education program has featured celebrities who volunteer their time and energy to reach back and uplift students. Students can share their musical and poetic talents as well. Students enter an essay, commercial and art contest to show demonstrate how they can improve their community by reducing gun violence, bullying, gang violence, etc. Prizes are given during the educational trivia game.

It is a free, annual event wherein 250 or more area students from ages 6 to 18 attend. This event has been held in June for 25 years. Hundreds of students and parents have attended, and their lives have been enhanced.

In addition to the awards that are listed on Ms. Bobbie's resume, Bobbie was selected to receive the 2019 Professionalism Award, to be presented by the Tarrant County Bar Association in May. In March, she was presented with the Visionary Women: Champion of Peace and Non-Violence Award by the Greater Fort Worth Area Business and Professional Women's Club.

I have attached a few pictures from the different events below.

Respectfully submitted,



Angel Williams