

at all," Li said. "I've submitted to so many contests. ... It's nice to have recognition every once in a while. Keeps you going."

Though the Lowell-Grabill contest allows writers a space to share their work with a wider audience, some of the winners look toward future publication with mixed feelings.

"You (have) to sell yourself. That's the part that I hate," Li said. "I wish people just liked art."

Along with first-place winner Li in fiction, sophomore Abigail Marshall took first in poetry, and senior Annie Zagorski placed first in creative nonfiction.

Second place winners included junior Lauren Ramer in fiction, Li in creative nonfiction and senior Shawn Kronk in poetry.

The third-place winners were senior Debbie Knubley in fiction, Ramer in creative nonfiction and junior R.J. Stirling in poetry.

The Lowell-Grabill Creative Writing Contest occurs every year, and writers campus-wide are welcome to enter.

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## Mock trial takes ninth at nationals

**Abigail Holmes**  
Staff Writer

The Wheaton College mock trial team competed in the American Mock Trial Association's National Championship Tournament in Washington, D.C., on Friday, April 12, to Sunday, April 14. The team placed ninth in its division.

There were two divisions of 24 teams each. Only 48 teams out of more than 650 across the country qualified for the national championship.

"The coaches and I are extremely proud of the team to have been able to make it this far this year and to see tougher competition," junior captain Trenton Van Oss said in an email.

The tournament took place at two federal courthouses and lasted for three days. The teams went to trial over a wrongful death complaint against a scuba diving company.

"One of the fun parts is trying to get out of the zone that this is a mock trial and we're all college students, and try to make it appear as if it's something that happened, and something real," Van Oss said.

Despite only being in its second year, the team has grown to 19 members and has participated in high levels of competition throughout the year.

The team has progressed further than last year by qualifying for Nationals and competing against colleges including Harvard and Yale.

The students who attended Nationals are team captains Van Oss and junior McNair Nichols, sophomore Abigail Canfield, junior Lauren Carini, junior Jason Chapman, freshman Kelly Farley, junior John Patrick and freshman Jasmine Stein.

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